

Orange City, 10 Dec 1891  
Mr. D.K. Aanen  
Hoornaar.  
Friend Aanen,

Uw genoege hebben wij en  
letteren ontvangen en gelieve dat de  
Laak van Sabag. Verspui Laak  
in orde is tot ons kant.

Uw schreef mij als heb om niet  
te swaar drukte dat er nog een  
nodig was of twintig portent  
\$350 daar ik wel afgezet had  
dus in de volgende maand

January 1892. Zal ik uo myn  
\$350 per portwifel of landin  
over te maken. Hopen de dat in  
dat in orde zal brengen.  
aanen de \$100 gulden die hij van  
zijn moeder gekregen heeft ik  
hou uo zeggen als Sabag de  
rente daar van af brengt. Uo dat  
dan ook niet goed zijn het is  
dan toch naar Laak niet waar?

Orange City, 10 December 1891

Mr. D.K. Aanen

Hoornaar.

Friend Aanen,

It was a pleasure to receive your letter and to read that the  
matter of brother-in-law Verspui has been taken care of thus  
far.

You wrote me that, provided it would not be too heavy  
a burden, the second mortgage still needed \$550. I had figured  
on that and next month, that is, in January 1892, I will send you  
either by money order or some other way the \$550.

Aanen, I would say as his brother-in-law that the \$100  
he received from his mother should be considered interest  
payment, wouldn't that be good? After all he is her son,  
wouldn't you say?

Wd. dankzeggen voor de moeite  
en hulp die gy aan mijn zwager  
en zuster gedaan heeft. Want  
ik wil afscheiden verdel de  
Laak in orde te brengen.

De Hartelyke groete aan  
u en moeder en berdere familie  
als ook aan u.

Mw D. W. van der  
P. J. J. van der Heijden

I want to thank you for your effort and assistance on  
behalf of my brother-in-law and sister and I ask you discreetly  
to take care of the rest of the matter.

Cordial greetings to your mother and the further  
relatives and to you as well.

Your obed. servant,

P.J.J. van der Heijden

Translated from the Dutch by Gerrit W. Sheeres, Grand Rapids, MI

Orange City, 29 January 1892

Mr. D.K. Aanen

Hoornaar

Friend Aanen,

I hereby send you a money order for f550 for the benefit of brother-in-law G. Verspui. I trust it will arrive safely and that you will be able to draw up a second mortgage on the house, garden etc. of G. Verspui; I do not doubt that you are willing to do this for me. At 5 per cent interest. Please be so kind to arrange it in such a way that he will pay you the interest each year. Barring accidents we will not need the interest here, perhaps you can even invest it, but you know that better than I, I leave it entirely up to you. I also hope that if we continue to be blessed as we are that, as soon as we are able, we will also be able

Orange City den 29 Januari 1892  
100 f.  
D. K. Aanen  
Hoornaar

D. K. Aanen

Met deze brief ik u per brief  
f 550, ten behoeve van broer G. Verspui.  
Noude een goede overkomst, en dat  
u niet goed zal warden, het op te warden  
en de rente op basis en ten em, van  
de rente u laten beschikken.  
met verspreide of u zal die rente  
het voor mij doen. op 5 percente rente  
Als u nu goed en alle heb en dat  
hi u die rente alle het betaald  
Houden oprechtten zullen in die rente  
dit niet nodig hebben, kan u dat  
Weker waken, daar want u later  
leed op als ik, dat def is geheel aan  
u over, de boek, als u in de  
geveze worden, de eerste / hypoteek  
andra in staat in fact / in ook

over te nemen, als dat kan.  
Kan nu ook het is van dat Verzuim  
het nu is niet recht van handelen door  
tegenloop van zaken of andere omstandigheden  
Wen dan nu goed het nu in het te  
berispen, dat het nu nu nu nu nu  
kinnen als met van der Heijden  
te Dordrecht.

Eek streekt voor het nu  
mit het hark, maar dat is bij mij  
O'ou nu, niet allen mijn familie  
maar ook mijn geboorte plaats  
mijn gansche vaderland land is mij te  
en hemmer ook het hark, dat  
land waar nu te en nu en der vanden  
hebben is mijn nu te. Het hark  
Waar over oorden. Maar en die  
van ons eisen. Nu te. Nu te en dan  
tehoort het aarde, dat nu nu  
onde voor vaders nu en nu nu nu  
opgeofferd, dat land waar nu nu nu  
plaatsen nu nu nu nu nu nu nu nu

to take over the first mortgage, if that is possible. Aanen, in  
case Verspui will not be able "to keep his rudder straight"  
because things are not going well for him or because of other  
misfortunes, please be so kind to give me timely notice, I hope  
that it will turn out the way it did with J. van der Heijden in  
Dordrecht.

