

The Willows,

March 24th 1912

Dear Sister,

We received the sad news that God had taken dear little Martin at such an early age. God, no doubt, knows better than we do what is for his and our good. Martin is in good hands.

I did not think there was much hope for him when I heard that you had taken him to the Hospital. Did he have to suffer much before the end? Where did he die; were you already home then? I am sure the other children feel the loss too.

I notified all the relations. Alfred says you must still have been too weak from the operation and that caused the child to be sickly. He did not expect the child to survive. We were all truly sorry for your loss, but God's counsel is the best there is.

We were at Alfred's today. So far they are all well, only thanks be to God she is their mainstay. They support each other. The memorial hymn we sang for Mathilda was No 1120 "How short indeed is human life".

I arrived home safely. Eric was rather grizzly all the way and the first fortnight he was often very sick but now he is making a good recovery.

I wanted to keep the servant girl but she had to go home where she was wanted and so I had to do without her. I had to get to work right away, though I felt more like going to bed than to work. I missed her very much because I was still so weak but am a good deal better again.

It started to rain nicely yesterday but only seven points fell. Winters are lording it now. They are living in Traegers big house. Heinrich is manager and they have a horse and buggy, and it seems Anna is driving about everywhere. I suppose they will praise Traegers to high heaven now, but people are saying it won't last very long.

Our workman is back again. Typhoid Fever is about again. How is Alfred?

I am tired and must close.

The Easter festival is coming up again, so we wish you a blessed celebration.

So we remain, with love, your brother and sister.

Emma and Richard [Becker]

English Translation

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