

IN MEMORIAM

"Mother" Nieveen, as she was commonly named, after her neighborhood, passed away in the evening of October 26. Mrs. Nieveen was born in the Netherlands in the province of Groning, October 8, 1832, and had, therefore, lived a few days into her 77th year. With her husband and family she migrated to the New World and lived in various parts of the Western States, latest and longest in Charles Mix county. She was

widowed by the death of Mr. Martin Nieveen, February 14, 1889. Three daughters and five sons mourn the loss of their mother. Annie married Mr. R. Mulder, who is a prosperous farmer near Prairie View, Kansas. Alice was wedded to Mr. E. Parker, a merchant in the State of Washington, where also Allice is a farmer. Of the other sons, Nauls is a grain buyer in Hickman, Nebraska; Peter is engaged in banking business in Corsica, S. D.; Cornelius S. lives on the old homestead southwest of Platte, while the Rev. S. Nieveen has charge of a congregation in the city.

Mrs. Nieveen's death was a sad surprise to her family and the wide circle of friends. A stroke of paralysis, some two weeks before, proved to be the beginning of the end, though she recovered hopefully from the shock and it was fondly thought her buoyant nature might bear her over it completely. Deceased was a cheerful, lovable, Christian woman. She was a faithful member of the Reformed church, attended regularly at the public worship, and loved the cause of the Kingdom here and abroad. Her life was long and knew its share of human trials but she made it happy from her own heart. Without complaining, she smiled, with the full consciousness of those she held dear

about her, even in those last days when she could not speak one word of much that was in her heart. She leaves her memory as a blessing to children, friends and neighbors. She finished the course; she kept the faith.

CORRESPONDENTIE

OVERLIJDENSBERICHT

Den 26n October 1908, ontstiep zacht en kalm in het volle vertrouwen op haar Hemelschen Vader in den ouderdom van ruim 76 jaren, onze hartelijke geliefde moeder, Martje Nanco Smit, sedert 1899 weduwe van Marten Melle Nieveen, Platte, Charles Mix Co., S. Dak.  
Mede namens Broeders en Zusters, Cornelius S. Nieveen.

Translated by Marius Kroese, Adams, NE.

DEATH NOTICE

On Oct. 26, 1908, quietly and in the trust of her Heavenly Father at the age of 77 years, our much beloved mother, Martje Nanco Smit, since 1899 widow of (Martin Melle Nieveen), Platte, Charles Mix Co., So. Dak., went to be with her Lord.

for the names of the brothers and sisters,

Cornelius S. Nieveen

PLATTE, S. D. — De oude moeder Mrs. M. Nieveen waarvan wij twee weken geleden melding maakten dat ons bevorte naar getroffen had is niet meer. Daar er hoop van beterschap scheen te bestaan kwam haar sterven nog geheel onverwacht. Bij de begrafenis waren tegenwoordig hare zonen Piet Nieveen van Corsica en Cornelis die nog thuis was, en hare dochters, Mrs. R. Mulder van Prairie View, Kan. en Mrs. Nanco Nieveen van Hickman, Neb.

Translated by Marius Kroese, Adams, NE

Platte, S.D. The elderly mother Mrs. M. Nieveen, whom two weeks ago was reported to have been stricken with a stroke is no more. Though there was little hope for her recovery, her death came unexpectedly. Present at the memorial service were her sons, Piet Nieveen of Corsica, S. D. and Cornelis who was still at home and her daughters Mrs. R. Mulder of Prairie View, Kansas and Mrs. Nanco Nieveen of Hickman, Nebr.

Letter from M. Nieveen

July 1892  
East Orange, Sioux County  
Iowa, North America

Dear Mother, Brother and Cousin:

We have received your letter but was sorry to learn from you that you have sent a letter with some oats in it which we did not receive. I think it was because of the heavy oats, and the kernel here is very small.

Fortunately I had ordered a small amount from Willem Smit of Ande Schip of which he took about 2 liters with him.

