





Belle meade March 14
1881

Lieber Freunde Omor!

gyt wolla fänta Morgon gleich anfangen griffen vilken
is wolla alir minn ^{lang} living afreilem Ungul John
will morgun nof Dodge City sent Kart iñ
et mitt förd skriven far Remmags. Det iñ ein
Mann Roman iñ wolla mir sin Buggy verkauf
et wör im pienas parkas nof se got minn för
\$ 100 aler far im Pony ips gñ hwar der Mann
worr dann far fñr dinner so felb iñ juff mitt
vind grot überig gñ röviken. Den Abie mit
et fänta nof vilar levineen so will iñ
frys dag wifra lappan daff iñ att. kaffer
munder bin iñ wot van lappan dondag im ^{hol}
in der Bankappel bin. W. J. dan niften Donkey
im Morning full gappnit und gappnit da fultu
min Union Apfel ob fest leal 3 gall gappnit
ip alar in 2 tagen gappmolgen zappan sole
iñ enig spide inn der Prechit gafit. Jim Gray
was im ap: gesamt c: 14 v. 21. Min falan innen
gutte Prechit min wofl eam ip nr fest

Bald 12 mil Nord van sic minn kringe gehöre
und minnen nr kann dan pris gell
van kringen sind botten manc lastig mi
dann konta av kain upphörs agrot
krigen fñr finnare gñ humur inn
ein kring upphörs gñ lappan so fast ut pris
kisti guld la den iñ nr porsk fñr Samila
mestan nöff liden aler pris lappan gafit
daff nr fñr ino Predigt nivod nr inlare
pälz van der Commission und nivod
mir Yän, sat ifnan gafellan. iñ endann
gafellan Samila nr lappan kumt nift surd
Beden da miften din prediger so kain
vinnigun falan aog Hand arb Bjarkby
ip pifa and Samila brief daff din Christen
an din fny aog kumt nift min far eler
fir iñ mor grot far donk dag W. Johns falan
vor kain enbjetst (daff) aler pent. Hjor in
jadem land iñ kain Yorkster näfor all Dordt
alar se wort iplo nej vikan ejt gengangen.
gyt sole nof kain fustan gmarit ob ip inn
verf gñ kalk. ob njar nift minna Minning
iñ Kate fast gñ ladan. sin mestar pab daff

Der Wetter der Herde kommt sehr mild gekommen
aber es füllt sehr. Das andere Wärde ist
heute einzig und allein ich magte mir jetzt wieder
mein Leder habt mich für Haupt nicht anders.

du mößt einmal vors Kommen da begriffen
dass Cows 140 Pfund sind Freighters sind
die Cows sind wo Viehwagen oder Cattle
ranch der hat immer für 5 bis 10 Meilen im
Umfang für sich nach dem den ein Fahrer
nur selten allein findet nicht anderer
Gespann und dem fallen den Cows
für das Vieh zu jedem Zufallton und Freight-
ers sind wo Straße von Dodge City nach
Tucson fahren und wenn zweierwanderung
der sollte nur so ein eiszeitiges Jahr den
so 3 und 4 Meilen füreinander geladen
dann 6 bis 80jöris Cattle oder Cattle & Pferd und
so ist manchmal so lange Zeit geworden als
ein Jahr kann die wo ist die größte
fahrt wo die selben Käms fahrt 140.000
und so sind im Sommer sehr geringe Tage
und das sind viele Wintertage ob sie
nur einzeln ein Züg fahren wir sind

Will's Einr. Leinaf hat mich sehr gefordert
der Westenfeld war auch immer eine
ein kleiner Teil der am meisten Längsstr.

March 14, 1881
Belle Meade, Kenses. ①

Dear Sister Anna,

I wanted to write you a long letter this morning. Uncle John will go to Dodge City tomorrow so I cannot send this before Saturday.

A man has come who wants to sell me a buggy for \$400⁰⁰. It is a good strong buggy as good as new but it is too heavy for our pony. The man was here for dinner so I don't have much time to write but Abie can mail it this afternoon in Dodge City and I can let you know that I am feeling better.

