These regions have great advantages over many others in Pennsylvania because of the vicinity of Pittsburgh, because of the connection to the Pennsylvania Canal, and chiefly because of their healthy air and their healthy water. It was there for the first time that I again saw blossoming and healthy-looking people, as we are accustomed to see in Germany, after I already was of the opinion that all Pennsylvania and all America was unhealthy. In all eastern Pennsylvania, where the lands are far more expensive than in Germany, where in part one finds very good soil, there one finds only pale faces, no red cheeks. As rarely as I saw a blossoming human face in those regions and in Philadelphia, so rarely have I seen a pale human face in Butler County and vicinity. One knows almost nothing of fever there, while in other regions people scarcely ever get rid of fever. The region is as healthy as can be in Germany. They know little about mosquitoes there in summer, and the bad kind of mosquito which torments men there is not at all known. The mosquitoes which are found in the healthy counties of Pennsylvania are not worse than our German flies. There were few mosquitoes in Philadelphia this year, in some years this plague is said to be very keenly felt. The bad kind of mosquito is brought here to Pittsburgh only by the steamboats which drag it up from the lower parts of the river. It is not native here. The most fertile parts of the western states suffer very much from this plague, and during the summer from fevers. You will then ask perhaps: why don't all German emigrants who come to America stay in Pennsylvania, if it is so healthy there, the land so cheap and good, and if it is so advantageous there? Answer: Because no one comes here sufficiently informed, no one takes the trouble to obtain proper information and to consider all circumstances. Even the Pennsylvanians often know little about their land and move to the West because they believe it is better there. — German emigrants firmly decide in Germany already to move to Ohio; they come to Philadelphia, go through
Pennsylvania without looking around, sail down the Ohio, farther and farther, suddenly their money is gone; now they are in Ohio, Indiana, Illinois or Missouri, or even in the Northwest Territory among the wild people and then much later see that they can live of course but cannot earn anything beyond that. A few days ago I spoke with a German who was in Columbiana County, in the state of Ohio, 60 miles from here, hence still quite near. This county is inhabited entirely by Germans and is one of the most cultivated in the state of Ohio; incidentally, it has no communications. The farmers there are all compelled to sell their produce to profiteers, who do not give them cash for it but force all kinds of junk on them at high prices. If now they want to pay their small taxes, they must travel a distance of three days to Pittsburgh, to sell their produce directly and to obtain cash. In no city in the interior of the United States (not even in Cincinnati) does as much cash money circulate as here in Pittsburgh and vicinity.

A certain Mr. Krumphaar in Philadelphia, to whom I was introduced by Mr. Leupold, who formerly carried on a considerable land business, who knows many states and Pennsylvania especially, gave me the following advice: "Travel through Pennsylvania in all directions, then travel through the western states, and if you test everything carefully, you will give Pennsylvania the preference." At that time I did not really want to believe him, was still too much taken for Ohio and could not yet judge the situation. Etzler, who has moved about all over America, knew nothing about the status of prices of produce in the different states, never judged the matter from the point of view of a business man. Also he never considered it worth the trouble to ask for the information of informed men and with his group ran through Pennsylvania just as the Swabian farmer does. — Old Rapp, in whose colony I was some time ago and who is one of the first and best informed land managers (farmers) in America and who has 20 years of experience on his side, has given a clear proof of the correctness of my above assertions. When Rapp came to America 21 years ago, he and his association bought a piece of land amounting to 11000 acres in Butler County, on the Connoquenessing Creek, 14 miles from Butler, 28 miles from Pittsburgh. He called this colony Old Harmony (near Zelienople). This region was good, healthy and had communication

24 This is exactly what Etzler and his followers did when they arrived with Roebling in the United States. After a short time in Philadelphia, Etzler set out for what he considered better opportunities in Ohio and Indiana. P.R.B.

25 Cincinnati also had one of the largest German communities in the United States at this time. P.R.B.
with Pittsburgh. Later this place became too small for Rapp; he sold it with the buildings for $120,000 to an enterprising man named Ziegler, for credit. The latter is still living on it, each week sends 150 lbs. of butter to Pittsburgh and by his industry and clever management has paid off $80,000 to old Rapp. Rapp now moved with his Württembergers to the Wabash, to Indiana, there bought 40,000 acres and founded New Harmonie. Rapp found that this region, although it had a milder climate and a more fertile soil, was too unhealthy and too distant from markets, sold his establishment to the well-known Scotsman Owen and moved back up to the vicinity of Pittsburgh, to Allegheny County. It is now 7 years ago that he bought about 6000 acres along the Ohio, 18 miles from here, and among this land is a stretch of exceptionally fine bottom land, and there he founded his third establishment, New Economy by name. I have been there and saw everything. The little town consists of 150 dwellings which, for the greater part, are built massively and situated along regularly laid out streets. There is a church, a museum building (but little in it), a cotton factory and a wool factory. Everything is purposefully arranged there and shows contentment and prosperity. Old Rapp has brought together a great deal of money, lets his farmers work, on Sundays preaches unreasonable stuff to them, keeps them in stupidity and does not allow them to marry. Because of this many young fellows and girls run away who do not care to live in celibacy. I heard him preach and, together with other incomprehensible chatter, he set up and defended the thesis that men can attain eternal bliss only if they suppress the needs of nature. I am telling you (he continued) you are the personal body guard of Christ; it is so, as I tell you etc. etc.— There is dissatisfaction among his personal body guard, because no one knows what he does with all the accumulated money, and a crisis threatens the entire unnatural Rappish establishment soon. The factories in Economy are very efficiently arranged. In the cloth factory material of 10 English feet breadth is woven. I saw yarn machines

26 Roebling here is somewhat overenthusiastic. Among the reasons for Rapp's move were difficulty of transportation and cold climate. Ziegler had great difficulty making payments, and settlement was delayed for many years. K.J.R.A.

27 This site is preserved as an historical landmark by the Pennsylvania Historical and Museum Commission. Known as Old Economy Village, it is located in Ambridge, Pennsylvania. P.R.B.

28 This crisis took place the following year (1832), when Count Leon led a group of dissenting Harmonists to break away from Rapp, demand their share of the society's money, and establish another communal society across the Beaver River. The society, called the New Philadelphia Congregation, settled in Phillippsburg (later called New Philadelphia, Lionsburg, and then Monaca), Pennsylvania. P.R.B.
there similar to the new ones which you had set up in your house; also similar carding machines. Such a carding machine here costs about $500. It is said that much money is made in the factories that manufacture cloth and yarn. But back to the old theme. We (my brother and I) suggest to you that we work the purchased land in common, because a common management brings in much more gain, and because we can later carry on different other branches of business to advantage beside the farming in itself, without risk, e.g. sheep farming, but not buy sheep immediately, but begin with the common race here and improve these with good rams. That is what our neighbor Walker did. One can obtain good rams in the vicinity of Pittsburgh at modest prices. Without investing much capital we can gradually raise a considerable herd. We have enough pasture. One general mistake which harms sheep farming in America is that one pays little attention to the care of the sheep. I have spoken about this with farmers here, Genss also is of the same opinion. One lets sheep run around wild here in the bushes and only keeps them fenced in. Shepherds who take care of the sheep are unknown here. The sheep are kept in the same pasture for months, which is contrary to nature. The sheep always want to change pasture, but this is not possible without a shepherd, because moving forward and setting up new fences makes a great deal of work. Furthermore they here leave sheep like all cattle out in the open during the greater part of the winter, even during wet cold weather, whereby no animal can thrive; and they give them very little to eat in winter and let them find their own food. If one has a shepherd, then the pasture can be changed constantly and every day and all fences are unnecessary. I wanted to make the following suggestion: bring along a capable young shepherd, if possible with a wife, together with Campe & Angelrodt. Make a liberal contract with him, if you pay his passage. The shepherd must be a dependable person, must also bring along a pair

