

Hawthorn, 14th June [1858]

Precious and beloved parents, and dear brothers and sisters,

I sincerely hope that my few lines will find you in good health, as they leave me. Dear Father, I have not been ill since leaving home, for which I owe the Lord many thanks. Now, dear Father, you want to know how our voyage was. It was a good one, because our Captain Mripp (?) was a very strict man who organized everything properly and cared very much for the passengers. It took us 16 weeks to sail from Hamburg to Port Adelaide. Twice we experienced great storm and wind and our lives were in danger, but it didn't take long, two hours, before the storm passed and the sea was again quite calm. One can only say that where the need is greatest God's help is most obvious. Only two of our group died. We were in Adelaide for one week, but none of got into the city, except the passengers staying in Adelaide, because our ship was going on to Melbourne. It took us 3 days to get to Melbourne. When we arrived Brother Andreas was not there, and nor was Sister Maria; they were 70 (English) miles away on a goldfield. Brother Johann and I got out to Zimmers, who were 12 miles from Melbourne. At first I was not happy in Australia. And I also don't like it with the Zimmers, and didn't know anything about Brother Andreas nor about Maria. It was only after a month that Brother Andreas came to visit me; he had not found out earlier; Pastor Goethe had told him when he went out there. Andreas wanted to take me along right away, but Zimmer had contracted me for a year, and so I had to stay behind. I stayed for 14 months and then went to English people, where I am still now. I have a very good position, I am very well, and my annual salary is 200 Thalers. My work consists of cooking, washing, ironing and keeping the house clean. I have (tried?) to attend the German church every 14 days. And I also visit Brother Andreas often. I have only visited Sister Maria once since she is married.

Dear Father, I am very sorry that I didn't write any sooner, but I didn't think it necessary because Andreas always wrote about me.

I close – remain your loving daughter Anna Kaiser

P.S. [in a different handwriting]:

Many, many greetings to my dear sister Ma, and to my little godchild Tuppack, and all the other little brothers and sisters, the aunt in Hochkirch, as also the two old [?] girls Anna and Maria. Pardon my bad writing. I think of you all much more often than I have written. Many greetings to dear Mother, and brother-in-law Tuppack, as also to Pastor Gumlich. Many heartfelt greetings to Mrs. Schmidt and to Miss Caroline in Wrigerda - Many greetings to Mother in Gebelzig and Mother in Kottitz and Agnes.