

Object ID: *MG0828_SeriesD-63_F21*

Document: *Letter to Annie on death of Thomas Welsh August 16, 1863*

Transcription:

York, August 16 / 63

My Dear Sister in Christ:

In the name of God whose promises never fail, I come to condole with you in your deep and unexpected affliction – To no one was the announcement of the death of your dear husband, more surprising than to me. I could not but exclaim, O! my God can this be possible.

Now I can only say, God's ways are not as our ways nor his thoughts not as our thoughts. But to us this is one of those dark dispensations of God's providences which man cannot fully understand. Let us therefore trust in our God who has never turned away from the cry of the widow nor the tears of the orphan. If agreeable to you and friends I shall God willing attend the funeral of my dear friend with you and family – for with the heart no one mourns his death more than I do - save you and family – God bless you and the children. Amen & amen.

Your friend,
J H Menges

Analysis & Notes: Wiggin

One can wonder who this individual is, but the fact that of all the outpouring of condolence that she most certainly received, this letter alone was saved by Annie suggests that she found great comfort in the consolation either of this (possibly dear old friend, or in her faith, or both.

Note 11/3/08: I believe that J.H. Menges was the pastor of the English Lutheran Church. Check out Ellis & Evans. Was he still pastor in 1863, or had he a new parish in York?

Note 1/24/14: This letter is item # W-127-2012 in the Thomas Welsh Collection, on display in the display case with Welsh's Hardee Hat and epaulets.

Scope and Content Note:

Transcription of letter of condolence addressed to Annie Welsh, "My Dear Sister in Christ," from J. H. Menges, York, Pennsylvania. Letter provides comfort and support in the unexpected death of Geneal Welsh and requests permission to attend the funeral of "my dear friend."

