# Miscellanea 

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## Recommended Citation

Du Brau, R. T. (1939) "Miscellanea," Concordia Theological Monthly. Vol. 10 , Article 31.
Available at: https://scholar.csl.edu/ctm/vol10/iss1/31

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## Miscellanea

## The Campanius Catechism

Through the generosity of Mrs. Lydia Leatherman, well-known and active churchwoman, member of Salem Church, Minneapolis, Minn., the Northwestern Lutheran Theological Seminary has become the custodian of one of the most important relics of the Lutheran Church in America, the Delaware Catechism of John Campanius. The gift has an especial timeliness in view of the widely observed commemoration last year of the three-hundredth anniversary of the coming of the Lutheran Swedes to Delaware. But it has a perpetual significance as a great trophy of the spirit of true Lutheranism. One may doubt that American Lutheranism has a holier relic than this little book. When we consider that this devoted pastor, who sojourned in this country, then a wilderness, for only five years and was burdened throughout with parish cares, found time to learn the Delaware language from the Indians, reduce it to writing, and translate the Catechism into it, we wonder and admire. How great must have been his love for his fellow-men and his love for the Gospel! It is, moreover, a great glory to our Church that this book is the first translation of a Christian work into a tongue of the American Indians.

The Rev. John Campanius came to Fort Christina, Delaware, February 15, 1643, a man fitly described by his bishop as "a man most highly to be praised on account of his unwearied zeal in always propagating the love of God." He built a church at Tinicum, nine miles from Philadelphia, and returned to Sweden in 1648. We are told that he preached on Sundays and festivals, on Wednesdays and Fridays, and on all weekdays held morning and evening services. His Catechism was published by King Charles XI of Sweden, whose coat of arms appears on the leather cover and who sent many copies to America. The seminary's copy of the Catechism is a beautifully printed volume, with an illuminated title-page, bound in leather, and is in an excellent state of preservation. Though several hundreds of copies were printed and sent to this country, so far as we have been able to find out, fewer than half a dozen are now known to exist. There is an introduction of fourteen pages. The translation is followed paragraph by paragraph with a Swedish version. At the close there is a vocabulary of the Delaware language.

Thomas Campanius Holm, grandson of Campanius, writes: "The Indians were frequent visitors at my grandfather's house. When for the first time he performed divine service in the Swedish congregation, they came to hear him and greatly wondered that he had so much to say and that he stood alone and talked so long, while all the rest were listening in silence. This excited in them strange suspicions; they thought everything was not right and that some conspiracy was going forward among us, in consequence of which my grandfather's life and that of the other priests were, for some time, in considerable danger from the Indians, who daily came to him and asked him many questions."

Holm goes on to tell how the missionary won the natives' affection

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and such acceptance for his message that they "induced him to exert himself to learn their language," with the result that "those people who were wandering in darkness were converted to the Christian faith or at least acquired so much knowledge of it that they were ready to exclaim, as Captain John Smith relates of the Virginia Indians, that, so far as the cannons and guns of the Christians exceeded the bows and arrows of the Indians in shooting, so far was their God superior to that of the Indians."

It is not without awe that one takes up this little book harking from the remote beginnings of our Church in the New World and reflects on the power that produced it and the fruits, which its author could never surmise. - The Lutheran, Feb.15, 1939.

