

Jürgen Polman to Anders Lennartsson, 1603



Letter to Anders Lennartsson 1603

[START OF LETTER]

10 Aug 1603

Noble and stern, propitious Governor and Colonel,

with my wishes for God's mercy and worldly as well as eternal wellbeing for you, and my offer of services, I will not withhold from you that I have been captured, and I think, while many upright people stayed at my side, God saved my life and the time of my death has not yet been determined. For which I need to thank firstly the almighty God, also Your noble Grace, the commander, and a righteous noble dragoon who was captured with me. I cannot praise enough Your noble Grace, the commander, for the merciful kindness and benevolence, that You showed us prisoners and me in particular, because I have eaten at Your Grace's table as well as You yourself. After Your noble Grace, the commander, have allowed that I should be set free in exchange for a Polish prisoner, Mikolaj Polikowsky who has been captured near Patzkloster a little while ago; and because I am serving the propitious Governor and Colonel, the Princly Serenity Duke [...] and the Crown of Sweden in my third year, honestly, veraciously, and faithfully, at my own cost with four horses under the [Dorpat?] banner, and have proven my reliability and faithfulness with my property, limb and blood, in this last foray, and because my wife and children shall not remain inconsolable and must not fall into poverty, therefore I appeal to Your Grace
You might agree and make possible that the said Mikolaj Polikowsky will be freed in exchange for me, and the matter will not be drawn out, but that with the next envoy, I may receive an agreeing, solaceful reply, with time and location where the exchange shall take place. On this side I have heard that His noble Grace, the commander, is willing to free all these captives, and if I, against all hope, should not be freed any time soon, it will cause great loathing among many righteous people who will think twice to risk their life and limb again.

Otto Bremen, Your Grace's servant, has also been captured, and a merchant journeyman called Steffen, and a noble Swede named Joeter who has previously served under the [Uplandischen]. His Noble Grace is prepared to exchange them all against other prisoners. Apart from these, mostly Germans and Swedes have been captured, they all can be freed, if only Your Grace will bring it about, and write to the Commander Koytkowitz about this matter. I also plead with Your Grace to care for my wife and children and support them, until I will, with God's providence, be freed; which will now mainly be in Your hands.

You are the trustworthy and magniloquent Lord whom I will always
be eager to serve; I commend You to God's merciful protection.

Date in the Royal encampment 10 August 1603

Your Grace's willing servant

Jürgen Polman

Mpria [his own hand]

[END OF LETTER]

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polmanarkivet.com.

Translation by Beyond History

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Dist. C. gust. Vinum Offo

Jürgen Grolman
 1791