

No 3

M^r Peter Whitaker

Williamsburg
Dundas County
Upper Canada.

by M^r Herm. Haysenga.

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Peter Whitaker
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up to 1826.

Hartwick Seminary Jul 23^d 1826

M^r Peter Whitaker

Dear Sir,

The bearer of this line is M^r Hagunga who has just finished his theological studies in the Seminary entrusted to my charge, who intends to present himself to the Synod at our next meeting Sept 3^d at Collettsville in the county of Schoharie to receive license to perform all ministerial acts. You had intended to call the Rev M^r Jacob Sunderling, but his present congregation are not willing to part with him, & being born in the State he feels an inclination to stay, & thinks that he could not be happy under any other government. He writes me, that your congregation had paid him a sum of money to aid him in his travelling expenses which he will send back by M^r Hagunga when he shall see him at the Synod. He would undoubtedly have done it now were the distance not too considerable & the time so short.

I can recommend M^r Hagunga to your congregation as a young man with whom I am well acquainted, he having studied with me for $4\frac{1}{2}$ years, & has been tutor in the Seminary for the last year. I trust you will find him a pious & zealous minister of the gospel, who is willing to do all in his power to raise your congregation to respectability, with the blessing of divine Providence, & I think, that in many respects he will suit you better than M^r Sunderling, particularly because M^r Hagunga understands both the German & the English languages.

However I hope, that you will not insist on his preaching too very frequently in the German language, ~~as~~ in as much as that would retard the growth of your congregation. I shall be glad to receive by M^r Haymgar return a line from you my dear Sir; M^r Goertner has informed me of your readiness to assist in the building up of our Lutheran church in your part, & I can assure you, that it is the wish of my heart also, to see the church flourish every where. If God spare my life I am resolved to come & see you next year in the fall too, whether there are yet other settlements of our people unprovided with the Gospel. This fall I shall visit another portion of Canada on the South west borders of Lake Ontario, where I found last year considerable numbers of our people. May God direct you in your proceedings & bless your endeavoring to be aid in building up the Redeemer's Kingdom is the sincere prayer of your humble servant & friend

Ernest L. Harelius.

P. S. You may show this letter to the vestry of your church — with my respects to them —

H.

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