It was a pleasure for us to be able to read the letter which you enclosed. W. Smit arrived with his wife on the 27th. He himself was sick and was unconscious for 12 days at sea, and had left on the 4th on the Rotterdam line. It was fortunate for her that there was someone from our village who was travelling with her who helped her, Dirk and a G. De Boer, living 5 minutes from us, who has been in American for 26 years, and is now quite a man. He has a brother here, a nice 240 acre farm, 50 cows and at least 150 hogs. Last fall he made a trip to the Netherlands. I think they originally come from Terschelling. So they received a great deal of support from him, especially on the trip by land in America.

We had good weather during most of March, but so much froze that it was not possible to begin work on the land. A few people who were able to harrow the hard ground have sowed their seed in the afternoons when the soil was softened by the sun. We had to plow our land which we began to do

the day before yesterday. I think we will sow about 7 acres of wheat in the other 4 1/2 acres we will plant potatoes and a little wheat. We have rented an additional 15 acres in which we will plant corn. That is good land on which no corn has been raised before. Here a person rents for a third of the yield, 2/3 for us and 1/3 for the owner. That is the way farms are rented here.

We have read in the American newspapers that a certain Kuipers, of Steggerdal plans to establish a new colony in Dakota, a state west of Iowa about 150 miles from here. This colony is to be near the Missouri, a navigable river. We have given some thought this winter of going to Dakota. There we could obtain 320 acres of land for almost nothing. The head of a family or an adult can get 160 acres as a Homestead for \$14 and 160 as a . . . . , then a person is obliged to plant trees on 10 acres within 8 years. That 160 acres costs approximately \$20, besides a few dollars in expenses. So a person would have 320 acres for \$40, and , as they say, just as good as we have here, but we are not yet sufficiently Americanized to take care of ourselves in every way for a while, and to cope with all the inconveniences at first. This the new emigrants will discover who go there with Mr. Kuipers unless they have considerable means. For there are no houses, no food, and no opportunity to work in order to earn some money. If they clear the prairie the first year they can raise some crop to the following year, so it will take a year and a half before a person can be comfortable.

Our minister must have warned against such an undertaking in one of the Netherlands newspapers. Everything which has to be purchased here is

expensive, and besides there are some of them who have to live on a daily wage.

Marty is as well now as she has not been for weeks. Sieuwike has grown by the day since we came here. On the whole we are all in good health. Tommorrow Nanco is going to begin her first day of work for the railroad where he worked last summer too. Anje works three days a week washing.

Greetings from all of us.

Your brother,

<sup>N 2207</sup>  
M. Niewern



heeft gevonden, en deens en Flinten te gel.  
 Wy heeft met zyn broeder hier een grooij bordy.  
 240 achter groot, hebben zo traem en wel 150 baten  
 Wy is in de voorwinter op zyns geguan naar Vedalia.  
 Ik geloof dat ze in de verschelling afkomstig  
 zyn. Goedvande hadten te deel steem aan  
 hem. Die koninght te landrew in America.

Wy hebben de maand Maart byna altyd mooi  
 weer gehad, doch altyd. wotel vordt dat men op  
 het land niets kon beginnen, Enkelin die de  
 beide vonden ineggen hebben gesaid, nationid  
 days elwaer de grond door de zon omel was  
 Wy moesten ons land ploegen waar wy zygis  
 hem niet begonnen zyn. Ik denk dat wy

te min 2 acker harre. zygis. de veldryg. te veldryg.  
 andappelin in ein beufje haber, Wy hebben  
 ee ongeveer 15 acker land by gehuurd, daar  
 wy maais in willen pelen, Dat is goed land  
 waar noch geen maais op geudees. Het huur  
 of een se hier zeygen welen gait hier om in deerd  
 Voor ons  $\frac{2}{3}$ , en voor de veldryg  $\frac{1}{3}$ . Te veldryg  
 de. Broedrygen hier ook verhuurd.

Wy tein de Amerikaanse Caeranden  
 dat ee een teker. Hoepers van Stegger dat  
 een nieuwe Hollandsche kolonie wil stichte  
 in Dakota, een staad Westelyt van souk  
 plmi 150 myl nlan van ons af. ofschon de  
 grens van Dakota hier naar 12 of 13 uur veldryg  
 is. Die kolonie moet elvich by de Keer  
 de Hoepere konn. en bebarbare Kuber.