I went to Sunday School yesterday in Belle Meade. On the 1st Sunday in March it stormed very hard with 3" snow and lots of wind so we had no Sunday School. It all melted in 2 days, I also heard a sermon yesterday — the text was John 14-21. We have a good preacher however he is very poor. He built a new church about 12 miles North of here and he thought he could get his money back when the church was finished. He couldn't so he has considerable money tied up and his family has to suffer ~~so~~ for the past year he has been preaching in Belle Meade for us. We have been under Home Missions so we have been able to help him out. We hear about another minister and family named Hetzler we could get but he better not come west. We better get a minister who has no family. They can work for less pay.

I see by your letter that immigrants are still coming back there too. There is no room for any more of them out here. Uncle John

does not want to homestead out here any more,
The Towns are too far apart, The closest real
Town is Dodge City 50 miles north east but so
far things are going well except I have
not made any garden yet, it has always
been too cold.

It was not my intention to laugh
at Katie she had jokingly said "Father
has sold all the horses so there is nobody
left but me", So one trouble follows another.

You must come out here sometime and
see the big herds of cattle and sheep, some
here 100's others 1,000's. You can also
see the herdsmen and freighters. The ranches
(cowboys) are at the cattle ranches. The
ranches are big too, one has about 5 or 10
miles enclosed and some are even bigger.
The herdsmen work on the ranches with the cattle.
The freighters drive wagon trains from Dodge
City to Iowa and spend many days and
nights on the road. They travel one behind
the other in a long line up the cattle trails.
Sometimes they chain 3 or 4 wagons one
behind the other and pull them with 6 or 8
yoke of oxen or mules or horses. We are
about $\frac{1}{2}$ mile from one of these trails.
Great herds of cattle and sheep are driven
past but so far they have not bothered us.

Carl Altenbrand has finished building
most of the house and I will have it
plastered when I can get the materials.
Peter has just brought a large stone for a
step. Later I went to build a kitchen on
the north side. It will be 9 ft. wide by
14 ft. long the width of the house.

I think my health is better but I
don't have time to go to school, besides
I would rather go south.

I must stop now — Many greetings to
all of you big and little.

Dear little sister,
E. Schmoker.

P.S. Your letter pleased me very much. Write me
often. I have not heard about the little
ones for a long time. Write me again and
again. Write me all the news. I have
not heard about the Wiedenroths for some time.
My greetings to father and mother till I write
again.

Louisa County Farm Bureau
Wapello, Iowa 52653

German letters to
Aunt Anna Waller

J. V. Wiederrecht
Wapello, Iowa

Mrs Ellen Haag

Service—Education—Legislation

~~Giants in the Earth~~
~~O E Rilway at Library.~~

Belle meeste Kan: March^{the} 22.
1881

Linien Pfeiffer Anna samt Familie.

es gab einigen schwierigen Zeiten auf dem Lande
es fehlte mir zuerst darum daß ich allezeit mit
genügend Futter in der Hand war ja was von Korn etc.
ist kein gutes Weizen geworden stark aber weiss
und eine gleichmässige Kultur ist noch nicht alswas
für braucht man mich die Wetter so ist
immer zu trocken zu windig auch der Wind ist
sehr stark ist sehr groß das Blüh Kleßert
aber das Korn ist noch nicht gereift der
Vogel zieht weg nach Großbritannien kommt
am morgigen Vier Montag, wir ist jetzt bei den
Boschen oder alten Bäumen sind sie wieder geopft
geopft oder sind jetzt das Lämmchen los waren
aber kaum freie, der Eidechse und der Lied
hat letztes Jahr die Falle des ganzen Dorfes
300000 Kronen erzielt für kurze Zeit
zu jürgen das war bald alles verschwunden
in dem Jahr nur zwei Lämmchen und noch
nur eines der ersten im V. Jahres bestanden

