**Citation:** James W. Lowry, "Document 133, 11 February 1711, translation," in *Documents of Brotherly Love: Dutch Mennonite Aid to Swiss Anabaptists* (Millersburg, OH: Ohio Amish Library), 735-37 (odd).

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**Date:**  11 February 1711

**Sender:**  Runckel, Johann Ludwig

**Sender Place:**  Bern, Switzerland

**Receiver:**  Need, Committee for Foreign

**Receiver Place:**  Amsterdam, Netherlands

**Language:**  English

**Translation:**

133. February 11, 1711. From Runckel to the Committee to accompany a letter with enclosures.[[1]](#footnote-5) He states his satisfaction that they also earnestly condemn the clandestine return of those earlier banished, and that they would write about it to the Swiss. He wants to return to Schaffhausen to take care of duties there.

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Bern[[2]](#footnote-6) the 11th of February 1711.

Very worthy, etc.

My especially highly honored Sirs,

From the accompanying copy of my most obedient secret report to the States [General] of the 7th of this month and the added enclosures, my highly honored Sirs, please observe what has further occurred since my last communication of the 28th of the previous month till now in the affairs of the Anabaptists here and how difficult matters proceed previous to and before such can be completely put in order. The so-called Anabaptist Commission, instead of revising the resolution itself, has thought to bring the whole affair again before the Small Council, where, as they assured me, everything had been indeed so arranged that they can be satisfied with it, but in fact they will again bring it before the Sovereign Council first today before it is communicated to me. Accordingly I fear confusion will again [page 2] result. In which case then, so as not to be too burdensome, I will need to let matters take their course.

Meanwhile on the past Sunday I received my highly honored Sirs’ very valuable communication of the 30th of the last month in good order, and from it learned with satisfaction that my highly honored Sirs not only do not appreciate the Anabaptists, who had been exiled by the government, stealing back into this country, but also disapprove very greatly. Thereupon they also think it proper to write about this to those people with whom they are in correspondence in order to warn their fellow brethren. I hope this will produce a greater effect than anything about which they may have been

admonished up to now. If not, then the rigidity of this Canton, as not being very favorable, may need to teach them a lesson to their hurt.

With this, besides a mutual commitment into the powerful, gracious protection of God and most kindly commendation of myself and mine to your devoted prayer, also with a hearty greeting, I remain constantly

My highly honored Sirs,’

Most devoted servant,

J. Ludwig Runckel.

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P.S.

As soon as the poor Anabaptist prisoners are set free and the proclamation [of the amnesty] occurs, I am thinking about entering on my return journey to Schaffhausen, if the High and Mighty Lords and my highly honored Sirs should approve, because it will be highly necessary that toward the coming May I make my appearance here again for the complete arrangement of the emigration of these poor people. So I request my highly honored Sirs to address their future letters to me at Schaffhausen as mentioned.

1. The enclosures are not present with this document. [↑](#footnote-ref-5)
2. This document is translated into Dutch in Vorsterman’s Relaes (A 1392) on p. 134. [↑](#footnote-ref-6)