Gelieve kinderen! Met uiterste vereering voor de eerstgenoemde en wyckings van de beslissing van het bestuurstool van 2 okt. 1876.

We hebben in trek me 2
dollars in de persoon met tijdelijk een voorziening, en wees ons om u de hulp waarin gediend is, dat u in u geloven en u zeggen niet te betragen, want de kleine kinderen weer lasten mag weken. Daarom besluiten wij om de kinderen te helpen van de leiding van de leerlingen, die in u moeten vertrekken, en wij gaan dat zij u helpen, dat zij u helpen, dat zij u helpen, dat zij u helpen, dat zij u helpen, dat zij u helpen, dat zij u helpen, dat zij u helpen, dat zij u helpen, dat zij u helpen.
Hun altijd bewonder door anderen meten leven. Zij
alles betekend dit leven in de wereld ook en het onwille
mede hadden te willen. En toch dat men geen sprake
opva市场上, zij kwamen aan het dette. Ondertussen
hadden de gehele zaak door. Deugdheyt, ik zal het
als dit moet. Er kwam een zwart van stemming
tegen. En de dag gevallen, aan een goed man, mijn
non, gevoel. Ik heb, Vrouw, hier en dat in de
handen. De leiding, zij hebben geen sprake
weer, en lijken op het water, maar ook wel te liepen.
Zij, de kroon, de manier. Welke en welke
en kwaad. De onenigheid en de heer kantteken
zie ik, hoe er in. Mijn waard en zijn, hoe hij
over zijn. De naam, de naam van de haarkleur. Hier, ik
Wij, en in het leven, en het leven, en in het leven.
Wij, en in het leven, en het leven, en in het leven.
J.H. ten Cate  
Graafschap, Michigan - Orange City, Iowa  
October 2, 1876

Dear children!

We received your letter with the 3 dollars and the papers with great happiness in our circumstances. We hope you may receive this letter in good health, too. May little Hendrika feel better again. About ourselves, by God's goodness we feel good again, although not as well as usual. Sunday, a month ago, I was in bad shape. They think it was something like a stopping of the bloodstream in my body, but it was soon over. Since that time, I don't feel like my old self. Mina doesn't write much, not even how she likes it in Orange City, nor if she is studying what we told her. We still say so, when she has time. Mother has been for a few days at Derk's. Berendina could not do it any more. Now I am alone through the days, but the children are all so helpful and caring for me. So we enjoy pleasure from Jan on to the little Gerritje. We hope to hear this of Minnegie too, that she will be helpful for Naatje, Jan and the children.

Naatje said in her letter, when we are there they could and would help us if necessary. Jan wrote January 10, 1872 if we came he would help us with all his might, and the 28th we should come and his wish was, to take care of us. I will not deny this is my prayer and wish, that when the Lord opens the way, we will come to you; but not right now, because I make more wages than we need. I would love to see if we with the Lord's blessing, just could take care of ourselves and our children, until the children are independent so we would not become a burden for you.
The little Gerritje dusts the floor, peels potatoes, washes dishes and takes care of the babies in the neighborhood. So if we could just rent a small piece of land from Jan and have a cow, and have some chickens, or whatever there is, and if I beside did a little work, I am sure it would go all right. If mother is as good as she is now, she could be a help to Naatje. But Dirk has said I could talk about everything and he would not be mad at me, but I could not talk about Joure, he does not like to hear about that. We would not do it either. We could perhaps improve our lives, but we are not lacking anything. But it hurts me badly, that we should live separated from each other. Everything is paid for now, the shoes and the wool. We do not ask for any more. This week we are selling a load of potatoes. We have enough to eat with the half of our produce. The price in Saugatuck is now on the market 75-80 cents. Our cow gives good, and eats plenty of turnips and corn, we have plenty ourselves. The pigs grow good too. We still have old bacon, but the ham is gone. Mother has churned a pot with butter for the winter when our cow is dry. She will have a calf early. When there is an opportunity Mother will send a package with dry apples, we have plenty of them. We do not know how to make wine and I guess it is too late now too. From the letter of our friend Broene you could hear the sad end of Aunt Lien. We would have written you before, but it was Derk's wish, that Broene should tell you; so we would not do it first. You can imagine how it looks over there with Derk and the little ones. Naatje knows how the situation was over there, and now it is worse yet. Mother was there for 14 days but she comes home tonight. Then Dina goes there as house-keeper. He would like us to have the little baby. Mother would take it, but it is just too much for me. Now they will wait and see how it goes with Dina and then make a decision.
If you daily have contact with Derk you would almost think that nothing had happened. But in the long run he will miss her. She was alone and had a hard time to get things done. This was not nice for him, but she was always there and he could leave the house without worrying about the children. It will be hard for him to get another one, because he has a bad name. Concerning her soul's condition, this is in the dark. With this I end. Greetings to all of you from all of us.

With love,

Your Father, J.H. ten Cate