Es fehlten das Vieh und das Viehbestand
fehlten eben weil die Pferde und Pferde
kamen ging das Vieh von selber und
Land füllte sich sehr bis in April. Es
wurde ab 1880 mir geäußert gesagt dann
es füllte wieder Hans' grüflässt gefüllt das
Gruß ist auf, das all das war gelitten
haben war im anfangs Winter nicht ob
so ungewöhnlich kalt wurde aber seit einigen
mal die Temperaturen waren fastig sehr aber es
wurde ja Kalt im inneren Hans' das war noch
kein Vergleich mit Colli: wir fachten die Feuer
und das machte es warm aber jetzt habe
ich nur leicht & froh anfallen lassen geschafft
ein Modell mit Baum zu zersetzen in dem Hause
ein Röhr an den nordwestlichen Turm war
dass es füllten wir einen schönen Regen ab füllt
ein auf den ganzen Tag genug und aufgezogen
so getrocknet feste Klischee auf geopft und
Küche aber kaum ist warm ist und gut
war sehr für die Lämmchen und Kalt
Wärme, wenn Gartenhof kam auf ob war
zu trocken zu kalt den musste jetzt

am 9. Sil. berl. gibt hier ⁱⁿ ein ^{der} ausflugsfahrt
für verhältniswerte 1250 reichsmark ein
Ticket bis hier ganz freiheitlich ob auf
für noch kein solches fahrt verkehren wir
man so wie in der Zeitung ist, ist sehr
am noch nicht hier angekündigt. Ich gesucht
jetzt in hier hier das größte Schnupper kann ich
so in aufnehmen für Wilhelmshöhe habe ich
nicht fließt ich muss auflassen wir wollen
noch mehr Gärten machen seit meinem
tag gestern der Person ist jetzt hier aus
am 10. Aug. fahrt ich Pfleym in Paris nach
Villa Gräfin am 11. Aug. dann Pfei.

E B Schmoker
und Dr. Colwell: noch so arm und gelang.
Dann noch ein Lekker Krieg ist weiter ist fahrt
jetzt bei Klein-Steigern wo der mal
krank war aber so mit Einschlaß ist ja
verlorenen Kind noch zu geringen ist fällen
grau so ein Kind. für Knugspiel.

jetzt fahrt mal hier gewohnt so daß das
Ring Bergfeste kann früher Rostsel
sobald wir geblieben aber noch kein spät
ist sehr klein immer wir haben in Berlin
ausfahrt von Pfei Mag in Stephiles Lied es
ist ja schon wir können aber noch man Leid
sohn ist jetzt auch am Walde sehr sehr
Rode jetzt so sind daß im Land sehr kann
ist sehr im Journele galoppiert auf ein anderes
bei Grandview ^{unter} vor 2 Wagen wieder gesucht
fahrt noch in Pfingstzeit nicht in das ob ist
jetzt im Großmutter Link; wenn Großvater nur
nicht gesucht wird dann die Mag am 11. in
Leib standen ^{und} jetzt ist jetzt gesucht die ersten
April wir anfänglich von der Person
ist sehr nichts gesucht sonst, ist die Person jetzt
lebhaft, ist der George König noch immer
sein früher ist glänzend sehr mal kleine
Wappen das Candy mit dem selben
und noch mehr Charlie mit seiner Kranken
Mutter ist fragt Silvia und Silvia das die
und sie alle ist gleich immer zu führen
was die Land weise herzlichen ob

Belle Meade Kenses

Dear Sester Anna and Family,

I received your welcome letter last week and it pleased me very much that all are so well and able to work. I am pretty strong now but I am still not able to do the washing. But here one does not need to do the washing so often, it is always so dry and windy that the dirt just blows off and does not stick fast.

We have finished plastering the room now but the fireplace has not been built yet, Uncle John has not had time, perhaps he will come tomorrow or Monday. He is at the ranch now where they all are together. He works there too, he worked all winter at \$30⁰⁰ a month sitting by the stove because there was nothing else for him to do. He works with Uncle John.

On the 20th we had a fine rain, it rained almost all day. Yesterday it was cool but today it is warmer which is good because the lambs have started to come and it is tough on them when it is cold.

My garden is slow in coming up, it has been too dry and cold but now that we have had rain the ground is moist and things can start to grow.

We have planted our early potatoes but no late ones. We do not have any seed.

We have received a letter from sister Mary. It is so nice to hear from her. Has grandmother Lieberknecht seen her grandchild yet and is Mary able to care for it?

I have not heard anything about the Wiedorechts, and is Geo. King any better? I think he should go to a better climate, that might help him. And what about Charlie? I am asking too many questions, it will tire you out but I would like to hear about everyone and how many babies they have.