The saying goes, "Out of sight, out of mind," but that is  
not the case with me, not only do I love my family, but also the  
place where I was born, yes, my entire fatherland, in fact, they  
are never out of my mind; I continue to live in that land where  
we experienced good times and bad times, that land where our  
parents and three of our own children rest in the bowels of the  
earth, that land where our forefathers sacrificed their goods and  
blood, that land where I know special places that I will never  
forget - that land

dat land is ons taal en dees beaer,  
En haeron ropde wi, dat de zee  
Onse beide moegen versnoeren, en dat  
land was onse mijs heet juston,  
ook eenmaal. Gah, ons l'afte le vinder  
Niek dat is America door mee  
verachten wel verze van daad  
hoe is voor ons tot my, toe, een oer,  
Zee en land ons oeffelghe, oebeg  
Maar ik heb moede kussen den keur  
dat het mij see aan een hangen, nu  
ik wut dat land ben. Maar om  
alle oorden der wered wonen hier  
menschen. Welken Noors wegers  
Deen Weichers Americanen maar  
Wernig Geuzen en Pen ten bloed kom  
niet, m. a. an der bloed verment  
Worden, daar sein es hier ook wél  
het i' roudde getal die wut dat land  
van daan komen, maar geen geuzen  
Want wie zlechter dat het loosen land  
geat dat word met menzen ontomgen,

is dear to us and precious. And that is the reason why we hope  
that the Lord will answer our prayers that someday we will be  
buried in that land where once our cradle stood. When I say  
this, it is not because I loathe America, on the contrary, until  
now it has been a land where we have been blessed materially.  
But I never realized that I would be so attached to the land of  
my birth, now that I am away from it. In this country you meet  
people from all over the world, Swedes, Norwegians, Irishmen,  
Germans, Americans, but few "Geuzen"<sup>1</sup> (Beggars), and you  
cannot mix "Geuzen" blood with the blood of others; it is true  
that most people here [Orange City] have come from that  
"Geuzen country," but they are no genuine "Geuz," because  
they seem happy when they hear bad news about that "Geuzen  
country,"

<sup>1</sup> The Dutch fought a war of independence against Spain from 1568-1648. The "Geuzen" (plural of "Geuz") or "Beggars" were sea-pirates, often desperadoes, who lived off stealing and plundering as they fought against the Spanish, often in hit and run attacks. Later on they were considered to have been true patriots since they were seen as freedom fighters.

in uitgeverij van den heer, die de  
my heer, maar nu worden en tranen  
in de oogen, van Maestricht, die ik nu  
meer van dat land heb, die ik nu  
meer min vinden, myn eigen land  
1800 was van dat land, van welke maar  
ik heb meer te in dat land als in  
het land myner inwoners.  
Dus, kan ik den Hollander en  
dijde het, nu, voor die heer van is.  
De heer bij taten en dings is en en  
volgende heer is meer van inwoners  
te schrijven.

Uitsch, ongen aan Frans weder te  
en leydend, en optreden al goed  
Engels, die goed als Hollands, wat  
voor my een groot gemak is, te zijn  
in eenmaal, verstaanders voor mij ik  
kan alleen te recht by Hollands

Waar zou goed  
by de ontfangst  
altes her om  
te bezigten

teachtelyk, givete aan en onder  
en verduidelijking, in welke, dat  
te in uwet, te maken, deze in onder  
moge, te maken. Waar my voor  
te Heere, goed heel, in mooge te maken  
Mijn Vriend en Dienaar, Gerrit W. Sheeres

and that hurts me, but I am elated and my eyes fill with tears  
when I hear something good about that country, which then is  
salve for my wounds. The distance between us and that  
country is about 1800 hours but I spend more time there than in  
the country where I now live.

As you can see Aanen, I am a Dutchman and will  
always be one; and now I will leave it at this; the next time I  
hope to write a little more about America.

Our boys are back in school and learn well; they  
already speak good English, in fact just as well as Dutch,  
which comes in quite handy for me for they often act as my  
interpreters; I can only converse with Dutchmen. Cordial  
greetings to your mother and other relatives; I hope that you  
will receive this letter in the same good health which we enjoy  
because of God's goodness.