29 Roebling’s account of Rapp is that of a freethinker and technologist with little understanding for or appreciation of religious mysticism. Rapp’s ideas were taken primarily from Jacob Boehme. Contrary to Roebling’s here rather superficial report, Rapp’s followers included many highly intelligent and cultured persons who greatly admired him and stood by him loyally through the Leon crisis. Those who left Rapp under Leon went to their ruin while those who remained under Rapp’s firm spiritual and economic leadership never knew hunger or want and lived in comparative luxury with complete social security until they died. It was Rapp who inspired Owen, and it was Rapp with his religious hope and faith who was amazingly successful with his community while Owen, without religion to inspire his community, soon failed. See Arndt: George Rapp’s Harmony Society, 1785-1847. K.J.R.A.
of young shepherd dogs of good race, because these are lacking here completely. The money advanced for such a man would bring in good interest. At the start, until we get together a fairly large herd, the man can be kept busy in agriculture. Later we will give him a little house and a share in the sheep farm. If one invests a capital of $500 one can buy 400 young common lambs and several good rams (middle fine at $20) for it and make a beginning in this way. If Messrs Campe & Angelrodt come later and buy land close by us, we could acquire a pasture of several thousand acres. Our neighbor Walker, who owns 1000 acres, would gladly join such a combination and contribute to the support of the shepherd, as he has already told me. Once one has raised the herd from the common local English stock and increased it considerably, it is not a great loss if occasionally a few die through circumstances; this loss is replenished by the annual new births. — It would perhaps be best to leave the choice of a good shepherd to Mr. Campe. In Washington County, near Pittsburgh, where the largest sheep farms in the United States are located, one can buy sheep of all kinds. — Then there is another very profitable business to be carried on here by the farmer, namely oil manufacture. Fuel oil is sold extremely expensively here; there is no good fuel oil or lamp oil, only linseed oil for colors and purified train oil. Rape seed and poppy seed are as yet not at all known in America. Only in Economy some rape and poppy is grown. Quite a bit of flax is grown; also sun flowers, but not much. The latter are entirely domestic here and grow very well, also give a very fine eating oil, although not as much as rape. In some areas of Ohio many sunflowers are grown for oil and to much use; but if one can make the oil oneself, the advantage is all the greater. Be sure to bring along a half to an entire hundredweight of good genuine rape seed and also some good poppy seed. Further bring along some good mulberry tree seed, especially white. At Rapp I inquired about silk culture. For some years he has carried this on successfully. Of course it takes many hands to pick the leaves; but this can be done by children; the reeling off of the cocoons is women's business. Still inform yourself about the best methods of oil manufacture and bring along some good books about silk culture, also about sheep raising. Rapp's people learned about silk ribbons only from a German book and supply excellent silk

30 In February 1836 Roebling sent a letter to Rapp asking him the price the Harmony Society charged for rape seed. Roebling wanted to purchase between three and ten bushels of rape, depending on the price. (Cf. Harmony Society Correspondence File.) P.R.B.
and finished materials. In the state of New York a few years ago one man, who has been in the silk culture business for a long time, sold silk in the amount of $60,000. At Rapp I saw an entire closet full of reeled off and colored silk, the result of the last year. If these Swabians can do this, why should we not be able to do so? If a few families more move here we will get children for leaf picking. Mr. Angelrodt can contribute a great deal to this, and young Bahr will also not be left out, for there is a great deal of wild honey here. — Believe me, a great deal can be undertaken here; the Americans are not that tremendously clever, only they undertake a lot and they are often speculation mad. —

We presume that you are coming with Messrs Angelrodt, Campe, your son-in-law, Kahlert and some others. Where will you stay on these lands? There are no houses there. I therefore consider it best, on the condition that my above suggestion is welcome to you, that in spring we build a larger two story simple house in the middle of our joint land, where several families have enough space and where in general all decent friends, who want to follow next year, would have a place to stay for the start. For me and my brother this is not necessary, also our treasury would not allow it, because we still must buy many things. If this is not done many of the families that are following would have many expenses and suffer inconveniences. If you would be satisfied with this, inform me as quickly as possible, because we would have to make a beginning this winter still. I am thinking of setting up a two story house, 50 feet long and 32 feet deep and of making it livable for $500-$600. If you bring along a young cabinet maker, as you formerly intended and which I advise you to do, then he could do the fine work in the house. We would provide room and board for the other families, of course at a cost, until they themselves had built. This would be a great relief for all those that are following.

Listen further, respected friend! Our brother Christel and his family want to come over with you next year. He will be very welcome to us and will be received with open arms. I know his reasons and cannot condemn these. But what should become of our old parents? Would it not be very ungrateful of us to leave father and mother all alone and to move into a strange part of the world? My brother and

