

KEINE WOHNUNG

[GA200-4-28-2_001] I:16

Carrick May 3 (the)/67

Liebe Eltern

Gottes reicher Segen zum Gruß [.] indem ich diesen Abend zum ersten mal ein wenig Zeit habe, so ergreife ich zur veter um Euch ein Pahr zeilen zu schreiben, wier kamen Mittwoch den 24. April in der Nacht am 10 U(hr) aus Bruder Wigands an. Nachdem Vater uns verlassen had so drafen wir ser schlechter Weg. Bruder Kechle muste seine Lot stehn lassen 4 Meil von Wigands [.] Es ging von einem sumpf loch ins andre von einer Blakbricke¹ auf die Andrn [.] Ich kan sagen es war der schlechste Weg den ich jemals ging [.] als es finster wurte so habe ich das Pfert geführt [.] die Kinder schrien, das Weib sagte Lieber Mann auf dem Busch komen wier ein wieter [.] ich tröstete sie so Gut ich auch nur konte u[nd] und stamfte so gans gatrargen messig neben Dem furwerk her –

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den nachsten Tag ging ich die Wohnung die sie mier *Gerent* hatten neben den Büsch zu besehn [.] sahe aber das er kaum moglich ist darin zu wohnen den das dach rint der Wind bläbt in dem selben das man kaum ein licht brennen kente. ich ging dan in Br. Büschs Palast den selben zu besehn, fand denselben schon bewond den er wahr Garade jenen Morgen angekommen [.] wie ihm u[nd] den seinigen zu muth wahr will ich jetzt nicht schreiben – Büsch sagte mir auch es sei nicht möglich für mich in einem solchen Stall

¹ This term is difficult to interpret. ‘Blak-‘ may be a form of ‘Block’ (boulder), while ‘Bricke’ possibly refers to bridges (‘Bricke’ = ‘Brücke?’)

zu wohnen – ich holte dan die meningen zu Büschs wo wir liebeiche aufname fanden
wo auch eins das andrn sucht zu trösten [.] Sontag Pretigte ich 2 mal an der 6. lein u[nd]
aus Kechles Klabbe² zu zahlreichen versamlungen. Mondags beratete ich mich mit den
Brüter aus Wigands weg an einer Wohnung [.] sie sagten mir alle es wehre viel beser für
uns wan wir an ihr straße wohnen würtin [.] aber es sei eben keine Wohnung zu haben [.]

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indem wir uns so besprachen so kam Br. Braun mich zu hollen um Diensttags in Brend,
eine leig helfen zu halten [.] Wir gingen den aus Büschs wo ich den die meinigen wieter
andraf [.] ich sagt inen dan das ich imer noch keine Wohnung hatte [.] must dan fort mit
Braun nach Brand [.] das Weib weinte – Mittag abend kam ich wieter aus Büsch,
Schwester Büsch wahr Krank, die meinigen verzagt Trost Bedürftig. Donnerstag ging
Br. Büsch, ich und die Meinigen wieter aus Wigans Straße um mir einen unterschlubf zu
suchen, wo dan ausgemacht wurte das wir zu Br. Dinkels ziehen sollen einst weilen [.]
dan gings so gleich uns auspacken, bei all dem schlechten wech fanden wier unseren
sachen aller Ganz an gar nichts verbrochen [.] Donnerstag aber kamen einige Brüter
zusamen [.] sie versprachen mir so geschwind als möglich eine pratiger wohnung zu
bauen [.] trüsten uns wir [.]

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wir sollten uns suchen 2 monate zu behelfen [.] so soll das pretier haus für mich fertig
sein – heite habe ich hart gearbeitet hölz gefaren. Die Luite haben ser viel arbeit – auch
das bocki solki gewaschen den die reder wahren fast zu mit dreck [.] die Machdalena, das

² This may refer to a Reformed Church *classis*, a geographical grouping of churches. The word also appears as “Clab” in (6).

