28. April 3, 1710. The first part of this document (recto) was a copy (with only minor spelling differences) of the request from the Dutch Mennonites to the States General for intercession for the Bernese Mennonites. Since it was included in a preceding document, that is Document 24 from the minutes of the Lamist Church Council, it is not repeated here.

The remainder of the present document is an extract of the decision of the States General on April 3 and follows here. It recommends the intercession to be into the hands of the representatives for foreign affairs.[[1]](#footnote-1)

[verso]

Extract from the Resolutions of the High and Mighty Lords

of the States General of the United Netherlands.

Thursday, April 3, 1710.

Read in the assembly: the request of the delegates of the Mennonite congregations in this country, in which it is declared that a number of their fellow believers are on the point of being transported from Switzerland over this government’s soil, etc., as stated in the request, indeed, already on the way, and destined for America, forced against their will to end their lives there as exiles, as punishment solely for the confession of their religion, requesting for the reasons outlined in the said request, that their High and Mighty Lords might decree and consent that the said fellow believers of the suppliants shall be regarded as free persons as soon as they set foot on this government’s soil, shall be released from being transported elsewhere on account of their religion, and may be admitted and allowed to live among their fellow brothers in this country, the suppliants being willing to take responsibility for the said fellow brothers.

Whereupon, being deliberated, it is approved and is consented that a copy of the said request will be placed in the hands of Mr. van Randwyk

and other High and Mighty deputies of foreign affairs for the purpose of visiting, examining, and conferring concerning it with Lord Townshend, Special Ambassador for Her Majesty of Great Britain and with Lord St.-Saphorin sent from the Canton of Bern, and to report on everything here in the assembly.

Accords with the said register.

[upside down]

Request to the High and Mighty Lords of the States General

and their resolution dated April 3, 1710.

This having been copied, request repeated.

1. 28 This document is also related to Documents 14 (March 15, 1710) and 15 (March 15, 1710). [↑](#footnote-ref-1)