31 Niles Register and other journals interested in promoting American manufacture at this time reported on the phenomenal success of the Harmony Society in manufacturing silk. Rapp imported the latest and best literature on silk manufacture from France and Germany and even brought over help from France to instruct his people in this art. See L. R. Cortambert: "Colonie d'Economy et secte des Harmonistes" in Nouvelles Annales des Voyages (April 1842), II, 65-74. K.J.R.A.
I would then not be able to live here in peace. — We want to suggest to our parents, if they are still in good health, also to come over and to conclude their life among us. Up to the time of their arrival we can make arrangements enough so that they would not miss any comforts here. A quiet, peaceful, undisturbed and comfortable life, enjoyment of free nature and in the company of their own and several other decent families, that is what they can find here. Formerly I did not want to give room to such a thought, because I could not know how we would fare and whether our plans could be successfully carried out; now, however, the main difficulties have been overcome, and we have happily opened the way, more happily than I expected in Philadelphia. In a short time everything will be running. If our father has a comfortable room, a garden where he can plant tobacco, a beautiful region with an expansive view, where he can walk and in the evening have a few men about him for conversation, a pipe of tobacco and a glass of good beer, then I know he will be satisfied. All this he can have here. Genss wants to start next year to brew a good light strong beer like Candidate Muder and Candidate Kerst etc. etc. in Mühlhausen. On the trip our father, of course, sometimes would get a little grouchy and impatient and condemn entire America. As far as the ocean voyage is concerned, old people must fear least from sea sickness and otherwise the trip is healthy and invigorating. Old Mrs. Etzler and old Dreise from Saalfeld were never ill on the entire trip and always ate and drank well. I would prepare for a comfortable land journey in America and below I shall make some further remarks about this. By the way, we in no way want to put pressure on our parents, the decision must be their own free will, and the condition of their health must be good. If my parents do not want to come over and if my brother Christel does not want to stay in Mühlhausen, then my brother Carl has decided to return and to remain with my parents so that they will not be left so alone. Dear Mr. Bahr, do speak with my parents and with my brother and also my brother-in-law Meissner and my sister, but do not try to persuade them. I can assure you in advance that you and Mr. Angelrodt will like it here in America, if you expect no more than a world with free people where everyone unhindered follows his interests as well as he can. Whether others will like it here I cannot say; not all are able to find their way and adapt themselves to such an extended freedom and equality as is here the rule throughout the country. As far as the advantages of the country, its institutions and arrangements are concerned, one cannot praise them too much in comparison to Europe. I can honestly tell you
that I have not been disappointed in the least as far as the main points are concerned. Freedom and equality are at home here to such a high degree, and yet everyone lives peaceably side by side. One hears much less of murder, burglary, arson and fire than in Europe. Life and property are safer here than over there. Here you can carry on and do what you like; no person bothers you, if you only leave others alone. All this is here done without kings and emperors, without standing and devouring armies of soldier dolls, bureaucracy and tax servants, without the splendor of court or courtiers, without police officials and hangmen’s slaves. Of all these European instruments of suppression and spoilers of the people, who like vampires suck the blood from the veins of the farmers one here knows nothing. Germany’s poor inhabitants do not know how to pay the dues and tenths, etc. for the fattening of their suppressors, here the farmer in all annually pays 2 cents an acre “instusine” [sic] money for the improvement of highways, beyond that no one can demand anything of him. The officials who are necessary (not superfluous) for the administration of the community are servants of the people, not masters and suppressors. Everything, everything is different here from in Germany, as far as the institutions of men are concerned. About the character of the Americans I do not yet dare to venture any judgment. I brought along a worse opinion of them than I have been able to verify until now. Every American is a business man, everyone is after business and after making money, that is true. No one hands out presents and the famed hospitality, at least in the populated parts of Pennsylvania, I have not found until now, and I do not demand it. In the interior, where there is less traffic and money, hospitality may be more at home. Enough cheating takes place here, but no more than in Germany. Don’t imagine the people to be too high-minded, no more high-minded than the Germans are in general. English character and English customs predominate and everything else has proceeded from this basic character. If you do not picture the Americans as not much better and not much worse than the Europeans, then you will experience little disappointment. The American is dryer and colder than the German; in his conversation definite, simple and coherent. The American likes to argue very much, never makes an assertion without explaining and proving the same. A society of Americans is very different from a society of Germans and even more so from a society of Frenchmen. You never hear persons yelling and calling and quarreling with each other as in German societies. Everything takes its quiet course, even if several are seriously embittered with each other or
even drunk. Public good manners and true politeness toward each other is here observed more than in Germany, and rarely does one see such rudeness as there. On the other hand I here miss German heartiness, German cheerfulness and German good nature. There is little sense for art and science, everyone is after business. The real refined enjoyment of life, the spice of life, the refined joke, a refined and attractive conversation between the two sexes, more refined gallantry, all this one seeks in vain in America, according to my experience up to this point. In any case I prefer an educated German to an educated American, just as well as to an Englishman. The mass of the people here is more educated than in Germany; even the most ordinary black man here speaks a clear and coherent language. As far as the moral worth of the Americans is concerned, I do not dare to make a general judgment; I have not been in the country long enough to judge this. Incidentally, it is very natural that there where there is no distress but rather abundance one should meet with more excesses than with meanness. Distress and suppression makes man bad. This cause is lacking here entirely. Excess and baseness can be found in the big cities here just as well as in Europe; incidentally, as I have already said, there are more public good manners, also toward women. No one here takes off his hat, but it is even custom to keep on your hat in inns and places of business. There is only the simple greeting, how d'ye do [wie gehts, how goes it], without bowing of the head and all the rest. You here recognize the German by taking off of the hat, by the cap, by the pipe, by the compliments. I have become acquainted with very respectable Americans and up to now have not had reason to put down the character of the Americans as bad, as the Herr Regierungs Sekretar (Mr. Government Secretary) Gall has done. We have not yet been cheated, although one must pay for everything dearly. A single pair of boots were lost on the canal trip, whether they were stolen or not, I do not know for sure. Whoever comes here with good common sense, without overdrawn ideas of republican high-mindedness and angelic attributes, whoever is careful here, as one must be everywhere in Germany, will here have no reason to be critical about the Americans but will find them not much better or worse in most points than the Europeans. In the cities one hears of low rascality and thievery as one does in Germany. Youth in the cities is very uninhibited and often licentious, because their upbringing is by no means Spartan. I still have to make my first remark against the Americans, namely, there is little attachment and close relationship between parents and children. This is due in part
to the fact that it is so easy for children to make money early and to become independent early. Once the boy in Pennsylvania is 18 years old and has a few dollars in his pocket, he begins to speculate on his own, travels to New Orleans and everywhere. In this way the children often separate themselves from their parents early, they can help themselves and thus the family bonds are slackened. A good upbringing and sensible parents can prevent this entirely. In the country, among the farmers, one finds the real republican spirit. I feel better there than in the cities. All that which Etzler formerly told me about the character of the Americans I still find to be most correct. Through reports of travelers the Americans have been praised too much and criticised too much. So much remains correct and always true: the Americans now are the most enterprising people on earth and in time will become the most powerful and the most wealthy. The geographic location secures the land against external wars. If the boundaries are covered, an eternal peace can rule here, if no inner strife develops. The republican system need fear no change; the principles of the same are already too well inculcated in the 13 million strong population and have become to them a political guarantee that no potentate can establish himself here. One type of human could become dangerous to the republic and that is the priests, who since the time of the creation of the world have always caused the most misfortune. The people are too bigoted and go to church too much. The fearful celebration of the Sunday makes this day uncomfortable in the cities. The priests are gaining much personal influence, but to the present have not been able to gain any political influence, although they have tried it often enough. Incidentally, there are also enlightened and rational persons enough who speak freely about this point and write about it. All these good and bad attributes of the people, by the way, do not bother us at all; in the country we can live among ourselves as we wish, and no person will dare to disturb us. In this all Germans who have lived here a long time are in agreement: namely, the advantages of the country and the institutions of the people are so great in comparison to Germany and all of Europe, for the emigrant who here seeks a free and secure existence, that all shady sides, which can be found here as everywhere in the world, disappear and vanish into the background. This is my honest opinion. Beyond that I do not allow myself to say anything about the Americans. I still have too little experience and fear that I might become a base flatterer of these.

32 Probably another reference to such popular travel accounts as Duden's and Duke Bernhard. (See footnote 19) P.R.B.
people, to the damage of the truth.

Only one remark about the Americans (in Pennsylvania) I must still make in order to weaken a prejudice spread throughout Germany. By reports the Americans are pictured as nothing but drunkards, as human beings who throughout the day do not become sober. In the English Parliament the Americans were even once called "the drunken herd" by a speaker in parliament: — after the American Government had imposed a high duty on the import of English manufactured goods. This is base libel. I lived in Philadelphia 14 days and here 5 weeks, and during the land journey looked around enough in taverns and did not notice that Americans drink more brandy than the Germans in general. There are drunkards here as well as there, and I rather believe that the Americans in eating and drinking are more moderate than the Germans, except for the immigrant Irishmen, who in general are dissolute people. I have promised, my dear Mr. Bahr, to send you an honest report about everything and to tell you the clear truth, and this promise I shall always keep. Points of view about a country and a people, by the way, can be very different; some like it, some do not. If a foreigner here makes his fortune and comes back, then he praises everything; if another has misfortune, then he makes everything bad and easily becomes unjust in his accusations. His misfortune, which he ought to ascribe to circumstances and to his own carelessness, he then blames only on bad people. So do not talk anyone into emigrating; not everyone is suited to leave his fatherland, to tear himself out of his old situation and to found his career in a new part of the world, least of all such a one who is the first who breaks the way for himself and his people. I have already met several Germans who this year emigrated here, who came here with false exaggerated ideas and now feel themselves deceived and who wish to be back. To these Germans belongs among others Mr. Kleber from Darmstadt, whom I did not learn to know personally until I got here.33 After Kleber had stayed in Baltimore several weeks, he and his family went to Pittsburgh and then moved to a little town, Zelienople, 28 miles from here, near Old Harmony. There his family lived for some time. Kleber, as I heard from others, moved around without any kind of decision in his mind, traveled down to Cincinnati alone, back again,

