

ecclésial neuchâtelois à l'époque moderne, qui forge aussi un dispositif consistorial inédit. La septième, enfin, présente la disparition, en 1848, des consistoires de Neuchâtel.

Le système consistorial à Neuchâtel est digne d'intérêt en raison de ses caractéristiques uniques. En effet, établi par ses sujets dans un pays gouverné par un prince catholique, on y observe des modalités territoriales spécifiques. Les quatre consistoires seigneuriaux, par exemple, n'agissent que dans certaines régions du pays. Par ailleurs, cette analyse sur le temps long de ces modalités de discipline ecclésiastiques offre une étude privilégiée sur l'évolution et l'histoire de la justice consistoriale.

Cette étude captivante parvient à explorer de manière claire et approfondie la complexité du système consistorial au Pays de Neuchâtel pendant la période moderne et jusqu'au milieu du XIXe siècle. Grâce à son analyse minutieuse, Robert met en évidence l'importance cruciale pour les chercheurs et chercheuses d'explorer et d'interroger les documents des archives consistoriales locales. Cela permet de comprendre plus finement l'histoire des lieux étudiés, mais également d'une manière plus globale, les variations ou continuités des systèmes de discipline ecclésiastique à l'époque moderne.

Océane Brigitte, Genève

doi: 10.69871/5a9ong96 | CC BY-NC-ND 4.0

Heinrich Bullinger. Briefwechsel. Vol. 21: Briefe von Januar bis April 1548, ed. David Mache and Paul Achim Neuendorf, Zurich: Theologischer Verlag Zürich, 2024 (Heinrich Bullinger Werke. Zweite Abteilung), 504 p. – ISBN 978-3-290-18668-5.

Two years ago, it seemed like the critical edition of Heinrich Bullinger's correspondence had come to an end. Although the edited volumes reached only through the end of 1547, changes to funding policy meant that the Schweizerische Nationalfonds would no longer support such long-term projects. Thanks to the vigorous efforts of Dr. Reinhard Bodenmann, the long-time chief editor of the critical edition, and Dr. Christoph Sigrist, then pastor of the Zurich Grossmünster, the Heinrich-Bul-

linger-Stiftung was created to support the continued production of the critical edition. Volume 21 is the first to be produced by the new team of editors and underwritten by the foundation.

The introduction to volume 21 describes the 96 surviving letters written in the first four months of 1548; this is significantly less than the 159 extant letters written to or by Bullinger from the same period in 1547. Only fifteen of the letters from 1548 were written by the Zurich reformer, and the editors suggest that over 80% of Bullinger's correspondence from this period is lost. Their introduction gives a brief overview of themes and events discussed in the letters, ranging from political developments at the Diet of Augsburg to biographical information concerning individuals mentioned in the letters.

Bullinger's correspondence from early 1548 differs noticeably from that of the previous year. Throughout 1547, Bullinger received and passed on news of troop movements, battles, the emperor's victory over his Protestant opponents, and the opening of the Diet of Augsburg. In the first four months of 1548, though, the flow of news tapered off. Bullinger still received updates from Ambrosius Blarer in Constance and Joachim Vadian in St. Gallen, his two most frequent correspondents. But Blarer, Bullinger's most important source for news from Germany, told Bullinger that it was becoming difficult to receive reliable information and increasingly dangerous to send letters. The Augsburg Stadtschreiber Georg Frölich, earlier one of Bullinger's chief informants, excused his long silence by saying that good men had been punished for passing on news. Despite the problems of communication, Bullinger's news network was still wide-ranging: he received reports of troop movements in Italy, resistance to the emperor in northern Germany, and the spread of the Reformation in England. The letters sent from Paris by the young Zurich student Ludwig Lavater are particularly noteworthy for their accounts of his university studies.

The tone of the letters exchanged among the Swiss reformers reflects their fears and anxieties as they awaited further developments at the Diet of Augsburg. Bullinger learned of the plan to have a small committee draft an interim religious settlement, but it was clear that the emperor would make all final decisions. Reports that the emperor was recruiting troops in Württemberg also raised fears that he would declare war

against the Swiss Confederation. Tensions could lead to violence. Blarer told Bullinger about a deadly fight that broke out between a group of Swabian boys and a smaller number of Thurgauers who were skating on Lake Constance, while the Basel pastor Johannes Gast reported a brawl in a tavern outside the city that began among Germans but that expanded after insults were hurled at the Swiss bystanders.

