

Laura

19th November 1903

Grace and Peace for a greeting.

Dear Siblings, [Sisters and Brothers,]

It is time that I write to you. I wanted to write long ago, but I had too much to do. I was one time all on my own. Emma is here since 1st October. I have been crippled with a stiff hip for about 14 days, the most of the time I had to lie down, otherwise the pain keeps me awake all night. And my legs and thighs sometimes hurt a lot. I went to the doctor last week, but it hasn't got any better yet.

Old Father Klemm died last Saturday and they buried him on Monday. He was sick for quite a long time, and his eldest daughter [Mrs Fechner – R. P.] looked after him since the end of September.

Then Mrs Lehman, by the [Rocky] river, died four weeks ago of cancer of the stomach.

We finished off the hay carting last Saturday. We have about 80 tons of hay. Richard has not finished his hay yet. He had a lot of hay there because the frost got into the wheat and damaged the wheat. That is why he had over 500 tons of hay. He had six workers for several weeks and Edel had plenty of work with them being there. But they are all well, otherwise.

Last Sunday we had a heavy thunderstorm, with about one inch of rain. Yesterday we started reaping.

The travel to Adelaide was very nice, and did us all good, and did me good too. We would have included a visit to you, but we had no man at home, and a mare ready to foal, and we could stay away no longer. It was good because she foaled on Monday, and if Gustav had not been home we would have lost her [the mare]. We have three foals [fillies?] this year.

We are milking 5 cows. We sold two last week, for £5-7-6. I think we will get two heifers in calf as replacements. Butter is just 6 pence a pound and eggs sixpence a dozen.

I don't know any more news and will have to close, the writing is pretty hard on me. I can't sit too long, it [leg?] is too sore.

Many greetings to you.

Your relatives

Lydia and Gustav

Please excuse bad writing and please write soon.

I hope I feel better soon and will write again.

[Bad spelling and "Anglo/Deutsch" makes this letter difficult to read and translate – R. P.]

English Translation

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