33 Kleber was a member of the Darmstadt delegation of Roebling's emigration society. The 180 members of Darmstadt sailed aboard the Henry Barclay on May 20, 1831, from Bremen to Baltimore just a few days before Roebling, Etzler and 90 members from Mühlhausen set sail from Bremen to Philadelphia aboard the August Edward. Roebling's voyage took a month longer than Kleber's. P.R.B.
and could not reach a decision as to what he should do. I heard about him and wrote him at Zelienople from this point and informed him about the lands that I had seen. Thereupon he again moved here with his family. The latter is accustomed to life in a city and capital, he also, and they do not care to live in the country. He at once wanted to begin with a business in the city that would give him a good income, without knowing the language or the conditions and without possessing the American spirit of business. After I had come to know Kleber from this indecisive side, I no longer spoke frankly with him, so that I would not influence him in any way. So he has been living here again for some time. He seemed very discontented to me and seemed to regret the step he took in emigrating. A few days ago he had made the decision to go to Cincinnati, because he believes this place was the best for him. Now he has become acquainted with a German beer brewer journeyman from Cologne who has been working in American beer breweries for several years and has now learned this specialty here. Now he has decided to stay here, has already rented a house, and now wants to build a brewery with this brewer. This is a very good business here, and if Kleber carries on this business circumspectly, he can thereby make his fortune; at least it is good for the man that he has taken some kind of step. Dachroden described him rather correctly in his letter to us from Baltimore; incidentally, he is a very hearty and also educated, but somewhat weak [man], who allows himself to be led by his family and who does not possess enough firmness, which dare not be lacking here in America.\textsuperscript{34} The Darmstadt farmers who came over with Kleber are all dispersed. One of them, a clever carpenter and mill-builder, heard about our lands and through Kleber was sent to me. He wants to settle near us and inform other families from Darmstadt, who still have funds and are not yet settled. Mr. Jancke from Kassel, who each day is awaiting Mr. le Goullon and Thiehlemann with their families here, who recently arrived in New York from Bremen after a short crossing, has not yet decided whether he will with his friends buy land \textit{very close} to Pittsburgh (in order to carry on gardening and to run a vegetable farm) or if he will settle near us. Several miles from here not an acre is to be had \textit{below} \$50; and 10, 15 miles away on the Ohio they ask \$30.

Now let us still talk about your emigration affairs and about the remaining friends who want to follow next year and are interested in

\textsuperscript{34} Dachroden also arrived in the United States aboard the \textit{Henry Barclay} along with Kleber and the other Darmstadt members of Roebling's emigration society. P.R.B.
settling near us. Beside the 5-6000 acres which lie around the lands we have purchased and are at our disposition, probably 20,000 acres can be obtained in the neighborhood, but probably not at such reasonable prices. In that region for the greater part descendants of old Germans are living and they can get along with the German language everywhere. Besides, however, enough lands at $1-$2 can be had in Armstrong County, of course situated somewhat distant from good connections but not far from the Allegheny River, lands of varying quality, likewise in Mercer County very good lands at modest prices.

As far as your emigration is concerned, we have certainly prepared the way for you. You will not have the difficulties, uncertainties, traveling about, and the costs connected with this, which we have had. Beyond that we will give you well-meant advice on assistance according to our best conviction and own experience, so that your trip may proceed along as well as possible. On September 29 we received from Philadelphia Mr. Hagedorn Leupold & Co., your, Mr. Angelrodt’s and Westhoff’s letters of June 2 and 17th. Your duplicate letters are dated June 11 and 31. From these letters we learned that through Westhoff the sum of rf 1011.8 has been sent to Hagedorn Leupold & Co. “for land purchase for various Germans who want to join you.” This money is placed at my and Dachroden’s disposal through Hagedorn Leupold & Co. They, however, inform me that the money can be paid out only on basis of a receipt which would be signed by me and Dachroden, so that they are not exposed to any responsibility. However dear and pleasing it will be to me if very many good Germans come into our neighborhood, I should not like to carry out this order to buy land for others who are not in exact personal relationship to me, with whom I am not exactly personally acquainted, and whose unconditional confidence I do not possess. My brother Carl now thinks quite the same. If you, my dear Mr. Bahr, had formerly not given us unconditional confidence, if we were not completely convinced of your righteous and friendly attitude, we would not have bought any land for you but would have deposited the money received for this purpose in a secure bank for your disposition. Ingratitude and accusations of all kinds, this is the reward which those may expect who carry out orders of that sort or even undertake to charter ships for others, to prepare the journey, to sign contracts and the like. Since our departure from Mühlhausen we have had such experiences which are of great value for our future and which will accompany us throughout our life. Herewith I warn you once again, and also Mr. Angelrodt, be careful about the people with whom you get into contact.
You cannot expect that even the most righteous and well-meaning man will always remain sensible and keep his head clear in the execution of such an undertaking as you are planning.\textsuperscript{35} Most people are too much inclined to suspicion and often make unreasonable demands. Rothens, Reinhold, Sonderhausen and others behave this way toward me and Manco.\textsuperscript{36} In part they later saw that they had done us an injustice. Etzler always knew how to keep himself clear and always pretended to be no more than a passive member. Manco especially had to suffer many accusations on the sea voyage, and this trip cost no one more relatively than just our friend Manco. We have learned to know the latter as well as Genss as righteous, good, sensible men and as such who are capable of forming a good society. Etzler is capable of everything good, only not of the latter, because of his stubbornness and his awkward and objectionable manner. — When we left Philadelphia Sonderhausen still came to see us, was quite moved, and begged our forgiveness for his behavior on the ship. Mr. Kleber tells me that he met Etzler's Society on a steamboat on the Ohio. Etzler and another man were not present, but had traveled to the interior to look for land.\textsuperscript{37} — I wish all these people happy success and will also in future inquire about the place where they are living. — For this reason, Mr. Bahr, in order not to expose ourselves to accusations, may the money transmitted remain on deposit in Philadelphia until the owners themselves come. In a short time I will write to Hagedorn Leupold & Co. to Philadelphia about this. I have done all that I could with our weak means, have also not spared any costs. If we figure all the costs of room and those incidental to obtaining information, travel, renting of horses and money spent on post, $150 would not cover it. If we had only had the intention of selecting a small farm for ourselves, we would have come to a decision sooner and the half of the

\textsuperscript{35} This is demonstrated by the fact that of the 300 emigrants from Mühlhausen and Darmstadt who came over on the \textit{August Edward} and the \textit{Henry Barclay}, none remained loyal enough to Roebling to live with him on the property he purchased for the German society he intended to establish in the United States. The only ones who joined the two Roebling brothers were the seven members of the Grabe family who had indentured themselves to Roebling in payment for their passage to America. P.R.B.