Your friend and servant,  
P.J.J. Van der Heijden

[Sidebar:]

I don't have the time now, but will write more later.

Return to *W. H. ...*  
CHAMBERLAIN, Ever Co, Iowa,  
If not delivered within 10 days.



*Gen Geo D. K. Hamen*  
*Wichita to Keosauqua*  
*by Greenham*  
*Neerland*

Orange City, 29 April 1892

Mr. D.K. Aanen  
Hoornaar

Friend Aanen,

Today I received your letter which pleased me but which also caused me to be disappointed because of Verspui. We had expected that the matter would have been settled by now. I will briefly convey my wishes.

First of all, I would like my money to be specified on the 2<sup>nd</sup> mortgage and therefore I would like to see it carried forward to Verspui. If you cannot get the money from someone else then let Mr. Ducroo give it on the 1<sup>st</sup> mortgage, but the expenses of [missing line]

Orange City 29 April 1892  
 Dear Louis D.K. Aanen  
 to Hoornaar

Friend Aanen

Uw berichting is heel  
 brief wat mij heel aangenaam  
 maar ook teleurgesteld  
 gevonden heeft, aangezien wij  
 u nu naechter dat de zaak nu  
 orde alom waren. Het is nu  
 al te laat in de zaak en  
 nu het met meer geld  
 ten eerste dan nu.  
 De man die heeft het  
 2<sup>de</sup> hypotheek en daarom  
 graag heten dat het nu  
 werd op Overstapen. Het is nu  
 niet om een pand te  
 taak het alom den heer Ducroo  
 heb op 1<sup>de</sup> hypotheek. Het  
 moet dat nu is korter dan de  
 1<sup>de</sup>



ik er by geuen. is het dat verspu  
Verspuen het alle weeten gein faden  
vande hoofsom of van cleue dan wil  
ik dat wel Nou ~~7~~ om  
alle Jan 50 gulden af te betalen  
Wants ik gelast alle myn akonds  
Mynen blyuen dat hebste niet  
Zoh lang zal Muren of i's betent  
des Gebuete 1' by object of  
dat M. dan 1' en g'd tryebst  
heest. maar ik wil gaing cloer  
aan ut kost het dan wat me  
Dan Anen ik overzock en  
Mindyk's om de Lant. it's goud  
mangt in orde te cleue theng  
kint'er ges te kost. dat idd ik  
by geyen mets dat hier by de 2d  
Chypters komst.  
Het affyk myn sene no. Weg. dat  
te roedel maake het daaraan  
maar hoop teuen dat in de Lant  
toen zal voltoeien. Maar ik teuen  
met aan twijfel

I would provide. If brother-in-law Verspui is not able to pay a  
guilder a week on the principal then I am willing to do so and  
pay off 50 guilders every year. For I believe that if we stay  
healthy that it will not be all that long and I will be able to pay  
off the entire 1<sup>st</sup> mortgage, so that then I will have the 1<sup>st</sup> and  
2<sup>nd</sup> mortgage. But I would like it to go by the book [lit.: I want  
certainty] even though it may cost a little bit more. Thus,  
Aanen, I ask you kindly to see to it that the matter is taken care  
of as soon as possible. If there is not enough money I will  
make up the difference provided it is added to the 2<sup>nd</sup>  
mortgage.

I am sorry that it has to take so much work on your part,  
but I hope that you will see it through. Which I am sure you  
will.

Door de Heeren. Zegen d'yn w  
alle goed getand en Stevens W  
Werk meer al wy of stam  
My hebben heel veel g  
do d'yn die dit is het  
is maar te heere te  
en de tuigst stad met  
dan met de my het  
Werdan  
Dine Ommegang met  
in ma een d'yn met  
Nederlands d'yn en  
de stam en Geringe  
de stam in d'yn g  
Maar nu met d'yn  
een kind dus met d'yn  
heerigen d'yn geboorte  
steed bezoek te  
Na vrend  
in groote haark  
de stam te groote  
als ook van de vrend  
P.J.J. van der Heijden

