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October 24/25, 1843

Administration of the Governor General of Novorossijsk and Bessarabia

Department.

Office 2.

To His Excellency Acting Governor General of Novorossijsk and Bessarabia

Kherson Gubernia Administration report regarding the instructions relative to the construction of synagogues and prayer house in Jewish Colonies. No. 13029, October 22, 1843.

The Gubernia Administration considered the report of the Administrator of the Jewish Colonies, where he explained that in the five Jewish colonies established in 1841, there are the following number of residential houses: in Lvov – 119, in Novy Berisla – 92, in Novopoltavka – 150, in Romanovskaya – 132, and in Malaya Sejdemenukha – 35. Jews need to build synagogues and prayer houses to pray according to the Jewish tradition. In order to do that, the poor residents are asking the government’s permission to set up synagogues and prayer houses, so that what can be funded by the forecasted amount would be arranged in advance, as deemed proper by the Gubernia Administration.

Based on item 20 of paragraph 80 of the presented statement, the Administrator is asking for permission of this Administrations to send an artist to render layouts and facades for the construction of synagogues and prayer houses. It also advises that to carry out the order of the Administration, he will require the village departments to provide officially stamped paper for issuance of identifications and paper for assembling corded books, and also signed statements from the communities that they guarantee the loyalty of their chosen landowners and from the representatives themselves, that they vow to honor the guarantees and to compensate any wasteful spending, according to the law.

Since the Jewish holidays, the fast (Yom Kippur) and Sukkot had begun, the chosen Jews cannot be released until the end of holidays. Therefore, Demidov has advised not only of the implementation of the order but also of the need to prevent the Jews to spend the amount that can be collected, so we have determined: lieutenant colonel Demidov should be ordered to immediately carry out his suggestion regarding the release of the Jews to collect voluntary donations for the construction of synagogues and prayer houses in the Colonies and, upon their return, to report to the Administration the amount of the collected funds, so that depending on the amount it will be possible to begin rendering plans and facades of the buildings, because until the amounts are collected this task cannot be estimated. We will report the above to Your Excellency.

Governor (signature)

Assistants (signatures)