

[To Bertha nee Becker and Paul Zwar.
Not from Richard or Edel.
Probably Lydia]

Laura
22nd January 1904?

Dear brothers and sisters,

Greetings of grace and peace!

It is time I write to you again as I wanted to write for a long time but it was always left.

Dear Bertha, How are you? Are you all still well? How did you go with your harvest? Was it a good one? We finished with the reaping and carting on Wednesday. This harvest there was bad weather during the weeks but on Saturday after the New Year we had the heaviest rain. A lot of wheat was damaged and the stalks were broken. The chaff mostly went bad. But we had quite a good hay harvest – we have approximately 70 tons and the wheat was also quite good. We harvested 600 bags, but the price is very poor, and only brings 2/7 per bushell.

How has your harvest been? Dear Bertha, thankyou for asking your dear father-in-law [Johann Zwar – K.Z.] about the problem with my hip. I got the medicine on Repentance Day. I was so bad that day I could hardly move as I had such terrible pain. The medicine I had from Atkins [Etkins?] had no effect so I immediately took one of this medicine which your dear father-in-law sent and in just a few days I felt much better. And in 2 weeks I was completely free of pain, and till now I haven't had it any more. Otherwise I feel quite well but I have to have a rest for an hour in the middle of every day. Otherwise I can't get to sleep at night. Hulda's eyes are also nearly better. Only when the weather is very windy they look a bit swollen. Otherwise we are all well.

Richard and Edel are well. Richard has also written, so Edel said, so he will have already written everything.

Otherwise I don't know much news. Perhaps you have already heard that Keller's son is a teacher at Lights Pass. Louise Keller is also in Lights Pass to keep house for her brother.

At Klemm's on Wednesday there were things going on. Heinrich Klemm is taking over the business. The girls only inherited £250. I feel sorry for poor Ida. She has no home. Mother Reline [?] Klemm was taken to the asylum in Adelaide two weeks after the death of the father. Heinrich has to pay her £1 a week and when she is better he has to give her two rooms.

Dear Bertha, we heard about the sudden death of your dear [in-law ?] ? S. and B. It is a hard blow but everything stands in God's power. He knows best what he is doing and what is good for us.

Mr Mackdol [Wackdol] who was always in Tinport [Port Pirie?? - K. Z.] died before Christmas He also was only sick for a few days and leaves behind a widow with six children. The youngest was only born after his death. That was very sad.

[The remainder of the letter is missing, so we have no name of the author. It wasn't from Richard or Edel, and most like was written by Lydia. It begins the same way Lydia sets out the beginning of her last letter, 19th November 1903, and the handwriting is similar, with this letter a much neater version.

The letter was written on 22nd January, but no year is given. However the death she mentions of Mr. Klemm was **14 November 1903**. Lydia could have written this letter on 22nd January 1904.– Kevin Zwar.]

English Translation

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