

Mehring, (Germany)
May 7, 1882

Dear Brother, Sister-in-law, and children,

Your letter was received with much joy, as well as all the news and experiences you shared with us. Also, we are happy that things are going pretty good with you now, and we believe that you tell us the truth.

Sister Anna still hasn't lost courage to come to America. She is working out at Kuranz, near Trier. She has a good position and was here last Sunday. She was very happy about your letter, but I never yet had any craving to go to America, even though our whole family would go, I would not go. I think even Father in his old days would have the courage to go.

Dear Brother, we had the happiness this year to see our younger brother Mathias make his first Holy Communion. How we all are growing older. If you only were still in our house then things would go better.

For many years, crops have been bad, and in a big home the annual expense is terrible. That is why we still cannot think of building.

Peter Diente in Poelig makes annually 20 thalers and his sister 45 thalers. After they buy their clothes not much is left. As far as I am concerned, I earn daily 1 mark by sewing in other homes. I am already on my second sewing machine, and usually I have an apprentice girl with me. Now you know our situation.

Yesterday I received a letter from America from a cousin from Kirsch, who left last year from here. He is a blacksmith and makes a lot of money because he has already sent 300 marks to his father. His address is: Mr. Ludwig Nesser, Hoge Villa, East P., Burnge, Louisiana, North America.

In case you ever meet him, he is a very good looking chap, 24 years old.

Dear Brother, why don't you write anymore to your mother-in-law and your brother-in-law Peter? That makes an old mother unhappy. Sister-in-law Anna doesn't write at all anymore. Dear Brother, I have told you just about everything now. Father and Mother are still in fairly good shape, but Father still has a bad foot.

Accept also a cordial greetings from your loving sister,
Maria

Now, little letter,
travel from my hands over the big water and over land.
Travel until you come to Michael
and bring me an early answer back.





Mehring, Germany 1910, by John Lorang