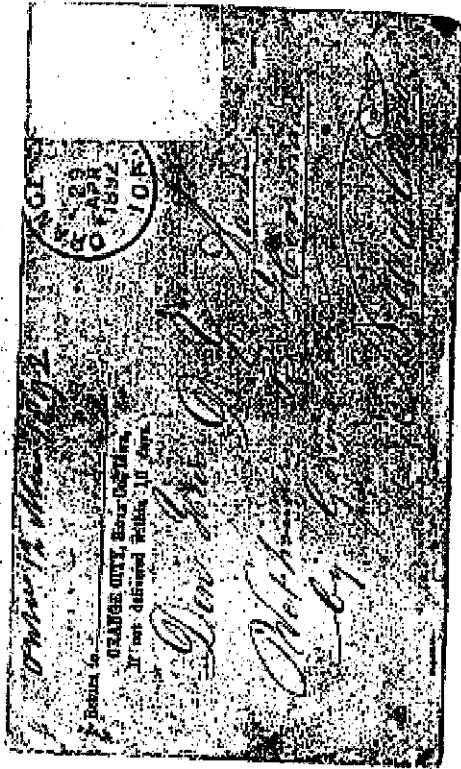
By God's grace we are all healthy and busy, in fact, we have more work than we can handle. It has been quite wet here so that we are having a late spring but at the moment we have good weather with blue skies. We still have a lot of work to do.

Our minister plans to make a trip to the Netherlands toward the end of May. He was born in the province of Groningen and has lived in America 25 years already, but now he wants to visit his native soil together with his wife and child, in other words with his entire family.

Well, friend Aanen. This is written in great haste. Warm greetings to the family and also to you. Your friend,

P.J.J. van der Heijden

Translated from the Dutch by Gerrit W. Sheeres, Grand Rapids, MI



"Received 12 May 1892"

Orange City 12 Sep 1892  
Gin Dick B. & K. Aanen

Friend Aanen

Gin Dick B. & K. Aanen  
blijft in Nederland onverzorgd, en tot  
nu toe gevoelen, dat zij niet kunnen dat  
u en de vanden daar ontzorgd zijn.  
Ik weet en ook dat zij de staat  
in orde is met het bedrag van 50 gulden  
aan de vanden. Het is het bedrag  
de vanden van 50 gulden per  
Aanen.

W. tevens dank tegevoerd van de  
munte die zij klaar aan geveerd  
en verder het halve huwelijk  
van de gemeente daar zij afziet.  
Van de gemeente komen veel in  
de hand van de vanden, dat zij  
tevens het verstand van de  
dat zij hun gezin welgemaakt  
heeft.

Orange City, 12 September 1892

Mr. D. K. Aanen

Friend Aanen,

The 8<sup>th</sup> of this month we received your letter in good health  
and we were glad to read that you too may experience the same  
good health and also that the business has been settled now  
with brother-in-law Verspui. I am enclosing a money order for  
50 guilders which I still owed.

I also want to thank you for your efforts in this matter,  
and now I want to commend this large family to your care  
since you as head of the municipality can be of great help to  
them; I trust that you will keep an eye on this family.

My mother has in one street  
a much better than all the  
others in the city and  
I am the only one who  
has it. It is the best  
of all the houses in  
the city and I am the  
only one who has it.  
I am the only one who  
has it. It is the best  
of all the houses in  
the city and I am the  
only one who has it.

We are having a very fruitful year here - the harvest looks good and much has been gathered in already, such as wheat, barley, oats and flax; the corn, or "mais" as it is called in Dutch, still has to be harvested, it is always last.

