105. December 30, 1710. From the official records of the States General, in which they write to Mr. Runckel at Bern, asking that he press officials there to carry out their edict of September 26, and that he exert all diligence on behalf of the Mennonites.

[folio 1 recto]

Copy Extract[[1]](#footnote-1) from the Register of

Resolutions of the High and Mighty

Lords of States General of the

United Netherlands.

Tuesday, December 30, 1710.

Presiding Mr. van de Lier.

Present The gentlemen van Oldersom, van Essen,

van Broekhuysen, Harrevelt;

Repelaer, van den Honaart, van Dorp, De Vicq, Meerens,

Grand Pensionary Heinsius, with a special deputation

from the Province of Holland and West Friesland;

van Moermont, van Spanbroeck, Coninck,

van Schonauwen with a special deputation

from the Province of Utrecht;

van Goslinga, Du Tour;

Ittersum, Ysselmuyden;

Wichers, Nyeveen.

In summary: Having deliberated on the letter from Secretary Runckel, written in Bern on December 10, addressed to Clerk Fagel, containing an announcement, and including the copy of a memorandum handed by him on behalf of the Mennonite congregations in these lands to the Illustrious Canton of Bern for the purpose of attaining freedom for the Mennonites in Switzerland, prisoners and others to be transported here to the area of this government at the expense of the Mennonites in this country, and thereafter to be brought to the lands of His Majesty of Prussia, or other [lands], according to their wishes, which they will be able to find suitable.

[The States General urge] that the proclamation of September 26 of this year for said purpose, [folio 1 verso] resolved by the Great Council, might be carried out most expeditiously, by which all Mennonites [who are] subjects of the Canton may be given the freedom to appear in public and be given adequate time to arrange their affairs and prepare themselves for departure, and to allow others to execute what cannot be completed before their departure, and also, that the prisoners may be released with all speed, at least provisionally, promising with bond to appear within a certain time.

[They also urge] that Reformed spouses, parents, or children also be allowed to leave with their Mennonite spouses, children, and parents, if they

so desire, and that they be granted the right to take possessions with them, mentioned more extensively in the aforesaid memorandum.

It is approved and understood that the aforesaid Secretary Runckel will be notified in writing that their High and Mighty Sirs are pleased with, and sanction, what he has done in this matter and what he has requested in the aforesaid memorandum, and [ask him] to continue to apply all good means to bring this matter to a satisfactory conclusion. It will be recommended as convincingly as possible in a letter to the Canton of Bern to expedite this matter and to decide favorably and speedily on the points outlined in the aforesaid memorandum, and to [send] the aforesaid letter together with a copy of the one sent to the aforesaid Secretary Runckel, [in which he is requested] to deliver the originals where they should go and to support the contents as best he can.

[Checked and found] consistent with the aforesaid register.[[2]](#footnote-2)

[folio 2 recto: blank]

[folio 2 verso]

Extract from the resolution of

the States General dated December 30, 1710.

1. 105 This document is also copied in Vorsterman’s Relaes (A 1392) on pp. 108-109 with many minor variations. [↑](#footnote-ref-1)
2. Here Vorsterman’s copy adds, “was geteyken Fs. Fagel” (was signed François Fagel). [↑](#footnote-ref-2)