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Acknowledgement of Receipt of the Mennonite Privilegium – 1800

Translated by Helen Ens, 2019. Edited by Glenn Penner, July, 2025.

St Petersburg Fond 283 Opis 29 Delo 161

No 1022

[received] August 31, 1800

To the honourable Expedition of the Empire's Economy!

The undersigned appointed Mennonites of Chortitza find it necessary to humbly present to you, since we received this request from our brethren, to tell you of the sad circumstances they are in at present. Honourable Collegio under August 20, 1798 and October 22, 1799, asked repeatedly that their state could be softened through the grace of Your Majesty, the Empress.

So the appointed see it as their duty to address the honourable Expedition of the Empire's Economy that they would use their influence and address the goodwill of Your Majesty, that a letter would be sent with a copy to us that would lessen the miserable circumstances that the Mennonites find themselves in. We humbly ask for this.

St. Petersburg
August 20, 1800

submissively obedient

David Epp

Gerhard Wilhelms

In the name of the Mennonites in Chortitza

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That we the undersigned accredited by the Mennonites in New Russia have received from Your Majesty, on the 6th of September gracious letter confirming the Rights and Privileges accorded to the Mennonites. We certify this with our personal signatures. St. Petersburg. Anno 1800- September 18.

David Epp
Gerhard Wilhelms