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**Date:**  08 October 1707

**Sender:**  Kolb, Pieter, Hütwohl, Valentin and Loheer, Jonas

**Sender Place:**  Palatinate, Germany

**Receiver:**  Amsterdam, Gemeenten te

**Receiver Place:**  Amsterdam, Netherlands

**Language:**  English

**Translation:**

**73. October 8, 1707.** *Letter from the ministers in the Palatinate on behalf of Maria Lind, who, having already lived in Amsterdam, has been staying for a short time in the Palatinate. The letter asks the brothers in Amsterdam to help her when in need.*

[recto]

We ministers and elders in the Palatinate wish all preachers and leaders of the Baptism-minded Mennonite congregations in Amsterdam much grace and mercy from God, our heavenly Father, and the peace of Jesus Christ with the cooperation of the Holy Ghost. Amen.

Since Maria Lind, the daughter of the deceased Abraham Lind, has now been residing in Amsterdam more than sixteen years, as we have understood that she has stayed for a time with Johannes Lind and Michael Lind, being her uncle and cousin, [and] afterwards was cared for by our dear, worthy friend and brother in Christ Jesus, David Rutgers.[[1]](#footnote-7) Since, however, after his death it was written [to us] by Jelles Altehoffen[[2]](#footnote-8) to the effect that the ministers and leaders of the congregations desire a church letter on her behalf. So she has come to Kriegsheim to the congregation. As reported above [she has been] in Amsterdam so long that they would [not] know how she has deported herself. Only [we should mention] that she has such a poor memory that she perhaps could scarcely earn her living. So we request quite humbly that you would please give her a hand where the need should require, as a sister in the congregation. For the which we hope to remain, worthy friends and brothers, your affectionate brothers in Christ Jesus.

Jonas Loheer from Offstein

Velten Hütwohl

Peter Kolb[[3]](#footnote-9)

from the Electoral Palatinate

October 8, 1707[[4]](#footnote-10)

[verso: address]

Church letter to the preachers and leaders of the Baptism-minded Mennonite congregations in Amsterdam.

1. Among the wealthy Mennonite Rutgers family living in Amsterdam during this time period were several named David. This could be the David Rutgers who was treasurer of the Committee for Foreign Needs in 1687 and 1694, but it could also be another David Rutgers.  *ME* IV, 394. [↑](#footnote-ref-7)
2. Aldenhoven [?]. Cf. Lavooij-Janzen, p. 48. See reference to Jilles Altenhoffen in Document 53, p. 575. [↑](#footnote-ref-8)
3. Peter Kolb, elder of the Kriegsheim congregation in the Palatinate, visited the Netherlands in 1709. See *ME* III, 215, according to which he appears in Document 77, and in A 1439, 1443, and 1470 of the De Hoop Scheffer *Inventaris* from the years 1716, 1718, and 1731 [?]. His signature also appears on Document 71 in the present volume and here, and in documents A 1434, 1438 from the years 1714 and 1715. [↑](#footnote-ref-9)
4. This says plainly 1707, contrary to what De Hoop Scheffer reads (1717). This would place Maria Lind’s first arrival in Amsterdam in 1690 rather than 1700 and may have caused De Hoop Scheffer to doubt the date. However, since Loheer wrote letters dated 1690, Documents 48 and 50, recommending some Palatines who were traveling to Amsterdam or already there, it is evident that this type of relationship existed already at that time. [↑](#footnote-ref-10)