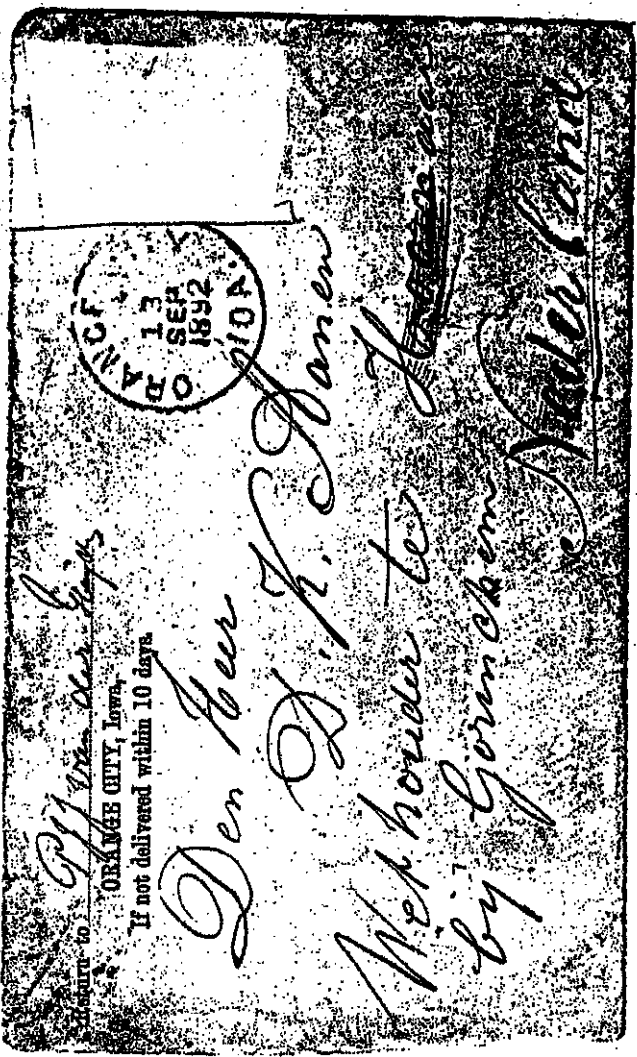
We ourselves also have had an excellent year. We have had plenty of work and are still busy, and our boys are doing well too, in fact, we owe our success to the Lord, but also to them. The saying goes "make hay while the sun shines" and that is the way it is with us. Our boys are getting older, Frans is already a head taller than me; here they marry often a lot younger than in the Netherlands, although Frans does not have any plans yet

Alleen  
dat is nu my geburd, en dan  
Ten het die heel wat kien  
voor en worden.  
Hoe wel ik heb niet dat  
~~ten~~ My heb ik in Amerika dat  
vrije jongens in Amerika  
trouwen.  
Vrieden West. Krijg ik twee  
kinderen met jullie en wel  
eens met Utrecht in mijn  
vrieden. Patrone. Die is de  
en wel ik heb ik heb ik heb  
vrieden en dan in de vrieden  
als ons en die is de vrieden  
nu dat my twee vrieden  
en ook eens heb ik Rotterdam  
Wat ik en mijn jongens  
als Compas van kinnen. West.  
en ook heb ik kinnen. West.  
sterk aan mijn vrieden. West.  
te zien. ook ik heb ik heb

But, it can happen quickly and in that case things would change quite a bit for us. Although I hope that we will not see our boys get married here in America.

Last week I received two letters from Holland: one from Utrecht from my old boss who is in poor health and who wants to quit his business, and would like to have someone like us take over. He urges us to come back. And also a letter from Rotterdam where I and my boys would be able to get steady work and even as partners. And, as you well know, I am still quite devoted to Holland, so you will understand how I am tempted





ORANGE CITY, IOWA  
SEP 11 1892

Insurance to \_\_\_\_\_  
Orange City, Iowa,  
If not delivered within 10 days.

Den Herr D. K. Hansen

Med borden til ~~Hansen~~  
by Gornobem  
Anders Larsen



Orange City, January 10, 1893

Friend Aanen,

We received the mortgage and receipt together with your letter in good order and in good health. So this means that the matter has been fully settled with brother-in-law Verspui. I am obliged to convey to you our warm thanks for your efforts in this case which you did without charge, and also for taking care of the [unknown word] for which you were just the right person in my opinion; in all of this we noticed your concern for the large family. Again, thanks.

It pleased me that you asked me a few questions which I intend to answer to the best of my ability. First of all, you asked about Henry Hospers.

Orange City, January 10, 1893

Friend Aanen,

We received the mortgage and receipt together with your letter in good order and in good health. So this means that the matter has been fully settled with brother-in-law Verspui. I am obliged to convey to you our warm thanks for your efforts in this case which you did without charge, and also for taking care of the [unknown word] for which you were just the right person in my opinion; in all of this we noticed your concern for the large family. Again, thanks.

It pleased me that you asked me a few questions which I intend to answer to the best of my ability. First of all, you asked about Henry Hospers.

2.