Wy hebben ee van winter ook wel om gedacht  
 om naar Dakota te gaan. daar vonden wy  
 320 acker land. krygen voor byna niets.  
 Als hoepse den heugerin of meerderjarige kon  
 men daar 160 acker. krygen als Homsted voor  
 14 dollar, en 160 als Prekaling, waar men binnen  
 duntys elvich 8 jaar te acker met bonen moet  
 beplanden. Teke 160 kost zouds 20 dollar

Daarvanden een dollar of wat onkosten, dan  
 had men voor een 40 dollar 320 acker land  
 een 200 de. zygis een goeddeels by ons, maar  
 wy zyn noch niet genoeg Amerikan om  
 zich in den eerde tyd in alles te kunnen  
 schiekken in de eerste tyd deel ontbering  
 te gestonden. Dit is een te nieuwe

**M. NIEVEEN  
TO HIS MOTHER, BROTHERS, AND SISTER**

**EAST ORANGE, IOWA  
TO - ? -**

**1882**

Dear Mother, Brothers and Sister:

As healthful as this area is claimed to be, it just does not agree with us. On October 10 Nanco came home sick. On the 1st of October Melle and Nanco came home from the railroad works because they were asked to pay more for their board, and they both went to work for a farmer, an Englishmen.

The children of the farmer in Nanco's case had the nerve fever of which two had already died, both sons, one 15 and the other 24 years old, and after working 10 days Nanco came home sick with the fever, but by the 9th day she had recovered, and on November 28, she went back to work.

When Nanco was recovering well, Peter got the fever and in 14 days he had recovered from the disease but was very weak, and is now improving nicely. Now Martje became ill the day before yesterday. At first it seemed it would prove to be the same fever, but she is a little better today. She has a little appetite again which she did not have at first. Since Martje became ill we have employed Anje Roolang because we could no longer get along anymore. She first got the fever and then her old ailment, a pain in her chest. That was last night. She took some medicine at once but her system has weakened considerably. This afternoon she sat up for a little while, with feet in warm water and mustard. This seems to have had good results because she seems to be much more active this evening.

The rest are all still quite well. We hope the others will feel better soon.

Receive greetings from all of us. Hoping you will receive this in good health.

Your brother,

M. Nieveen





Tafelnr.

Kamernr.

Naam

Artikel

Aantal

Bedrag

21/10/86  
 verzijderen Martje ziek geworden. Er was  
 schijn het wel dat het ook die kouwen  
 zouden worden, doch ze is van daar weer  
 wat beter. Ook heeft ze eenig verlust dat  
 de anderen in 't begin niet hadden.  
 Nu Martje is ziek geworden hebben wy  
 Anje vroeger in huis gekregen want men  
 konden wy ons niet redden. Zy kreeg  
 eerst de kou, en toen haar vnde kuisel  
 pijn in de borst, dat was gister nacht.  
 Nu had ze dadelijk medeeyn, doch haar  
 gestel is er dryvel door versinkt. Van  
 namiddag heeft ze een vogenblits  
 weer opgeschen met de doeken in warm  
 water in 't water. Dit schijnt goede  
 uitwerking gehad te hebben want de  
 heden avond veel vlugger. Ze verrijt  
 allen noch goed gezond, en hopen dat  
 de anderen ook spoedig weer herstelt  
 mogen worden.

Ontleedt de groete van ons allen  
 Hopen dat de dese in gezondheid  
 moogt ontlaten. Alst Breder - Alst Weer

**Letter from M. Nieveen**

Alton, Sioux County  
Iowa, North America  
October 15, 1882

Dear Mother, Brother and Cousins:

Nice weather and busyness has kept us too long from writing. We are all well except Sieuwke (?) who has had diarrhea for a few days and has become quite weak.

We have had dry weather for more than 9 weeks in succession - with only one nice rain in all of that time, so that all of the grain ripened at once and is already threshed. The crop is above average this year, wheat 20 to 25 bushels, 25 at best, rye from 25 to 30 bushels. Oats from 55 to 75, flax from 14 to 17, barley around 35. The corn harvest was good, but because of the cool summer was retarded. Now we have about 20.

In September we have had hard frosts at night, so that the ground is hard-frozen in the morning, and as a result it ripened early.