\textsuperscript{36} Reinhold two years later helped Etzler print his first and major book describing a utopian society based on the latter's scientific application of nature's powers to man's benefit: \textit{The Paradise within the Reach of All Men} (Pittsburgh: Etzler and Reinhold, 1833). P.R.B.

\textsuperscript{37} Etzler never found suitable land and therefore his new society never materialized in the United States. By the end of the following year, he was back in Pittsburgh, where he soon published his book, \textit{The Paradise within the Reach of All Men}, and edited a German newspaper, \textit{Der Pittsburgher Beobachter}, beginning in 1833. P.R.B.
above mentioned sum would have been enough. Of late I have been on horseback for several weeks, always rode happily, often even at night-fall alone through the thickest forests on the worst roads, and upon my return to Pittsburgh time before last I fell on a level stretch of road with a bad horse that I had rented in such a manner that I could have broken my neck and legs, but did not suffer injury. Good luck belongs to all things, even the best intention often does not suffice. I consider it luck that I found that region. 5000-6000 acres lie there, all in one piece, at the disposal of our friends, and beyond this more is to be had. In these lands there are several places which would be eminently suited for laying out a small German town. If many men with trades follow, these can build houses closer together and start a town. Later a church and a school will be built, a concert hall and a theater, to make the project complete. Factories may flourish in the future town Germania; the vicinity offers everything for that. A good physician will soon be there, art and science can flourish, beside industry and the public bath; a German academy for the sensible, well-rounded, harmonious training and education of the body and soul will be the culmination and the main work of all. All this is possible even if it cannot be carried out so soon. Here in America almost nothing is impossible, as far as human doing and life are concerned. By the way, if a sufficient number of well to do families follow, then we can quite seriously soon attract to our neighborhood a capable young physician, and a homeopathic physician (not a Kling), who at the same time is an enlightened man and educator and who with others formerly intended to found a German academy in Pennsylvania. A German educational institute is still lacking completely. When you come to Philadelphia, do visit this young physician. I will write him in the near future. His address is, Dr. Homburg, care of Mr. Braun, North East Corner of Third and Vine Streets, Philadelphia. — Start a correspondence with Lieutenant Ziel near Bremen. Manco had to promise him to give him information because next spring he definitely wants to follow with several families of means. Judging by what he has said to Manco in Bremen, he seems to be a man of decisive firm character, and such people do well in America. — I advise you, Mr. Bahr, by no means to take along families without means at your expense, except a shepherd and a young cabinet maker (as you had formerly intended). You cannot depend on the most honest person for whom you pay the passage. He will always believe that you are

38 Roebling finally decided on the name Saxonburg instead of Germania for his small German settlement consisting of 1600 acres. P.R.B.
oppressing him. Also they are of no great use in comparison to the costs which workers employed here will cause you. My brother and I were forced to take a family with us because we alone cannot manage.  

Our family of 7 heads up to now costs us about $250

Clothing for 3 years for all $100
Wages for the man and wife at the end of 3 years $ 60

Total $410

The boy must serve 7 years and all the children up to 18 and 21 years. You can have a worker (assistant) in the country here the entire year for $70-$80, whereby he gets free room, food and drink and free laundry. Of course, such a man does not work like a German servant, and also demands quite different treatment than the latter. If one could completely depend on such persons, it would be well worth while. In the country board is an insignificant matter. Our man is an honest fellow and yet he has his moods and in Philadelphia believed he had been cheated. If you take along a dependable and capable young farmhand without family and pay the passage for him, you do not risk so much. If only one runs off on you, you do not lose so much. The main point is not to stay too long in the city, where the temptation for such people is great. If you want to pay the passage for a family, you must write a special contract in duplicate for each individual child and have the child sign itself, if it can write, as well as the father; all in the presence of several witnesses who go along.  

The signature of the mother of the children in the children’s contracts is not necessary. The contract with the parents must be separate. Promise each without hesitation free room and keep, free clothing; to the girls each year 3 months of night school until their 15th year; to the boys each year 3 months night school until the 18th year; besides this to each individual at the end of his time of service $30 or $30 in kind as wages. Further you must determine in the contract for each boy that you want him as apprentice and educate him as a good Agriculturist by the time he finishes his apprenticeship and service. If you want to prepare one for trade, you must apprentice him to a trade. In the contract with a girl you must state that you bind yourself to train the girl as apprentice in housekeeping and that you will educate her and teach her to perform all business pertaining thereto by the time of the conclusion of her time of service and apprenticeship