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„Darf id) cin paar Gebanfen, bic mid) beim Sejen bes̉ Irtikete im Dezemberblatt ber, $\mathfrak{F}_{3}$ fitoralblätter ${ }^{\text {b }}$ betvegen, in bas̉ Gejprädy twerfen? Der Berner $\mathfrak{F r o f e f f o r} \mathbf{D}$. §aborn jagte mix cinmal in feiner niidjternen $\mathbb{O} x t:$ , Wir baben unjern Gemeinben jo Iange gejagt, bajb ber siirdgang es nidjt
 tvidjtigiten \$unltess firdjlidjer ©itte tief zu bellagen unb verbängnişoll ift, bes Darf feines̉ Borteş, audj) nidjt, Dag Chriften mur inneryalb [?] Der Gemeinbe
 ob bie Gemeinbe nur ba zu finben ijt, two ber, rite vocatus' amtiert, toobei twieberum bicies̉ ,rité ciner crniten llnterjudung zu untergiejen toäre. Qber baş fann nidjt in einem jdjlidjten Mort zur Debatte gejdjeben. Da jind nur einige 8 ragen ans ber \$ragis an Blake.
 Deutidjen Meidje gibt. Merben bas ie 20,000 நodjbegabte Mebner jein? Fift felbjt ber Begabtejte immer auf ber gieidjen göje? Ilnb ift ber, felbit in feinen beften Stumben, für alle §örer ber redjte Mann?
 erquidt tvirb für bie Bodje! llnb audy ber melbe fidy, ber bas bon einer Gingenufjelten ober unedjt beIlamierten Liturgic, von fidleppenbem, vielleidit Durd) brüllenbes̉ Drgelipiel erbrïdtem Gejang ciner bïnnen Gemeinbe jagen Iann ober bon bem תumitgefang eines Chors, ber bor ber Berfunbigung bie Stircje fludjtartig verläßtl
„3. Sann jemanb, ber innerlid) zu einer beftimmen firdiliden Gruppe
 baumg finben? Stann cin Mlenfd, ber burdj pietijtifdje Irtt gepragt ift, fix ba Straft holen, two ber ${ }^{3} \mathrm{rebiger}$ auf biefe 2 ert offen fidilt ober berjtedt ftidjelt?
44. Stann ber abgefämpfte פlenja innerfte Grmutigung ober ©tärhung ba finben, two er in ber §auptjadje Theologic ober gar Sirdjenpolitil bors gefekt befomme? Stann ber innerlid) einjame, nadj twabrer ©emeinjiaft famadjtenbe $\mathfrak{M e n f ( j )}$ finben, twas feine Seele fudjt, two meinetwegen ausiges zeidjnet geprebigt, redjt gejungen unb gar nidjt gejdjolten ober geftidelt toirb, too all bieje §̌ebler ganz bermieben tverben, aber jeber am anbern lalt borübergejt unb man nadi jabrelangem, treuem Stirdjgang genau fo einjam ift tvie am Infang? (Dieje đ̈ragen finb Gdjo meiner ©predifunben.)

 auf ber llniberfität su mejr ober tweniger getejoten Botanitern ausigebitbet unb follen ban Gartner feinl Bir baben allertei 3oologic im Stopf, follen aber §itien fein! Cin botanifdjer Mortrag an iebem Sonntagmorgen gejt über bie Staft bes arbeitenben $¥$ Renidjen; ob er aber nidgt gern in einen edten Garten ginge? Der Boolog bat feine Enfiejung itraft für bic நungrige und buritige §erbe, aber twolit bie griune 9 (u unb bas frijaje $98 a j f e r$.
.6. (פat nidjt Gajlatter redjt, iverm er cinmal jagt, bas̉ Beitalter besె Siterifatianus fei borbei unb bas ber Gemeinbe tonune?
.Faitoralblätter, Jalirg. 81, §eft 5 (ชัebr. 1939)

## "D. शaul Єcur, Fot3bam"

 lisdentum anjaften. Daj es aber audi uns etroas 34 jagen bat, firb niemand $\mathbf{I}$ euguen tönnen.

## Die Bernumft fat nidjt in bie Zfjeologic breinaureben

Mir lejen in ber "Iheologijdjen Duartalidurift", Dftober 1938, G. 266 F: „(Sott iftunabjängig von 马eit unb Maum unb staijalität; aber getrib gelten bodj audj fïr ign Die Obejeke ber Sogit? Fein, andj bicje finb
 (Exe'). Ilnse erjdeint nidets cinfadjer unb flarer afz ber Cak, Daj̄ zweimal зwei bier ift. StIe Seredjungen Des (Gejdjafts unb ber Mificuidjaft baucn
 nidft nelor gelten jollte! StIer Berfefir unter ben Menjijen twirbe unmöglid merben. Go cinleudjenb ift biejer cinfadje Gak, baj̄ jemanb, ber jeine Guffigkeit im Ernit anztveifelte, jofort als geiftig geftort erfannt tvïrbe.


