

Ida Klemm

Appila Yarrowie
April 11 1902

The peace of the Lord go before you!

Dear Lady friend Bertha,

Now I really must write to you again. Please don't be angry with me for not writing for such a long time. I always wanted to do so but never got to it. I hope you are well again since I recently heard that you have another little son. No doubt little Gerhard will be very happy. Just when was the little one born? We are all still well, except for Father who was sick for a number of weeks in January and still has a persistent cough. Mother is now plump and fat, about like Mrs Wurst. She still gets along to the church services and is as quiet as a mouse there. But the bad thing is that she doesn't want to be quiet at home; our heads are often full of her noise. Still we can be glad that she is so much better. But we humans are never satisfied we'd always like things to be better for us.

I met your mother in Laura yesterday. She appears to be quite well now and has also been in church quite often. Clara and I visited her a few weeks ago; Emil happened to be home just then. We wanted to visit your mother while she was sick but we just didn't get to it. During Father's long sickness we had to attend to the livestock. Then we had enough to do and lots of riding; we don't enjoy riding any more.

Yesterday when I was in Laura I had three teeth filled at the dentist Thomas. But he himself wasn't there; one of his employees did them. I think he did a very good job; it didn't hurt at all as he drilled them out.

Edelgarde is now in Melrose with Mrs Staker; maybe you know that already. But our Edel looks really well; moving around seems to agree with her. At present we have a cousin from Yorke Peninsula visiting, Charlie Launer. He has been here several weeks already, staying at Winnecke's. We didn't know him previously; he came here by bike.

How time flies! Six months have passed since I was down South. I enjoyed it all and could go again right away. I also like it in and around Eudunda, at Lydia's [Wurst-Pfitzner] also at Pastor Leidig's in the big College; it's really nice there.

Em Roocke and John Keller are also married. I guess Appila will soon be married out. There are several engaged couples but I haven't heard yet when they'll take the big step. Have you seen Ida Jaeschke? She is also down there learning dress making, while Emma is now at home.

My sister-in-law in Queensland also has a little daughter, as has Minna Zwar [Peter Zwar Jnr married Wilhelmina 1894 - and daughter Mary - Mrs Herb Schultz - R P]. And I have heard that young Mrs Wandke [Elisabeth Altmann] also has a baby. So grandmother Wandke has gained three grandchildren in a short time. Mary and Minna's girlies were born on the same day.

I don't have much news to give because we seldom go out now. I wanted to write to your mother-in-law but I have no more news left, so I'll have to postpone until

another time. Just tell her that we received her letter and enjoyed it very much. We also send her many greetings; and to you dear Bertha and Paul and the two little ones we send many heartfelt greetings.

Please write to us again soon. Next time I promise to do better and not let you wait so long. So I commend you to the Lord's care.

Your old friend,
Ida Klemm.

Little letter fly straight there
While my thoughts are still with you
Fly not too high and not too low
And bring me back a message soon.

I thank you sincerely for the Buns recipe which you gave to Clara. I have already baked some many a time and they are very nice. Clara should also write to you but she claims she knows nothing new. Don't be offended at her for she has so many love letters to write now. That is how it is when one has a beau!

English Translation
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