Prices of wheat and flax are pretty good: Wheat .80 a bushel, flax .95, - rye, oats and barley have gone down a great deal. Oats is only .18-.20, barley .28 and rye .45. To realize high prices we are too far west. Everything has to be shipped to the coast by rail and then the freight charge is added, and sending by water routes is not much cheaper here.

Tomorrow if it doesn't rain we will have the threshers here, to thresh our wheat. Ours will probably will not show much of a yield. We have dug up most of the potatoes and have sold them. We sold 146 bushels for .25 a bushel, certainly quite different from the spring when they cost \$1.50.

I have also gone to the village with a wagon-load of cabbage but sold only 90 at .04. cabbage is difficult to sell. Our kohlrabi is almost as good as in Oosterwyk.

Melle is still working for a farmer, and Nanco is still with the railraod in Sency. Nanco has for a long time earned \$1.50 and comes home every month. Everything else is American there.

Our village has changed a great deal because of the railroad.

Now that I begin writing again it is October 28. I could not finish the letter sooner. We have had our wheat threshed, and the yield was encouraging, namely, 114 bushels from about 8 acres, or at least 14 bushels per acre. We have sold 60 bushes of it for .81 a bushel.

You may be inquisitive to know how threshing is done here. There are only a few individuals who have threshing-machines. These folk go around to the farmers with it. Then they come with three men and three teams of horses. The farmer must add other men and also these teams of horses, because most of them are pulled by four horses. Now, most people have only one team of horses, so the farmers help each other by the use of their horses and people. As a rule they begin at 7 o'clock in the morning, with a half hour of free time at noon. The noon meal is free. They have coffee and lunch in the forenoon and afternoon, and they thresh until dark in the

evening. In a few places a drink is served, but not in every case, by far, however, quite generally by the Germans, and then no coffee.

I have taken part in the threshing quite a bit during recent days. The yield of wheat was usually 24-25 bushels. They threshed our wheat in a little more than an hour and a quarter.

After a nice rain and some fine days it is very cold today. It seems winter is about to set in.

Greetings from all of us.

M. Nieveen

Als ik op nieuw begin te schrijven is het den 20 Oct. Ik kom de brief van u niet klaar krijgen. Wy hebben nu nog al meer geveulen en de opbrengst 114 buffel van Hyma Backer, off ruims 14 buffel van de acker. Des die buffel hebben wy er een verkocht voor 21 Ct. de buffel. Wy zult ook wel nieuwvheerig wesen hoe het doerchen hier dreigant. Er ym maar enkele perstoch die een doorschotachiere hebben. Dultke person gaance mee by de bacem roedel. Dan komen ze drie man mit drie spanpaarden. Het vreiye velt troet de boet ee by drent en velt drie spanpaarden, want de mees ten lopen 6 spanpaarden boore. Nu hebben de meesten maar 1 spanpaarden zwaende helpen de bacem de een den ander mit paarden en velt. Gewonlyke begingen ze morgen om 7 uur te doerchen middags 1/2 uker vry. De middag kooft hebben ze ee by. Voor middag en namiddags koffy met brood, en s aerns doerchen tot aan donker. By een entel word er een borrel by gegeven, verzeley de meesten niet doch by de drentoch er oger, 2 algemeen en dungen koffy. Ik heb in del laatste dagen troek al vry wat mee gedaerchten, de opbrengst was meest 24 buffel. De opbrengst ze hebben ons karute in ruims by 100 buffel. Gedeerchen. Gedeest lab alom.

Alton Howard County  
John F. Amerita  
15 Oct. 1882

Howard Meades, Broad St. N.Y.  
Nou weer en drentke heeft ons te lang op handen met dreyen. Wy zyn allen geynd behalle. Vient de de eenige dagen 24 buffel daer is en vryent velt. Wy hebben ruims gulest achtereen dreyke gehad in maal dier by. Van af begin der vryst maar een tree den flinke regenbui gehad. Wadae het geyn alle hard drey by el kanker vry. Er en ten deele velt al gederchen. De opbrengst is hier bukel het middelmatige. Tante van 20 tot 25 buffel. De meesten 24 1/2 25. Rygge van 25 tot 30 buffel. Tante van 51 tot 75. Plus van 14 tot 17. Gedeest plm; 25.

