

*Translation of the decree of the Arbitration Commissioners appointed to settle differences existing between the Frisians and the people of the city of Groningen, published June 30, 1338.*

In the name of the Lord, amen. We, the arbitrators or friendly adjusters of the differences arisen between the Frisians on the one side and the city of Groningen on the other, and their abettors, namely, the abbots of Furswarth, Liudingakerk, Lidlym, Floriduscampus, Claruscampus, Ortus Sanctae Mariae, Dokkum, Adewarth, Marna, Rottum, Wrum, Bure, Feldwirth, Menterna, Tedinghen, Zyl, and Schola Dei; the prefects of Bergh, Gaemyngum, Hasca, Bovoclastrum, Cuisemer, Schilwolde, Pallemar, Asterlo, and Lange; the commendators of Werphum and Jemminghen; the deans of Ostergo, Bordego, Emeda, and Loppersum; the prior of Backefene, and the laymen: Tydericus Eltekeman of Borendego, Tyadbodus Rumbert, Enghelbertus Luibbinga, Henricus Koninga, Johannes Hayckingha, Hermannus, Andela, Johannes, lord of Thrinda, Stellinghewarf, Scoterewarf, and Osterse, Liubbo, lord of the Eight Parishes, Baldinghus Eninghe of Ilurum, Lords Eppo and Beneko of Vredewold, Liudolphus Obbeman, Liuardus Ayndys, Hero Helmers, Folpeus, dean of Erla, Aylewardus Mensena, Hayo Erningha, of Drenthe: Henricus, lord of Feide, Stephanus, lord of Sleen, Everardus Godswijn, Jacobus of Kamp, Rudolphus Pype, Hermannus Scultinghe, Otto Swartewold, Liudolphus Peppinghe, Rudolphus of Winde, Rudolphus Oldhusinghe, Johannes Dyedclinghe, and Bolo of Westerple, before whom the said dissension was finally compromised by the oath of each party, that they would stand to our decision, no less by an assenting unanimity, which we have made known for a perpetual remembrance of the matter, for the present as well as the future, that, having shared in the determination of each party, we ordain and promulgate for an inviolable observance for the good of peace and harmony. In the first place, that the people of Groningen in consideration of the honor of the Frisians shall pull down from the foundation the stone wall of their city, from the Ebbinghe gate, included, all the way to the tower nearest the west gate, Botteringhe gate, also included, with all their intermediate parts, and that the people of Groningen shall put in place of it a wooden wall with gates of wood. Also, that they shall reduce the six fortresses, namely, the fortress of Wicherus, son of Enon, that of Nicolaas and Everhardus Beyers, that of Allek Folkerdingh and the widow of Allek, that of Hugo Calmers, that of Barwold Calmers, and that of Liudolphus Buningh, as much as the cover and highest rampart. Also, for damages, fires, captures, and robberies, in whatever way perpetrated, whether on water or on land, in the city or without the city, they shall make adequate satisfaction for all and every part of the damage done, to be observed as we practise religion outside as well as inside the city. But, for the money which the people of Groningen extorted from the Frisian prisoners, the citizens of Groningen shall return to the Frisians three hundred marks sterling under the terms of later provisions. Also, that all those who, if they shall have been trustworthy before they were placed in prison, and themselves prisoners, shall be free and unbound. Also, that for murders, the people of Groningen shall pay to the Frisians one thousand marks sterling, and to the heirs of the murdered in the fortress of Henricus Curtingh, for amends, and for all damages in whatsoever way then perpetrated, similarly, on the part of the Frisians, a thousand marks sterling. And that if the aforesaid heirs and protectors staying in the jurisdiction of Drenthe or in the jurisdiction of Groningen, now or in the future, shall be unwilling to be contented in them, we ordain that none of the Frisians or Drenthens or people of Groningen themselves or any of them shall be responsible for aid for them or for any one of them in any way whatsoever, nor shall any of the aforesaid countries or the people of Groningen receive one or any of them in a fortification or in any way whatsoever defend them. Moreover, if any one of the pernicious cause the destruction of a house, he will subject himself and know himself to have incurred a penalty of a hundred marks sterling; concerning which penalty, who if he decline to observe this our decision, six of his kindred by blood-relationship shall answer for him. Which penalty, if it be incurred in Frisia, the Frisians shall apportion among themselves according to the custom hitherto observed in that place. If the penalty be incurred in Groningen or in Drenthe, the people of Groningen with the Drenthens shall apportion it among themselves according to their anciently observed custom. However if the friends of the aforesaid murdered in the aforesaid city refuse to receive the aforesaid sum of money, the Frisians shall pay the same sum to the heirs of the murdered, and of the commemorative sum a third part on the next festival of Saint Michael and the following third part on the same day of the following year, and the remaining part in the following returning year, and just as the remaining parts were divided