Bullinger and his correspondents also debated whether the French king could be trusted, especially given the prospect of a potential attack by the emperor. At the beginning of the year, King Henry II invited the Swiss Confederation to act as collective godparent to his newborn daughter, and a Swiss delegation led by Zurich's representative went to France to attend the baptism. The delegation was cordially received, but Bullinger also received accounts of Protestants being burned at the stake in Paris, which only strengthened his opposition to a French alliance.

Bullinger also received reports from friends in Bernese territory concerning conflicts over the Lord's Supper. This volume includes as an appendix a letter from Nikolaus Pfister in Bern, written in January 1547, criticizing the "Lutheranism" that Bern's stipendiates had learned in Strasbourg and mentioning the conflict in Zofingen that would lead to the deposition of two pastors there in early 1548. When Zurich's representative stopped at Geneva on its way home from the baptism in March, Jean Calvin took the opportunity to continue his epistolary discussion with Bullinger over the Lord's Supper. The final letter in this volume is a detailed account written by the Bern Seckelmeister Eberhard von Rümlang describing the conflict that led to the deposition of the so-called "Lutheran" party in the city. These developments would all lead to a significant shift in relations between Geneva, Zurich, and Bern over the coming year.

This volume of Bullinger's correspondence meets the high standards set by the earlier volumes. The new editorial team has largely followed the edition's well-established practices, with a few minor modifications. Each of the letters is introduced with a detailed German summary, now divided into numbered sections keyed to the corresponding passage in the letter. The annotations provide background and explain references and allusions in the text to people and events that are not immediately clear to readers. A welcome change is the decision to edit those letters

that are already printed elsewhere. The edited letters can also be accessed as an open-access digital edition that allows searches by sender, recipient, place, and keyword: <http://teoirgsed.uzh.ch/>. Although long-term funding is far from secure, it is a positive step that work on the edition of Bullinger's correspondence has been able to continue and is now in the hands of a capable new generation of scholars.

Amy Nelson Burnett, Lincoln NE

doi: 10.69871/5j1sy34 | CC BY-NC-ND 4.0

Rudolf Dellsperger. Staat und Religion, Kirche und Politik: Aufsätze und Essays zur historischen Theologie der Neuzeit. Festgabe zum 80. Geburtstag, hg. von Martin Sallmann, Zürich: Theologischer Verlag Zürich, 2023 (Basler und Berner Studien zur historischen Theologie 79), 376 S. – ISBN 978-3-290-18616-6.

Die vorliegende Aufsatzsammlung, zum 80. Geburtstag des Autors herausgegeben, reiht sich ein in zwei Vorgänger-Bände, die 2001 (*Kirchengemeinschaft und Gewissensfreiheit*) und 2015 (*Zwischen Offenbarung und Erfahrung*) erschienen sind und die jeweils eine Auswahl von wissenschaftlichen Artikeln vonseiten des ehemaligen Ordinarius am Institut für Historische Theologie der Theologischen Fakultät der Universität Bern, Rudolf Dellsperger, beinhalten. Der Herausgeber und derzeitige Inhaber des Lehrstuhls, Martin Sallmann, zeichnet in seiner lesenswerten Einleitung den inhaltlichen roten Faden sowohl der Aufsatzsammlung als auch des akademischen Wirkens des Jubilars nach (9–11). Die Artikel kreisen trotz ihrer breiten kirchlich-theologischen und chronologischen Streuung um das im Titel genannte Themenfeld *Staat und Religion, Kirche und Politik*. Auf dem Buchumschlag ist der Stich *Ansicht der Stadt Bern 1757* von David Herrliberger zu sehen und deutet die eigentliche Mitte dieses Aufsatzbandes an: Stadt und Landschaft Bern. Alle im Band versammelten 14 Artikel handeln in unterschiedlicher Gewichtung um kirchlich-politische Entwicklungen, religiöse Strömungen, markante Ereignisse und Persönlichkeiten, die einen Bezug zum mächtigsten Stadtstaat nördlich der Alpen haben und zwar seit der Reformation bis ins