Maïs was een goed gewas doch  
door de koude komer achterlyt.  
Men hebben wy plm; 20 Stk. th.  
sterke machtdorsten ychad, zoodat  
de grond 'morgens hard bevroren  
was waarom het veel geleden  
heeft en de vrey is ijs gewaard.  
Gryzen van tarwe en vlas zyn  
redlyt goed. Tarwe 80 Ct de bush.  
Plas 95 St. — Rogge, Graan en  
Haver zyn erg gedaalt. Haver  
is hier maar 18 = 20 Ct. Gerst. 28.  
en Rogge 45 St. Om heege  
forzium te bedingen zyn wy  
wakt te ver westwaards. Alles  
muet naar t dusten vreschepts  
worden met spver. en dan komst  
de veel vrescht op, want vreschts  
vresdendy is hier niet hehilt te  
veel goedtaper is.  
Allygen als het droog weer is  
willen wy de vreschers hebben  
om vreske tarwe te vreschen

De onse sal niet te veel opvele,  
De vreschspelen hebben wy mit  
de gronde en vte grootendeels de  
vrescht. Wy hebben 146 bushel de  
vrescht voor 25 Ct de bushel, voor  
waar een groot vrescht by van  
t vreschal van de 1 dl. 50 Ct. Kosten.  
Men vrescht met een wrygemel  
Lweskeval naar t dorps vrees, doch  
maar go vrescht vrescht St.  
De Kool is vrescht vreschaar  
Roggeknollen hebben wy byna  
een goed als in vrescht vrescht  
Helle is vrescht by de Boer als  
vrescht en vrescht vrescht  
van spverley in Jersey, lees  
Sancie. Sancie heeft nu al  
een tyd lang 1 1/2 dl en komst  
iedere maand in huis, vrescht  
is het daar alles Amerikanen  
Ons dorps is van t vrescht heel  
vrescht vrescht door de vreschte  
vreschte.

**M.M. NIEVEEN  
TO HIS MOTHER, BROTHER AND NEPHEWS**

**ALTON, SIOUX COUNTY, IOWA  
TO THE NETHERLANDS**

**UNDATED [letter fragment]**

Dear Mother, Brother, and Nephews:

In my previous letter I gave you information about how much can be made on a farm. This time I will list the taxes and expenditures for you as you requested me to do in your last letter. But not being too well informed about all of the taxes, I will have to postpone that until the next time.

The severe winter, thank God, has ended. The past two winters have been long and severe, but this one has surpassed them. As long as this colony has existed they have not had one which was worse, as they say here. It was so bad here that I could not remain out-of-doors for two minutes without being in danger of having my nose frozen. Almost everyone has had trouble this winter, having frozen hands, feet, or ears. One laboring man in Le Mars, who came across with us in the spring, had his feet frozen so badly that he died in a few days from gangrene. Fortunately, there was a change in early March. Although there are still heavy frosts at night, it thaws a bit during the day. For my part, I hope I will never experience a winter like that again. You hear almost everyone complain about it.

In the south and south-eastern states there have been several floods along the rivers which have caused considerable damage. In Illinois a large number of people have lost their lives in a mine.

Last week we bought a cow for \$30, at an auction .....





**M.M. NIEVEEN  
TO HIS MOTHER**

**ALTON, SIOUX COUNTY, IOWA  
TO THE NETHERLANDS**

**UNDATED**

Dear Mother:

Martje fooled me this time and sent the letter away quietly. So I am a little late with my congratulations on your birthday. We congratulate you on the increase of your years, with the wish that God will spare you for a long time, and that good health and happiness may be yours. And although we live far away and could not attend your celebration in person, we did commemorate that day with you.

Last week we completed breaking the prairie. We have broken about 50 acres, which can be cultivated next year. Our vegetables are doing very well. We have a large section of potatoes which are growing exceptionally well, and also 1500 cabbages which leave nothing to be desired, from which we hope to make some money in the fall. We also have a number of show and bush beans, melons, onions, and everything that should be in a garden.

