176. July 15, 1711. Letter from Runckel to accompany a bill of exchange for 11,400 rixdollars, being the amount which the Swiss Anabaptist refugees have on deposit. They left Neuchâtel and Bern on July 13; they embarked in the evening at Wangen and are expected at Basel on the 17th.

[page 1]

Basel[[1]](#footnote-1) July 15, 1711.

Very worthy, etc.

My especially highly honored Sirs!

With these few lines I shall report in haste that the Bernese Mennonites have departed under the protection of the Most High God from Bern and Neuchâtel the day before yesterday in the morning and that all five

ships gathered the same evening at Wangen. Then yesterday morning they continued their journey together to Laufenburg, where they unloaded [and reloaded] the ships today and otherwise finished the necessary details, and, if it please God, they will come here tomorrow evening.[[2]](#footnote-2) I am arriving here just now, because I have gone by land, and will attend to all pressing matters so that these good people will be held up here so much the less. Only here will I be able to finish the main roster of those departing, since I could otherwise never quite settle that.

Enclosed is a first letter of exchange[[3]](#footnote-3) from Messrs. Malacrida and Co. for the sum of 11,400 dollars handed in for them [the refugees]. These gentlemen from their previously given [page 2] slogan to make the letter [payable] in a couple of days at sight have again deviated with all kinds of excuses so that it now is, as the expression goes, regis ad exemplum,[[4]](#footnote-4) etc.

With this, my highly honored Sirs, I commit myself and mine in the almighty, gracious protection of God most kindly to your devoted prayer and remain,

My highly honored Sirs’

Most devoted servant

Johann Ludwig Runckel.

1. 176 This document is translated into Dutch in Vorsterman’s Relaes (A 1392) on p. 207. [↑](#footnote-ref-1)
2. Müller, p. 301; Gratz, p. 61. [↑](#footnote-ref-2)
3. See note on letters of exchange in Document 180. [↑](#footnote-ref-3)
4. Vorsterman translates this sentence as: “Maer deese heeren sÿn van haer voormaels gegeeven woord om deesen brieff op 2 dagen sigts te maken onder allerhande pretexten afgeweeken, soo dat het hier is gelyk man sagt Regis ad Exemplum.” Perhaps it means that they will pay when it is convenient for them, the Latin expression meaning “according to the manner of a king.” [↑](#footnote-ref-4)