He saw it back alle close by see  
 es det on det inder mag lay a book  
 min der det am gauder inder  
 too am teke well over ~~det~~ in  
 by back ter en heft en posten of the  
 the anten velt his own 70 on velt  
 too velt in det in geter tuffe  
 von the Cousank that my man in  
 je deetle is an tye resten  
 over the in tye resten  
 them case. In en her andere too  
 over. That was run in geter  
 in det Orange City in det  
 deton. That by andarm  
 How is en when the two det  
 the posten. That ter ter my man  
 det in det was en in det  
 Pella. This tag in tye in too  
 dete plate. That in det  
 me det det tuffe Orange City  
 in det behaen de orange  
 1500 tuden, over det posten  
 in det velt. Secare vid it. Secare

I see him every day. He is fat and corpulent and his holdings  
 are no less fat. As you probably know, he is a banker and is  
 personally responsible for 70,000 dollars. As you can read in  
 the enclosed newspaper clipping this is only part of his wealth.  
 About the riches he has accumulated: everybody has his own  
 opinion about that. Because some 22 years ago, before Orange  
 City and the County existed, he was as poor as a church mouse.  
 He is the fellow who came looking at this land which at the  
 time was still uncultivated and he was able to get some people  
 from Pella interested, and that is how this place slowly grew so  
 that now the city of Orange City itself without the surrounding  
 area numbers 1500 people. What people say about what  
 happened here in the past I would just as soon not repeat.

We mit un lumen over het hede ma  
 ely veler weet dan staak it vromen  
 in dat dat waerheid is, dan het is  
 in schynen dat hij mening vromen  
 welofte kunnen de milteten mit  
 op het maek betalen in die te mien  
 vromen by hem vromen the vromen  
 vromen op stoten, in die vromen  
 maek welly het is dars vromen  
 mening dromen die an vromen  
 het die helpt by dat het vromen  
 mengt mbriseren geboren  
 Gaewel it self vromen vromen  
 het vromen het vromen vromen  
 dat vromen vromen vromen  
 dat it twee vromen by vromen  
 komen letter dat a het vromen  
 daarom het it may vromen vromen  
 met hie gedaal. Zoo k vromen  
 het dat it a llyd vromen vromen  
 in toe dromen dromen milteten vromen  
 vromen vromen. State Bank vromen al de  
 die die daar an vromen dromen

I would sooner talk about today and things that I know are true,  
 and then I can tell you that he has helped quite a few people  
 who could not pay their debts, as long as they came to him on  
 time; in cases like that he would never show them the door,  
 provided they had not spent their money foolishly. He has  
 helped quite a few people who got into trouble financially; a lot  
 of people have told me so. Although I myself never made a  
 dime off him yet - just now when I write this I received a note  
 from him asking me to install two windows for him. This is  
 the first time; earlier I never did any business with him. As  
 you may have noticed when I sent you money I always used  
 the Northwestern State Bank; I do jobs for all the people who  
 work there.

Clare ik al mijn werk los heb ik heb  
me der een man. Werk go tegen door  
middel van den bankker. When? In de  
wel 200 dollars aan verdien sal. dat  
in de winter plan moet dat dat is  
gemeel gevonden want i winter is  
huisgehoort byt niets te doen. het  
kan de rest niet gedrukt worden  
maar het is binnen werk.  
Och twee gezien buiten met, ik men  
met 10 kinderen van de eerste en  
tweede vrouw.  
Wet stagers de jong de help. het  
van een heeft. Werk werk en  
Anderen alle maan 43 dollars  
die heeft tamelyk eigen broer  
ten inden stens die meeste maan  
het over minder stellen en komen  
ook knop voor den dag. maar  
hy is kniecht. dat beent hem met  
dat ha ik dan ook wel plaatsen  
man nu sprekt hy om zelf wat  
te beynus by om maar Gulland te  
te heren. maar dan gelos ik dith  
de laatste dwaling. eerst 200. dan de  
eerste

Right now I received another nice job from that banker  
which will earn me at least 200 dollars; it has to be  
done by this winter, which is great because in  
wintertime there is little outside work here, but this is  
inside work.

Hospers family consists, I believe, of 10  
children from his first and second marriages.

As far as brother-in-law de Jong and his family  
are concerned; he has steady work and makes 43 dollars  
a month, which means that he is making a good living,  
at least if you consider that most people here have to do  
with less; they are all well dressed. But he is a laborer  
which he does not like, which is something I can well  
understand, and now he is talking about either starting  
for himself or going back to Holland, but if he does that  
I think that the latter would be a worse mistake than the  
first.