We have had a much cooler summer than we had last year which was good for the corn. It is a beautiful sight to see the corn fields on hills and in valleys. In our opinion, there is nothing like it. The corn has grown a great deal of late. A few places remain a bit spotty. There is as much straw on the oats as we have never had back on the polder. Flax, which was sown on time, is also growing exceptionally well. If there are no unusual disasters, the prospects are bright for the farmer.

We have 9 piglets with two mothers. They are Martje's pets. Hogs are very high priced here, as compared with former years. The best fatted ones cost \$7.00 to \$7.25 a hundred pounds live weight, and a pound is only 4 1/2 ounces in Dutch weight.

We will send you two newspapers. Then you can read some American news. One is the Volksvriend [Friend of the People], which is published in Iowa. Although it is usually not worth reading, it does contain some news for us about our own area. The other is the Grondwet, which is published in Michigan. You should read the article in the paper about Montana. We may also send you the paper which will contain the continuation.

Greetings to all of you from all of us.

M.M. Nieveen

Nov. 1886

Alton, Sioux County  
Iowa, Noordamerika, Gelyk  
Geliefde moeder,

Martje heeft my ditmaal gefopd  
in de brief stil weggestuurd. Nu  
kom ik een beetje achtraan, met  
de filisitatie jegens Uwe verjaring  
Wij felisheeren U met de diermeel-  
dering van jaren, met dese wensche dat  
God U noch een tijd lang moge  
sparen in gezondheid en vreuigde Uwe  
deel, omgeve zyn in al. Wonen wy in de  
werke, in twintien Uwe feestviering  
niet persoonlyk by wonen, wy hebben  
die dag toch mede herdacht,

Wij hebben de streeke weets het praarie-  
breken gedaan kregen. In het geheel  
hebben wy 5000 50 acker gebraken, wat  
of in volgende jaar kan bebouwd wor-  
den. Ons tuinruchten is een heerlyk  
gewas. Wij hebben een groot stuk aardap-  
pel die uitmunten staen als ook 1500  
boestkool dat niets te wenschen overlaet

en waar wy cherft noch wat geld  
uit denken te maken. Verder hebben  
wy een party pronker en stambonen,  
Melvonen siepels en alles wat in een  
huin behoort. Wy hebben veel koeler  
Lomer als het vorige jaar, dat gunstig  
heeft gederkt op het koren. Het is dan  
tegenwoordig een heerlijk gericht op die  
bergen en dalen de Korenvelden te zien  
want naar ons inzien laet het niets te  
wenschen oer. Het mais is ook in den  
laatsten tyd iryudat bygegrueid. Lente  
stukken blyden te hul. Rogge is zwaer  
stev op als wy het aker op de polder oer  
hebben gehad. Flax dat op tyd gekaaid is  
staat er ook uitkomstend voor, en kome  
er geen buitengewone tarmpen, dan is het  
voor den boer een gunstig daeruitkicht.  
Wy hebben 8 biggen, by 2 metten, dat zyn de  
gunstelingen van Martij. Varkens zyn hier  
maar gewone jaren verboden, dier. Een  
beste vetten, kosten 7  $\frac{1}{2}$  de dollar levend  
gewogen de honderd lb en dan is een pond nog  
meer  $\frac{1}{2}$  ons Natl. Wy zullen de 2 Couranten  
oversturen dan kan te eens wat Amerikaans  
nieuws lezen. Het ene is, de Volksvriende, waar  
in een storis voorkomt <sup>in Foutan</sup> ~~in een~~ ~~dat~~ ~~afschon~~  
anders de moeite niet waard om te lezen, be-  
helst het door ons noch wel eens wat  
nieuws uit onze omgeving. De ander, de  
Gevindede is het lezen wel waard.  
De Grondwet word gedrukt in Michigen  
Het stukt in die Courant, Montana moet  
ook ook een lezen. ~~kan~~ ~~lezen~~ ~~dat~~ ~~de~~ ~~Courant~~  
waar het verolg van inkomt te ook ~~lezen~~  
De grue te van ons allen aan te alle  
will te ~~lezen~~

**MARTIN NIEVEEN  
TO HIS MOTHER, BROTHER AND NEPHEW**

**ALTON, SIOUX CENTER, IOWA  
TO THE NETHERLANDS**

**OCTOBER 15, 1882**

Dear Mother, Brother and Nephew:

Nice weather, busyness and heat have delayed my writing to you. We are all well except Sieuwke who has had a bad case of diarrhea for a few days and has become quite weak.