39 This is a reference to Augustus Grabe and his family. P.R.B.
40 Roebling did exactly this in indenturing Grabe and his family. Etzler signed the contract as one of the witnesses. P.R.B.
in the best possible manner. As far as the education is concerned you should still add, — "as well as is to be had in the neighborhood." This is the manner in which contracts are made with apprentices here and the masters accept boys and girls from 14-15 years under the above conditions. Each child gets its contract (or the father) and you the second copy. When you arrive in Philadelphia immediately go to Squire Geyer (Alderman), who speaks German and have the contracts confirmed. I did not arrange our contract as described above until I got here, in order to make the connection valid on account of the children. I did not find this out until here. If you have paid passage for someone and he can repay you what you have advanced or provide a secure bondsman who will pay the sum for him within a designated time, then the man is bound no further but is free and can go wherever he wishes. I believe it will be best for you and your friends if you board ship in Bremen for Philadelphia next year as soon as possible (if possible end of March). Let Mr. Lieutenant Ziel, who lives near Bremen, charter a roomy ship entirely for your friends, if the number is sufficiently large, and rather pay a little higher passage and make sharp written conditions with the captain and the ship company. You must make 3 signed contracts, of which one remains in your hands, one with the ship company, and the captain receives the third. The captain and director of the ship company (not just the agent) must sign in the presence of witnesses; further, if the contract is to be valid in America, it must be signed by each individual of the passengers sailing along and to whom it concerns. As soon as all passengers are in Bremen, that person who has taken care of the chartering of the vessel must turn the contracts over and declare himself free from all further obligation. The passengers now sign the contract and keep it in their hands. It is good to distribute several copies in the ship so that each gets to know the contract and he himself can admonish the captain to follow the contract. In this way the captain is forced to fulfill the contract: if he does not do so, he exposes himself to heavy punishment upon his arrival in America, if you sue him on the basis of the contract. Never fear the captain. You as passenger are just as holy a person on the ship as the captain, that's what the American laws say. As for the rest, you can read everything in the model contract which I sent you with the second letter shipment from Philadelphia and which grows out of my unpleasant experience. In chartering the ship be sure to see to it above all things that the middle deck is high enough and roomy. If you have Mr. Ziel take care of the chartering of the ship, then a commissioner is useless and will only cause costs.
Mr. Westhoff also likes heavy percentage. If you want to sail from Havre to New York in a packet boat, I have the following to remark: packet boats leave Havre three times a month. They have high roomy middle decks, where fresh air is always provided, where a light burns at night, where they often clean up and in general hold to great order. The middle deck passengers usually pay $30 and furnish their own food. Incidentally, the passage cost can be bargained down considerably, as I have been told. Furthermore, 2 passengers together can take one cabinet in the cabin (but with 2 berths) and will pay only about $60, if they are satisfied with a simple kind of wine. The prices supposedly are not firm but can be bargained for. If, by the way, you go to Havre, the trip by land through France is much more difficult for you and your effects. If you leave from Bremen, you can take all your things along free, a condition which must be stated. With a well-equipped merchantman you can travel just as comfortably, securely and quickly as with a packet boat. The duration of the voyage depends entirely on the wind. Dachroden needed 40 days, we 77 days. A single merchantman from Havre bearing passengers arrived this year only after 13 weeks. All other ships coming from Germany this year made shorter voyages, on the average 6-7 weeks. What do several weeks of discomfort mean incidentally to the entire remaining life? When I undertake such a thing, I think that when those causes and their combination, upon which my life depends and which from eternity have already been determined and fixed will affect my quick death and that I must die then, I may be wherever I will. Neither land nor sea will protect you. Think of that philosophic truth which Etzler proves very beautifully. An eternal determination rules, everything has its causes, and the first causes go back to the endless beginning. This is the fate of the ancients. Man depends less on his will than on circumstances; circumstances have also brought me to America. — It is preferable for you to land in Philadelphia rather than in New York. In the coming year, (especially if you come earlier, and the canals here have plenty of water), the Pennsylvania Canal from Philadelphia to here will make further progress and be in order. Most persons of your society with all their baggage should then in Philadelphia rent a good and covered boat, reserve good places for sleeping, so that they can stay on the boat at night, whereby expenses are saved. Further they reserve rights to cook, take along cooking utensils, each day buy the necessary food supply in the nearest farms, and can thus live very cheaply. For all this a written contract must be set up with the master of the boat, and in such a
manner that the persons and goods immediately and directly are brought from Philadelphia to Hundington in one and the same boat, without stops and without reloading. The goods must be loaded in such a manner and stored well, that the same need not be moved during the trip, if perchance the shipper on the way takes on other goods or unloads them. Above all the boat must be covered, not open, as we traveled in one which was not protected against the weather. The canal runs from Philadelphia over Reading, Harrisburg, Middle-town to Hundington. For this stretch we paid $2 freight per person (2 children=1 freight) and 72 cents per 100 lbs. In Hundington the Society rented several wagons where the goods and weak persons found a place, up to Johnstown, about 40 English miles. On this road the Freight at most will cost 50 cents per 100 lbs. (the land route rates are much higher). From Johnstown, I hope, the canal will be in order until Freeport, over Blairsville and Salzburg, about 40-50 miles, where the freight will perhaps amount to 20 cents per 100 lbs. You need not go to Pittsburgh, which is still 28 miles distant from Freeport. Our lands lie a good two hours more from Freeport, to the North-west, on the road to Butler. In Freeport you go into the inn of Lawry, in whose warehouse your effects can be stored for the time being. To find our lands you ask for the farmer Stehly or Walker, our neighbors; however, I think we will see each other before then. For you, your wife, for Angelrodt and family, for our parents and all those who need a little more comfort and can pay for it, I consider it better and more advisable if you take several comfortable wagons which you can rent from Philadelphia and that you travel by the best road directly to Pittsburgh, and that you take along only a few travel trunks. You can cover the distance from Philadelphia to here (300 miles) easily in 8 days, and rest at night in decent inns. You must then set the condition with the drivers not to take too long a noonday break; also you must not eat dinner at noon in the inns but through the day carry some food supplies with you, because it would otherwise cost you too much. In the evening you eat supper in the inn, in the morning breakfast, and this with sleeping will cost everywhere, in the best and worst inns, through entire Pennsylvania, 56 to 62 cents (for each meal 25 cents and sleeping 6-12 cents). I do not advise you to travel by stage. These wagons travel at a mad speed over the poor roads (there are no good highways) and it is uncomfortable and even dangerous.\footnote{Although Europe devoted its attention to building good roads beginning about 1800 and especially since 1815 when the macadam road was adopted over} By rented wagon it will probably cost you more than by
stage. If you arrive early enough in Philadelphia in the coming year, about the beginning of May, it will be most comfortable for all of you to travel by the Canal, if you get a good boat. At this time of the year one need not yet fear any fever along the Canal. In Philadelphia direct yourself to the merchant house of Hagedorn Leupold & Co. in Chestnut Street, which in many ways can be helpful to you, also to Demme, minister at Zions Church. The latter can direct you to a good place to stay. You can get very good quarters and keep them for $3 a week in Philadelphia, also cheaper up to $2. Here in Pittsburgh we pay $2 a week, but it is rather bad. Here in Pittsburgh go at once to Mr. Volz in the Wood Street, between 2nd and 3rd Street. This German merchant will do everything for you, whatever he can. He is a realistic and pleasing man, who is interested in all his German countrymen. We are in his house daily. If you come to Pittsburgh first, then immediately send me a messenger, so that I can call for you in Pittsburgh. At the same time we would together look at the Pittsburgh factories and manufactories in which you are interested. I expect, of course, that you will give me notice of your departure before you embark from Bremen by way of Havre de Grace, and of your arrival in Philadelphia immediately. If you will describe your route to me exactly, I would probably come to meet you by several day’s journey, if conditions allow. One or more persons will probably be in your society who understand some English, at least Mr. Angelrodt. Have your son given a great deal of grammatic instruction, as good as you can get in Mühlhausen; if need be with the old Unverzagt. Bring along several grammars and Lexicons (for the former Pappelton and Bettus are considered good). These books here are extremely expensive.

In case that you do not embark for Philadelphia but from Havre for New York, with a packet boat, I give you the following advice: In New York the examination and imposition of duty on passenger’s goods is carried through much more strictly than in Philadelphia. According to the laws all tools, finished (already washed) clothes and things which the Immigrants bring with them for their use are free. Duty must be paid on all raw materials. Take along good recommendations to New York, especially to German houses. American houses are

