

Appila

January 3<sup>rd</sup> 1907

Dear Bertha and Paul!

I think it is time I let you hear from us. We are all, thank God, still quite well, and I hope you are the same. Is the little girl still so quiet, or has she changed? So long as you are feeling well again.

We have had bad harvest weather this year. Several months ago some wheat paddocks looked like yielding 25 bushels or more. But the dreadful hot winds shriveled the grain so much that the yield was only half of what the people estimated. Alfred will be finished winnowing next week. Richard is helping Alfred, so I am alone all day. I don't mind so long as I am home at night. I find enough work to do. The wheat that Alfred had on shares with Richard went 15 bushels. Some time ago he had sold 100 bags for 2/8 per bushel.

They now have the roof on the new Pasto's house, it really looks nice. The front faces towards our place. This year we had a nice cool change for Christmas.

We were not offended that you didn't come to the wedding. We thought it was a long way to travel with a young child. It was a pity it rained so much, still we enjoyed ourselves\*. WE are sending you a photo so you can see what we looked like.

I will close with many hearty greetings from us, to you.

Greetings to your parents.

Yours E. and R. Becker.

[This is the first letter we have written by Emma Becker nee Zanker after her marriage to Richard Becker. – K. Z.]

\*[“Richard wanted their marriage in the dry season so they could have fine weather, so the marriage was put off to 3<sup>rd</sup> October (1906). The reception was held in a huge tarpaulin tent at the Zanker home near Stone Hut – and it poured with such heavy rain all day that the water even came through the tarpaulin roof!” – her son Rex Becker to Kevin Zwar]

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English Translation

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