Liebe Waib, das ich so oft suchte zu trösten had Gewaschen, u[nd] werendem ich diese Zeilen schreibe ist sie schon zur ruf den sie had kopfschmerzen [.] die Kinder sint alle gesund, das Waib scheint auch besser zu mut sein [.] Br. Dinkels sind Brafen Leite, die alte Mütter sucht die meinigen recht zu trösten [.] das nachste mal kenem wir dan besser schreiben wie es uns geheth [.] Nächsten Sonntag habe ich 3 mal zu Bretigen an der 10 Cos ___ in Hanover, aus Großen Klasse.³ Nächste Woche Geths nach Port Elgin und Bruß [.] an Arbeit felts nicht [.] Wir grüßen euch alle viel mal auch alle Nachbarn – die Ganze K्लाße – Schreibet Gleich wieter recht viel Neues – den es scheint mir hir an diesem Nord Pol härt man nicht viel Neues [.] Es ist under dag⁴ recht Kald hier bis jetzt [.] Euer, Sohn Jacob Anthes

³ As before, this may refer to a Reformed Church *classis*, a geographical grouping of churches.

⁴ Possibly this construction is intended as “in der Tat.”

TRANSLATION
WITHOUT A HOME

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Carrick May 3 (the)/67

Dear Parents,

I greet you in the name of God's rich blessings.

Since I have a bit of time tonight for the first time, I am taking up my pen to write a few lines to you. We arrived here from Brother Wigand's on April 24th at 10:00 pm. After Father left us, we came upon a very poor road. Brother Kechle had to leave his load four miles from Wigand's. The road led from one swampy hole to another, from one *Blackbricke*⁵ to another. I can truly say that this was the worst road I have ever gone down. When it got dark, I led the horse. The children shrieked, and my wife exclaimed, Dear Husband! we are driving into the bushes again. I comforted them as best I could, and trudged along solemnly beside the carriage.

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The next day, I went to look at the dwelling next to Busch's that they had rented to me, but I saw that is scarcely possible to live in it: the roof leaks and the wind blows through it so that you can hardly get a light burning. Then I went into Brother BÜsch's palace to see it, and found it already occupied since he had just arrived that morning. I won't write what kind of mood he and his family were in. BÜsch told me that it wouldn't

⁵ This word is difficult to interpret. 'Blak-' may be a form of 'Block' (boulder), while 'Bricke' possibly refers to bridges ('Bricke' = 'Brücke?')

be possible for me to live in such a stable. So I took my family to Büsch's home, where we found a loving reception, and where each tried to comfort the other.

On Sunday I preached twice on the Sixth Line and to numerous assemblies at Kechle's class⁶. On Monday I conferred with the Brothers at Wigand's road about a home. They all told me that it would be much better for us to live on their street, but that there was no house to be had.

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While we were discussing this, Brother Braun came to fetch me to hold a funeral on Tuesday in Brand. We went then to Büsch's home, where I met my family again. I then told them that I still didn't have a home for us and must set out with Braun for Brand. My wife wept.

On Wednesday evening I returned to Büsch's again. Sister Büsch was sick and my family was despairing and in need of comfort. On Thursday I again went with Brother Büsch and the family to Wigand's Road to look for a shelter for us, where it was then settled that we should move into Brother Dinkel's home for the time being. Then we started unpacking, and found all our things whole and unbroken, despite that bad road.

Then on Thursday some Brothers met and promised me that they would build a preacher's residence as quickly as possible, we should rest assured.

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⁶ This may refer to a Reformed Church *classis*, a geographical grouping of churches. The word also appears as "Claß" in (6).

We would need to make do for two months, they said, and then the pastoral house should be ready for me.

Today I worked hard transporting wood. The people have such a lot of work; I also washed the sulky sulky,⁷ for the wheels were almost completely jammed with mud. Magdalena, my dear wife whom I sought to comfort so often, has done the washing, and while I was writing these lines, she cried out because she had a headache. The children are all healthy, [and] my wife also seems to be in a better frame of mind. Brother Dinkel's family are fine people; the old mother tries to comfort my family.

We can write better next time about how things are going for us. Next Sunday I have to preach on three occasions at the Tenth Concession in Hanover, at a large class.⁸ Next week I go to Port Elgin and Bruce. There is no lack of work.

We greet all of you many times, and all the neighbours, and the whole class, too. Write back with lots of news right away, for it seems to me that here on this North Pole one doesn't hear much news. In fact it has been really cold here up to now.

Your son, Jacob Anthes

⁷ Anthes's German phrase "bocki solki" (stubborn or sulky carriage or sulky) also produces a play on words in English.

⁸ As before, this probably refers to a Reformed Church *classis*, a geographical grouping of churches.