

Ebenezer, 14th May, 1916

The love of God the Father and the risen Conqueror be with you and with us all.
Amen

Dear sister-in-law,

The sad news of the death of my dear brother George, your dear husband, I heard already last year at Pentecost through a man, Theodor Hensel* if I am not mistaken, who wrote that he had promised my brother to inform me immediately after his passing, and that I would get further information from Mr. Mihan in Oberneukirch. He wrote that he had known him well. And now, dear nephew and niece, your letter, which was very much appreciated by us all, reached us in April, and we were very happy to hear that you are well and are suffering no material want, thank God. Now I must inform you that I wrote a long letter to you in July, 1914, but from your letter I perceive that you did not receive it. I had also given our dear Pastor Meier a transfer for 6 Pounds Sterling which he took to the bank. God only knows whether you will receive it. I had decided how it was to be divided, and had even still remembered my dear departed brother with a token.

Now, my dear relatives, I must report how things are with us. In material things we want for nothing until now, praise and thank God, and we also live in peace. Bernhard spent more than a year in Egypt, tending wounded soldiers in hospital. Now he is back in his home in Melbourne, thank God. He visited me 4 weeks ago. On 4th May he was married to an English girl. She was also in Egypt, as a nurse. So now he has quite naturally linked up with the English. For this reason he has also found it difficult to write in German, and I guess you would not understand English.

Now, my dear ones, I would like to know something of my other relatives and their situation - my two step-sisters in Bautzen and the two old cousins in Hochkirch. Please, if you write again while I am still alive, let me know, I would love to know something about them. I am so happy that my dear brother had a peaceful and gentle death. May God also grant me such a peaceful and blessed end. I am now also in my 80th year, and you, dear sister-in-law, are another 3 years older.

Let me briefly mention my leg. Thank God, in the last 4 weeks I have much more peace than I had before. My son Bernhard sent me something which has helped a lot and is giving much relief, but my strength is declining considerably. You can thank God that your children are still small and don't have to go away (to war?). I presume the sister's children are away?

Now, my dear ones far away, I commend you all into the care and grace of our dear heavenly Father. Sincerest greetings to you, dear sister-in-law, and your dear children from me and my whole family. I remain your loving sister-in-law,

Anna Zwar.

P.S. I received a letter from your little Hannchen when she was two months (?) old. I am sorry that Mrs. Herzog is so unwell.

Translated from the original German by Rev Clem Schmidt.

Notes:

According to the handwriting, Anna Zwar did not write this letter personally. Evidently she had it written for her.

***Theodor Hensel comes from Neukirch**

This is the final letter from Anna Zwar nee Kaiser. She lived another year and died on 15th June 1917.