As far as C. de Bruin is concerned, I can report that he has done well financially. As you may have heard he bought a farm 3 years ago of 160 acres for 25 dollars per acre, and land values have risen so much that if he wanted to sell now he certainly could get 38 or possibly 40 dollars per acre seeing he had two excellent, productive years, so you can see that the de Bruin has made out well. He lives 14 miles from here, so I don't know at the moment how his family is doing health wise.

And now it is Mr. Lemmen's turn. You wrote correctly that

Wap C. de Bruin aangacht, van 160  
in verspreid vlak by welke de  
mocht worden verkocht voor 25  
per by 3 jaar geleden en de  
Cot. heeft de 3 jaar geleden, groote 160  
batters, van de zinnig van 25  
Dollars per akker, en het land is nu  
in prijs gestegen. Dat by nu, ab by  
het land verkocht is 38 dollar  
mogelyk. De akker per akker 38  
dollar by 3 uitstake de  
getid aangas, dat het 38 dollar. De  
in kan het uitrekken. dat de Bruin  
gades laten maakt in America  
de Bruin word hier 14 mijlen  
van de de de Bruin 160 acres  
op het ogenblik hoe het met  
de Bruin word hier 14 mijlen  
van de de de Bruin 160 acres  
op het ogenblik hoe het met  
de Bruin word hier 14 mijlen  
van de de de Bruin 160 acres



beantwoord te hebben, aangenomen  
de vraag over de kerk daar niet  
we weten is ons aangenaam. En de  
beere wil en wij helpen  
Nou wil ik het op een andere manier  
komen, met een ander woord  
klaar nu lach ik nu. En de vraag  
blijft, tegenover de liberalen. Maar  
dat hij zijn argument moet over-  
toevloedde. Maar die is het nu ook  
moest hinders van het woord van  
Edo. nu meer, dat is de tegengest.  
top die werke had dat verhangen  
om, wel in de hand werke en  
elken vrees. Tegenover gelegenheid  
de kortelijke gereden van ons,  
Was het informeren betref  
wegen de kwestie van Frans, dat  
voort bleef ik niet. voor ons gedaan  
Loulans het om gaad. God het in  
tot beide tusschen en de vriendschap het ik  
geen wijden. nu terug te komen  
meer het is een bond veran...

except for your question about the church. The Lord willing I plan to write you about that later.

I do want to come back for a moment to your letter. I read with pleasure that our friend Kwant was successful over against the liberal [Heres?], and that he did not deny his principles but that he was able to hold fast to the Word of God, and in fact that his efforts were blessed. Be so kind to convey friend Kwant and his family our best when you happen to see him.

As far as my inquiries concerning the military service, I did this out of concern for Frans. As long as we are doing as well as we are to date I don't feel ready to return [to the Netherlands] although things change quickly sometimes.

America is een toevluchtsoort.  
voor alle menschen die bidde's haren  
top misten, nog al haren slaan  
daron hebben my altijd nog al  
goud West getad, maar dat is  
dronkome lyp's per andie, en was  
dat niet geval is. Van war ik dede  
geen kins to keris, mit om  
goud to doren, of had to warden  
in Nederland, maar en vandy as  
knecht to warden.  
Mijn vriend Janus mijn papier was  
plemmer by gelegheit rijk my met  
en letteren dat ik te vanden den by  
to en vander to vanden en so was  
vanden den to vanden so lang my  
in het vander warden ver vanden  
dit is de vander wil en my loun  
en was man name vander was  
om alle am en vander vanden  
en vander vander vander vander  
to vander vander P.J.J. van der Heijden

America is a place of refuge for all kinds of people. Not too many painters have moved to this area yet and therefore we have always had enough work, but something like that can change quickly, and if it did I would be ready immediately to go back to the Netherlands, not to be a big shot or become a boss, but simply to work as a laborer.

Well, my friend Aanen, my paper is shrinking; we look forward to receiving a letter from you when you have the time, and then I will answer any questions you may have, and in that way we will stay in touch by mail, the Lord willing and as long as we live in the far west.

Best wishes from all of us to your esteemed mother and the rest of the family. I remain your servant and friend,

P.J.J. van der Heijden.

Greetings to Ducroo and his wife.

Translated from the Dutch by Gerrit W. Sheeres, Grand Rapids, MI



Return to *Arthur 28 June 1893*

ORANGE CITY, Iowa,  
If not delivered within 10 days.

ORANGE CITY  
JUN 28  
1893

*Dear Sir*  
*Wepthman to Goornaar*  
*by Grinchem*  
*Delectura*

"Received 28 Jun 1893"