We have had a dry spell for at least 9 weeks in succession, and in all of that time, since the beginning of harvest, have had only one good rain shower, so that the grain was dried up and has already been threshed in part. The harvest is above average here. The wheat yield was from 20 to 25 bushels, mostly 24 or 25; rye from 25 to 30 bushels; oats from 50 to 75; flax from 14 to 17; barley around 35. The corn crop was good but late because of the cool summer. At around September 20 we have had hard frosts at night, so that the ground was frozen solid and as a result it suffered a great deal, and ripened too soon.

The prices of wheat and flax are pretty good. Wheat is 80 cents a bushel, flax 95 cents. Rye, barley and oats are very low in price. Oats is only 18 to 20 cents, barley 30 cents, and rye 45 cents. We are too far west to receive higher prices. Everything has to be shipped to the east by rail and that means freight charges, and shipping is not cheap here.

If we have dry weather we will have the threshers here. It will not take long here. We have dug up our potatoes and have sold most of them. We

have sold 146 bushels for 25 cents a bushel, certainly quite different from last spring when they cost \$1.50.

I have also been to town with a wagon load of cabbage but sold only 90 for 4 cents. There is no market for cabbage. We have turnips which are just as good as those in Oosterwyk.

Melle is still working for a farmer as a hired man, and Nanco still works for the railroad in Seney. Nanco has for some time earned \$1.50 and comes home every month. Everything else is American there. Our village has changed a great deal this summer because of the railroad.

Now I begin to write anew and it is October 28. I could not finish the letter then. We have already threshed our wheat and the crop was very surprising, namely 114 bushels per acre. We have sold 60 bushels for 81 cents per bushel.

You may be interested to know how threshing is done here. There are few individuals who own a threshing machine. Such people make the rounds of the farmers. Then three men come with three teams of horses. The farmer must furnish the other men and another three teams of horses, because most of them drive four teams of horses. Now most of the people have only one team of horses, so the farmers help one another with horses and men.

Usually the threshing is begun at 7 o'clock in the morning. There is a 1 1/2 hour break at noon. The meal is free. In the forenoon and afternoon they have bread and coffee, and they thresh until it is dark in the evening. In some places drinks are served, but not in most cases, except by the Germans, and then no coffee. I have threshed a great deal during the last

few days. The crop was usually 24 to 25 bushels per acre. They threshed our wheat in a little more than an hour and a quarter.

After a nice rain and some days of fine weather it is cold again today, and it seems winter is about to begin.

M. Nieveen



Alton 1882

Nu begin ik opnieuw te schrijven en het is de 28ste October. Ik kon de brief toen niet klaar krijgen. We hebben onze tarwe reeds gedorst en de opbrengst is erg mee gevallen, namelijk 114 bushels van bijna 8 akkers. Of ruim 14 bushels van de akker. Zestig bushel hebben wij er van verkocht voor 81 ct de bushel. U zult ook wel nieuwsgierig wezen hoe het dorsen hier toegaat. Er zijn maar enkele personen die een dorsmachine hebben. Zulke personen gaan er mee bij de boeren rond. Dan komen ze drie man met drie span paarden. Het overige volk moet de boer er bij doen en ook drie span paarden want voor de meesten lopen vier span paarden. Nu hebben de meesten maar een span paarden, zodoende helpen de boeren de een de ander met paarden en volk. Gewoonlijk beginnen ze 's morgens om zeven uur te dorssen. 's Middags 1 1/2 uur vrij. De middag kost hebben ze erbij. Voormiddags en namiddags koffie met brood, en 's avonds dorssen tot aan het donker. Bij een enkele word er een borrel gegeven. Verreweg bij de meesten niet, doch bij de Duitsers over het algemeen en dan geen koffie. Ik heb in de laatste dagen vrij wat meer gedorst en de opbrengst was meestal 24 of 25 bushels tarwe. Ze hebben onze tarwe in ruim vijf kwartier gedorst. Na een flinke regen en mooie dagen hebben wij vandaag extra koud weer en het schijnt dat de winter wil invallen.