all Europe, America gave little attention to making good roads on any grand scale. Instead America preferred to build canals because they were cheaper than roads and required little if any repair. (Cf. Forbes and Dijksterhuis, A History of Science and Technology. Volume 2, Baltimore, 1963, p. 468, and Henry Howe, Memoirs of the Most Eminent American Mechanics, New York, 1858, p. 364.) P.R.B.
not solid and often go bankrupt. The house of Kaspar Meyer & Co. in New York was highly recommended to me and it immediately accepted the exchange which we sent them. From New York you must take the following route: You travel with all your baggage up the Hudson River in a steamboat up to Albany. From there you rent a canal boat (the boats there are very comfortable and large) and travel through the famous Erie Canal to the City of Buffalo on Lake Erie. From there you can easily visit the famous Niagara waterfall, which is scarcely 20 miles distant. From Buffalo you travel in a steamboat on Lake Erie to the city Erie. From there you have a landroute of about 100 to 120 miles to Butler over Meadville and Franklin, which you can cover by stage or by rented wagons. With the stage you can be in Butler in 1½-2 days. For the less financially equipped or more hardened part of the Society I consider it better to go with all baggage by freight-wagon from the city Erie to Meadville. From Meadville, I think, the people can then rent or buy a so called Flatboat (a big wooden box), betake themselves on it with their things and then go down the French Creek with several boatmen to Franklin and from there down the Allegheny River to Freeport. The latter river is navigable very far up and safe. This last trip by water is fairly fast and very cheap. If you buy a flatboat (perhaps for $50), you can make good use of it. It consists of a great number of boards and beams, which are then taken apart and from Freeport transported to the land where they are used for house construction. In this manner it is reported that many families have already migrated from Lake Erie to Pittsburgh. This water trip on the river is at no time unhealthy, one can cook and fry food on a flatboat, and you can stay on it day and night, for which purpose a hut of boards or a roof must be built upon it. Food supplies are purchased in the nearest farms. If you travel on the Lake Erie Canal, it is possible that you must provide for your own meals. On the steamboats there are always two different places, cabin and upper deck. In the latter it is cheaper and the passengers furnish their own food, which is not allowed in the Cabin. You can get the best information about this entire canal trip in New York. When you come to Butler you go to the German innkeeper Mechling, who will tell you the way to our lands. We live 13 miles distant from Butler. — If you definitely follow with your family, with my parents and my brother in the coming year, it is by all means necessary to arrange a place to live for your and our family, as already noted above. It is then necessary that you as quickly as possible via Havre give us notice and by spring send us about $400 (together) through Hage-
dorn, Leupold & Co. at our disposition for this purpose, because my mother and I cannot afford such an undertaking at our own cost. An amount of about $150 we will contribute. For $600 I think I can prepare a dwelling of 52 feet long, 34 broad, 2 stories high, and make it livable. It would be advantageous to make a beginning already during the winter because during this time the carpentry work can be had most reasonably. Bring along all your machines, utensils and tools for wood and iron work, everything, which is not too difficult to transport. Also bring along a good supply of hoes, spades, shovels, axes, good broad axes, carpenter's axes, scythes and sickels, locks for rooms and house doors, window metal fittings, door hooks and hinges, large and small, hasps, padlocks, files and rasps, stone picks, hoes for weeding, hay forks, rake tines, cooper's tools, curved picks for hollowing logs, drills, planes, chisels, large and small saws, especially the so called "Fuchsschwanze" [literally: fox-tails], i.e. hand saws, which are most commonly used here. All these things in America cost double and often fourfold. An axe here costs $2 ¼, a spade 75 cents (poor workmanship); a handsaw made of German steel costs $1 ¾, of English Clemetsteel it costs $2 ¼; a good saw for cutting trees here costs $4 to $5. Raw iron costs less than in Germany, but the cast work and the steel work is tremendously expensive. We brought along much too little in things. Also bring along all your cooking utensils of copper and iron, cast iron cooking pots; all your finer house utensils, dishes for the table, bed linen, glassware, porcelain ware, paintings; don't sell anything, bring everything with you. Even take along several chests of drawers, packed full of clothing and packed into wooden boxes. Here you cannot buy a chest of drawers under $10-$15. Even a good secretary, if you take this into several parts, pack it full and can pack this into boxes, so that they do not take too much cubic space and get too heavy, could be taken along to good advantage. If one of your friends has a good piano forte have it brought along. Musical instruments here bring a threefold and up to sixfold price. But by no means make your boxes too large and too heavy. It is a great burden to load and unload heavy boxes. No box ought to weigh over 3 hundredweights, if possible only 2 to 2 ¼ hundredweights, so that each can be handled well individually by 2 men. Our large iron box and even the large box with effects weighing 4 hundredweights caused us a great burden. Smaller and lighter boxes also do not suffer as much from transport as the heavy ones. —

Equip yourself for many years ahead with shoes and boots (especially strong shoes), with woolen and linen clothing. I would advise
everyone who must work in the open here to bring along a batch of strong shirts of dyed or striped (not white) flannel. These shirts must be big enough because they shrink heavily, so called sailor's shirts, only with the difference that the lower part which is stuffed between the legs into the pants should be of dyed linen, so that they are not uncomfortable. To work out in the open in summer one wears only such a wool shirt and a linen pair of pants with a low waist; this is the most comfortable, the lightest work outfit. The wool absorbs the sweat and protects against getting a cold. Everyone ought to bring along up to 2 dozen such shirts, made of strong cloth. One wears such a dyed flannel shirt during the day and at night one puts on a regular shirt and lets the woolen one hang until the next morning. In this way one can wear such a shirt 2 to 3 weeks and still keep the skin cleaner. Bring along a thorough supply of linen pants and jackets; grey cloth pants and skirts, beaver coats to wear for the winter, cotton and woolen stockings. In the cities here in summer they wear a lot of cotton, white and striped pants and frock coats, also straw hats, like the Tyrolese. Caps are not worn in the entire land, only felt hats, except for straw hats; in winter fur caps. Wool cloth and clothing is astonishingly expensive. All linen goods you must first have washed, so that they look used. In addition bring along a very good supply of strong canvas, which has been bleached; divide such in small batches in different boxes and use such as covering and wrap such in shirts and bed clothes. All boots should be worn once, so that they do not look too new. When you land declare all of this as for your own use. Pack the new things and iron ware below and in the midst of old things, so that they are not so easily noticed when the trunks are opened. Everything that looks old and already used enters without difficulty and by law is free, if it is designated for one's own use. We had good luck in this; our large iron box, the contents of which we declared, but expressly designated as for our own use, was not even opened. We could have brought our canvas along like that too, but we had not divided this sufficiently. In New York the investigation is much sharper. Don't forget strong woolen bed covers (a blanket which in Mühlhausen costs $3-$4, here costs $8-$10); further a batch of sacks. You must press your featherbeds together; for the trip take woolen covers and mattresses along with a pillow. Further bring along: all kinds of seed: garden and field seeds, mulberry seeds, fine field peas, hemp seed, rape seed, lentil and vetch. Saddle and harness equipment costs no more here than in Germany. It is better, however, for him who possesses such, to bring along a good
saddle. Let Mr. Kahlert bring along all his tools. He can, after he has made himself known, make a lot of money in Pittsburgh. Carpets are very cheap here. Bring along your shades, curtains and the like, do not sell them. Further I wish for our common use the following technical work, the announcement of which I read earlier and which looks promising, viz., "Technological Encyclopedia or alphabetical handbook of Technical Chemistry and of Machinery, edited by J. J. Prechtle, k.k. Regierungsrath und Direktor des k.k. politechnischen Instituts zu Wien." — This work will not exceed 10 volumes, large 8 @ 40 sheets, with 10-12 copper plates, including the index volume. The price for advance payment per volume is to be 3 fl 36 Kr. Rh. or 3 fl in the 20 guilder base (Guldenfuss). Tübingen & Stuttgart. May 29. J. G. Cotta. —