You must come out sometime. You don't have to worry about the Cowboys because I have not heard a bit of shooting and they say the most profane of them are careful not to swear before ladies.

I must stop now because we want to make some more garden this afternoon. Out here after the snow is gone we soon can plow and sow.

Love and greetings to all of you,

Your loving sister

G. B. Schmacher.

(1)

1 Dec. 28

Dear Jim. After much time and considerable difficulty, we finally have deciphered Aunt Lizzie Schmoker's two letters to Aunt Anna Walter, written in March 1881, from Meade Kansas.

They are lovable letters and show a great spirit as well as some loneliness.

Mrs. Ellen Hoeg a German grandmother and good friend showed great patience and kindness in her reading and explaining them to me and Edwin. There were some words and phrases we had to guess.

Ed will write our combined version which may be 90% accurate. I am very sorry now that I did not ^{have} Cousin Abe tell ~~me~~ something about his parents, and his and Sister Anna's childhood. As you might guess from my "Memories", I had the impression that Lawyer Abe did not tell all he knew.

It seems strange that the letters do not mention the Schmoker children. Just one little note that Abe would ^{many letters on file} return the buggy to Dodge City

It could be possible that it was some other Abe and the Schmokers left Abe & Anna in Grandview with Grandparents when or if Peter & Eliz. went to Homestead in Kansas as Uncle Chris did in N. Dak. (Not likely)

S. J.
R. S.
H. R.

that they left children

forgetting of Thompson's former soothing power?

After all, we are still here, and still have our country.

With any more, I would have had you home now.

I would have had you home now if you had had

nothing but the house, the country knows?

where is that old familiar place?

Do a little of historical interest

when you are here again next fall.

and tell the children about the Middle Ages.

and tell them about the French Revolution.

and tell them about the Reformation.

and tell them about the Industrial Revolution.

and tell them about the French Empire.

and tell them about the Second Empire.

and tell them about the Third Empire.

and tell them about the Fourth Empire.

and tell them about the French Revolution.

(2)

(3)

I wonder if you have ever met Anna Schmoker's daughter Lee Bartroff of L.A.: I knew her as a little girl Lila Dupper. I have her ^(4/10/73) letter to my sister Inez Campbell telling about Bess Joseph's death -

It seems to me she should know something about her mother's & Uncle Abes childhood. If they ever lived in Kansas? If she still lives in L.A. and?

If I knew her address we might write to her.
Would she have received a Family Tree?

I have learned thru Marjory & Harold Goddard that Harry Joseph recovered from serious illness to travel extensively. Europe etc.

I feel you will have more difficulty in reading my nervous scribble than I have in reading Aunt Lizzie's fine script.

I was about to ask you to keep a few copies for me but have now learned that Jean Croy left a box of records and material with Marjory ~~Zook~~ (Seeg. elec.) It may contain some unsold copies that I could use. I have recently rec'd complimentary remarks from folks who have heard from you.

I must not tire you further.

Christmas Greetings to you and Mother.

Our family will celebrate at Jim & Lucile's with the exception of daughter Helen of Tacoma

over

Jan. 8.

I still have not mailed my material but can add a bit to our search of Abe Schmoker but not what you want most, dates. Ed saw the care taker of the Mt Pleasant Cemetery yesterday, 7/21/11 and located Abe & Clara Schmoker grave stone. There were no dates but but there may be small foot stones ^{with dates} under the deep snow. I'll search further when the snow melts.

We had a good Christmas at Harlan's but Hazel was in the hospital for a week after with what appeared as a heart attack. She home now and able to be about for which we are thankful!

I have been trying to reach Ralph Lieberknecht and sister Harriett Warren to learn if they have ever received the Trees. Ralph and John Warren were both in hosp. when the Trees were received in 77.

It may be that Jean Croy ordered copies for them. If not I wish to do so. There is no record of such in the Secy. material that Jean left with Margorie Jack.

I do not know ~~of you can use what~~ men you can make of the Griman letters but we think they should be in your possession.

So I am sending them along.

Thank you for your patience and devotion.

Sincerely Vernon W.