M.Nieveen

Alton Howard County  
Iowa, U. S. A. critica.  
15 Octobr. 1882.

Maardelvoeder, Broeder V. V.

Ik heb weer en drukt de heest  
ons te lang op houdens met schryft  
Wij zijn allen gezond behalve  
Sieuwke die eenige dagen die  
van diarree is en vrywel slap  
is geschorven. Wij hebben reuion  
g select achteren draughte gehae  
en in al dien tye — van af begin  
der oogst — maar een keer een  
flinke regenbui gehad. zodat  
het graan allen hard droeg by de  
kaver is geteerd en het deile  
votk al gedarschen. De opbreng  
is hier buiten het middelmatige  
Thrash van 20 tot 25 bushel. De  
meesters 24 u 25. Rogge van 25  
tot 30 bushel. Haver van 55 tot 75.  
Klas van 14 tot 18. Spars to plow 35.

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Aluis was een goed gewas doch  
 door de koude zomer achterlyk.  
 Nu hebben wy plom; 20 Septbr.  
 sterke nachtvorst en ychade, zoodat  
 de grond 's morgens hard bevroren  
 was waaraan het veel geleden  
 heeft en te vroeg is op gewaaden.

Pryzen van tarwe en vlas zijn  
 redelyk goed. Tarwe 20 Ct de bush,  
 Vlas 95 Ct, — Hooge, spast en  
 Huster zijn er gedan. Hoster  
 is hier maar 10 <sup>en</sup> 20 Ct, spast 30,  
 en Hooge 45 Ct. Om hooge  
 pryzen te bedingen zijn wy  
 wat te ver westwaarts, alles  
 moet naar kust verscheppt  
 worden, met spoor, en dan kom  
 er veel vrucht op, want scheeps  
 verbanding is hier niet hetwelk  
 veel goedkoper is.

Wrygen als het droog weer is  
 zullen wy de herschers hebben  
 om vrede tusschen de herschers

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De vrede zulk niet te veel op het  
De aardspijlen hebben wij niet  
de gronden ook grootendeels ver-  
tocht. Wij hebben 146 bushels ver-  
tocht door 25 cts de bushel, door  
waar een groot verschil by van  
verjaar toen de 1 de 5 cts in tusschen  
We ben ook met een ingeneem  
bestaat maar dief wist doch  
maar go verkocht voor 1/2 ct.  
De kool is over heel laag  
Raafknollen hebben wij bijna  
zo goed als in Kasterdyf. De  
Helle is noch by de Boer als  
krecht en tanceo werkt noch  
aan spoorweg in Jersey, lies  
Sirie, tanceo heeft nu al  
een tyd lang 1/2 ct en tanceo  
iedere maan in huis, tanceo  
is het daar alles Amerikanen  
Ons dorp is van tanceo heel  
wat veranderd door de nieuwe  
Sporweg.



**M.M. NIEVEEN  
TO HIS MOTHER, BROTHER, AND SISTER**

**PELLA, LANCASTER COUNTY, NEBRASKA  
TO THE NETHERLANDS**

**JULY 16, 1884**

Dear Mother, Brother and Sister:

We are all well and hope this is true of you.

Our crops are growing well. Corn is doing exceptionally well as we have seldom seen. In a few fields poor corn was planted and later they were re-planted which makes them a bit retarded. We have 37 acres. Of these 5 acres are not so good due to replanting. Wheat is also growing favorably. At first the oats looked fine, but as a result of the long dry spell during early June it has remained short. Flax is also average because of the draught. We were going to begin cutting down the oats and wheat this morning but a heavy rain today prevented us.

On June 25 we had a severe storm here out of the northwest. That storm broke so suddenly that a person hardly had time to get into the house. The air was full of sand. Fortunately there were not many accidents except that a few houses and barns were damaged.

On the whole we have had a cool spring, so, as a result, we do not have much grass.

At present America is having a great deal of activity in connection with the election of a president. In your case also probably in the matter of a successor to the throne - now that the second successor has also died, and when the aged William dies.

Hoping you may all be in good health when you receive this. Greetings from all of us. Your brother,

M.M. Nieveen