Bring along a barometer and a thermometer, also a batch of writing paper and a large fine kind of letter paper; twined sulphur, sponges, and flint are rare articles here and great little things in Germany. Also a supply of powder, shot of different kinds and percussion caps (also for me) should not be forgotten. Hunting is worse here than in the region around Mühlhausen. There are no hare here, deer are rare; occasionally one meets a wild pheasant but wild doves are in plenty. In general bring along everything that you have and what can be transported well; everything that has value for you, what is useful and pleasant, here it will not be superfluous. Even if you must transport much baggage and pay much freight; whatever you buy here you must pay for dearly and everything which you bring along will prove useful to you. From your machine shop do not sell anything. For the future many things can still be done here. If you cannot well sell your barbed wire then bring it along and pay 6-10% import duty; here in Pittsburgh you can well sell the same. In the Custom House in Philadelphia a Mark Bauoo [illegible] rh Hamburg =33½ cents; 1 Bremen Thaler=75 cents; 1 Prussian Thaler Courant =68½ cents. In the exchange office the rate is perhaps somewhat better. I would advise you to bring along 2/3 of your funds in secure letters of exchange, 1/6 in cash dollars, 1/6 in gold. Get your dollars early enough, so that you get them cheap. As far as the letters of exchange are concerned, have several letters of exchange issued through Meissner by secure houses in Hamburg and others from Bremen on secure German merchant houses in Philadelphia, New York and Baltimore. I believe that the house of Kaspar Meyer & Co. in New York, Hagedorn Leupold & Co. in Philadelphia are secure houses. The house of Heinecke & Schumacher in Baltimore in Janu-
ary was described as somewhat suspicious, but I cannot say anything about that. The exchanges are new each time and must be ordered especially; the houses which issue these exchanges to you must vouch for them. Do not take your exchanges all on one and the same house. When you come to America, exchange all your money (except for the dollars several $100 in cash) for notes of the United States Bank, which always and everywhere stand at par and are taken very gladly. Take a batch of notes in $5 to $10 and $50; further, change at the bank a batch of half dollars, quarter dollars, 10 cent and 5 cent pieces, United States money, so that you can help yourself better in individual situations on the trip. In addition to the United States coins, the just as highly esteemed Spanish coins circulate, which are even more highly esteemed because of their finer silver, viz. Spanish dollar = $1; half dollar, 1/4 dollar; 1/8 dollar = 12 1/2 cent, in English called Sevenpennybit or Sevenpence; 1/16 Span. dollar = 6 1/4 cent, in English Tippennybit. Besides this there are single cents and half cents, the only copper coins and also the smallest. You can also have the United States Bank in Philadelphia or New York give you a check of one or several thousand dollars on the Pittsburgh Branch Bank, where you can have the amount credited to yourself, as we did. Carry only little money in your pocket or pocketbook; on the entire trip we carried our bank notes and bank exchanges enclosed in heavy parchment or in strong oil paper and wrapped in a strong silk handkerchief like a tie in a neckerchief. Around this we tied a band and now the cloth around our body, above the shirt and tied around the hips. Here no one notices it and it cannot be lost, except together with you. I would never keep any money in the trunk, except during the voyage at sea, if you carry a larger sum with you in cash. The trunk with the money you take into your cabin, keep it well locked and in your eyes. You can trust no one. Although in America effects are stolen less than in Europe, nevertheless the Americans do like to steal and cheat foreigners and also each other in money and bank notes. A few months ago a pocketbook with $10,000 banknotes was stolen from a young man on a boat on the New York Canal. Within a few weeks, however, the entire sum was brought back by a very clever Chief Constable in New York. A short time ago $30,000 were taken from a bank in New York in one night through burglary, and the entire amount has been brought back by clever constables. In Europe one believes that the police in America is not worth anything and in spite of that everything is uncovered very quickly and punished. The difference is the following between the American and the German police: the former
have the opinion and therefore the assistance of the people for them, the latter have the same against themselves; the former are respected persons, the latter despised. Such charges and beadles and the like do not exist here, these are not necessary, and no American would condescend to this. In case my parents should come along, I would if possible come to meet them by stage up to Philadelphia, if I would be informed quickly enough. In such a case my father and mother during the sea voyage must take a little room in the cabin, in order to have as much comfort as possible.

Pittsburgh, November 7, 1831.

Through Heineck and Schumacher in Baltimore we yesterday finally received the first news from Dachroden & Hupfeld, but unfortunately also at the same time the sad news of Harseim’s death, who had been taken away by bilious fever. My brother also suffered from this illness, only it does not easily become deadly. Harseim brought a weakened weak body along to America. Do not let yourself be intimidated by this. Recently Count de Leon came from Germany with a retinue of 50 persons. All these have come to this point happily and in good health. Also le Gaullon arrived here in good health day before yesterday with his wife, and wants to remain here for some time for the present. Wear a wool shirt on the trip, live moderately and be careful about catching cold. I believe that my brother’s illness goes back to a cold. Dachroden & Hupfeld are now in Alabonea often but have probably not yet taken any decisive step. I am writing them at once and hope they will come here. I will give more detail about this in my letter to Mr. Angelrodt. — Greet young Mr. Trapus (nephew of Pastor Trapus) from me and my brother and advise him in my name that he should remain in Mühlhausen for 2 years more, educate himself well in the French and English languages and chiefly in music, then he could be sure of his living here. When our colony becomes strong enough offers can perhaps be made to him from our part as teacher and pastor. — Finally I tell you: do not encourage any one to come to America; many come here who do not fit in here and who are then tremendously disappointed. Farmers fit in here best, who are used to cultivating the fields, who in Germany were oppressed and who here live free as kings and can have an abundance in everything, if they are industrious. But not all finely educated and fiery young men who shine in good society in Germany but who do not have the courage and

42 Probably Alabama is meant. K.J.R.A.
resignation to exchange the book for the plow and the pencil for the clearing hoe, in order to live here as free men, independent and quiet in the enjoyment of free nature, fit in here. I already know several Germans, who come from good families, who brought a lot of money here, who began with farming, and then did all sorts of other things, and then lost everything. Whoever comes here must in any case be ready to depend upon his own two hands. So do not advise anyone to come; a personal decision and thorough self-examination must confirm such a step, so that one will not regret it. Whoever has the inclination and the firmness in the determination to depend upon farming, whoever trusts his own strength, can never succumb here and is secure; he can live independently and pleasantly. But do not let yourself in for forming a big Society, to lead such, to hold meetings, and the like. Join in with good friends and respectable persons in a common journey, but without mutual obligations, financial advances and the like. Later on we can distribute reports enough in Germany and give emigrants tips, where they should move. But you have our experience at your side and will do the best. Send your letters to us over Havre de Grace, but simply and without duplicates. Write as close together as possible and on very thin large letter sheet. Postage in America proper is very expensive. The last shipment of mail to us, which Westhoff sent to Baltimore and from there to Philadelphia and from there to here, cost us $5 postage. Do not take any strange letters along for us unless ½ dollar courant is paid for each letter included and that our expenditure in postage is paid back to us. Westhoff’s many letters must cease and no more duplicates. All letters must go over Havre with the Packet Boats, in this way they arrive here quickest and surest and do not cost more. A single letter from Havre to Pittsburgh over New York costs 25 cents, a double (two times as heavy) cost double; a triple costs three times as much postage etc. Here in this country the letters are paid for strictly according to weight. Postage across the ocean is quite insignificant. You send your letter free to Havre and we send our letters free from here to New York. In a few days we are leaving Pittsburgh, to move to our land and to prepare our winter quarters. Within a month I will write you again. Greet all the friends and think of your distant but sincere friend J. A. Robling

43 Roebling himself soon found the life of a farmer too restrictive and too debilitating. He gave up such labor in 1837 to become an engineer on the Pennsylvania Canal and never returned to farming, which he grew to despise. P.R.B.
Write our address as follows: Messrs F. C. & J. A. Robling, Freeport, County Armstrong, Pennsylvania, United States of North America. Via: Havre de Grace. Franco Havre. N.B. Your letters go to Freeport 2 good hours from our land; there they remain at the Post Office until we pick them up. We will talk this over with the Post Office in Freeport. — The letters must by all means have postage paid to Havre, otherwise they will not be transported. — The sawing machine shall remain as it is, also the shot mill, until you come. It is not worth the trouble to build a sawmill, but it is worthwhile to build a machine for a circular saw to cut slats for fences. We can buy enough boards in a saw mill 1 mile from our land and from several other sawmills, and cheap enough. — Many greetings from Manco, Genss, Jancke and Le Gaullon. —