

De Bruin, Marinus

Aquoi, Gelderland - Grand Haven, Michigan

M. de Bruin to relatives

January 7, 1893

Dear Aunt and family,

By this I plan to write you a few words and let you know that we are all healthy and well and we hope the same of you.

Furthermore, this serves to let you know that we received your letter a while ago and heard that you are all well and that Aunt De Bruin has passed away, for which we express our condolences.

However, our true Love and friendship will never cease, even though we are so very far apart. It would be so pleasant to be a little closer, so as to be able to talk with each other verbally, for which I long and always will.

But anyway, this cannot be. If so, I would have come to offer you my best wishes at the beginning of the new year. And since this is impossible I hereby wish you a Happy New Year in God's goodness and I hope that we may wish this to each other for many more years to come in the best of health.

I was informed in your letter that you hope for a prosperous year, since last year the crops were poor. Here we had a very prosperous year, everything very plentiful. The potatoes are very cheap, we made little on them but otherwise everything is fine until now.

Right now we have a cold winter. All the rivers are frost bound, so you understand that it freezes hard here and it is really cold.

Otherwise we are fine, we go skating every day, so we have a bit of fun. So life takes its course from one day to the next and nothing much changes.

Furthermore I like to tell you that we have two people over from the States, one of Versteeg and of J. Looie, from Rhenooi and Asperen. These people seem to enjoy themselves and are over first for pleasure, and are leaving at the end of the month.

So you could also come and visit us sometime, we would be very anxious to see you again, since it is already so long ago. And since there is change every year and so much has happened through the years and passed over our heads, and still does, so at first you would find things very strange here.

Furthermore I beg you to give our regards to Uncle A. De Bruin and C. Bosh. Then this portrait, which you probably won't recognize, but it is me, the writer of this letter, and my son M. De Bruin. I hope you will kindly accept it.

So I will finish this letter, hoping to hear something very soon, since I really long for it.

Greetings from all of us and our family and from my son,

M. De Bruin.

To come back on the package, we have not heard anything about it, which we truly regret, for although we have no wants it would have been so nice to receive something from you, if only a keepsake.

Greetings from all of us.

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