 Gag unangetaitet ftejen.
 Gr it mit eingeidjlofien in ben Begrifi gimunel unb Erbe, cin Erzeugnis Ver Edjöpfertätigleit Gottes. Gott Yat bies Bahlenveryältnis fiix §immel und Grbe feitgelegt. Er ift igme nid)t unterworfen. Er Iäßt uns cinen Weinen $\mathfrak{g l i d}$ in feine llnabjängigfeit von jebem 3ablenberyältnis tum, inbem et fíd als ben Dreicinigen offenbart. , Der Bater ift Gott, Der Cojnn ift Gott, ber §eilige Beift ift Gott; unb finb bodj nidjt brei ©ätter, jonbern es ift cin Gott.
. Lasjelbe gilt von allen פlegetn ber Logit: bem Cat von ber Jbentität, bom ㅋiberiprudj, bom ausigejd)Ificnen Dritten. Gott bat Dicie Denigejeke ougleid mit §immel unb Erbe unb fïr §immel und Crbe erjdjafien. Ex toill aud, baja toir all unjer Leben nadj ignen cinridgten. Er fpridat bas Sege über joldje aus, bic ans tveib jajwarz und ans jajoars weif madjen, bie aus faucr füß unb aus fīb faner madjen. शber er jetbit ift biejen Ge= fegen niadt untertoorfen. Dafür gibt er uns ein Beijpiel, tvenn er uns auf eine für uns alle überaus twidtige す̃rage cine unjerer Bernunft jo ärgerlidje Intmort gibt. Wix fragen: Marum twerben etlidje Menjajen felig? unb Gott antportet: Das ift altein meine Gnabe. Warum gejen anbere Mens

 Mefultate, fo veriveigert uns Gott niait nur bie $\mathfrak{Z n t i v o r t , ~ f o n b e r n ~ v e r v e i f ~}$



## Who Attended to Stephen's Burial?

The question hinges on the use of ävóers evih $\alpha$ ßeis, the "devout men" of Acts 8:2 who carried Stephen to his grave. It was they who gathered up his mangled remains, ouvexópioav from ouyuonitco. There is no difficulty in $\sigma u \gamma x o \mu i 5 \omega$. We are prepared for this sad use of the verb by the LXX in Job 5:26, "Thou shalt come to thy grave in a full age, like as a shock of corn cometh in (ovvooucosiou) in his season."

But who were they that buried Stephen? The disciples were all dispersed by the Pauline persecution. In the entire New Testament Luke alone uses the descriptive evihaßeis and always of certain pious Jews. It is a designation distinctly different from the ones used to describe the avowed followers of the Savior. Only three other times Luke employs عvi. aßeis, once of Simeon, 2:25, then of the "Jews, devout men from every nation," Acts 2:5, and lastly of "Ananias, devout according to the Law," Acts 22:12.

The Vulgate calls these devout men the viri timorati, and originally in its classic use evỉ.aßeis denoted men of a prudent, thoughtful, circumspect, and cautious nature. It was the most appropriate word that the Greco-Roman era had to describe the best of the Jewish worshipers. Most modern versions translate with Luther "God-fearing men."

The result of Stephen's inspired and fearless testimony was nothing less than a common lynching. First the hypocrisy of pious form was observed by taking the first martyr without the confines of the "holy" city. Then, unhampered by pious (evihaßeis) considerations, these mobridden Sanhedrinists rushed upon Stephen and pelted him to death. There was not even a vote of condemnation. There was no consultation of the powers of the Law. The dignity of the Sanhedrin had gone the way of its vanished authority. In the face of the howling mob Stephen's companions and fellow-believers had considered their hasty removal from the death scene the better part of valor.

In the crowd there were others, however. They were ävoges evildBeis, devout men. According to St. Luke's language they were devout Jews. It must have pained and deeply grieved the truly devout Jew to see his respected Sanhedrin howl with a murderous mob. There are also always men, even though on the opposing side, who admire the courage and sincerity of conviction of him whose belief they cannot follow.

Yes, after the tumult and the shouting had died and while the blood of Stephen was already reaching out to halt the pharisaic progress of the approving young Rabbi from Tarsus, there were some cautious, thoughtful, God-fearing, and devout men among the Jews, ävō@es evihaßeis, maybe only two, who like Nicodemus and the well-to-do Joseph carefully came and devoutly gave the young confessor a decent burial.

Los Angeles, Calif.
R. T. D $\overline{\text { D Bat }}$

