Nichor den 19 Nort 1888 Geachte Broeder in Rinder They hebben und Brief in gorde Philitared ontangen en daar uit bernomen dat gij ook gezond Zijk het Delkons verblijd onde kinder Zijn ook allen wel Parfor ookallen goed op Janki is 23 jaar oud woond by Jelte sterne agter hommerzy! Jan is 21 jaar woont by What Bakker op de Plaats van Woon diffen Sprietje is 19 Jaar mont by Cire Rutsena onde bour van It jaar Janto is 16 jaar woont by Jakob Schwinga op Wietum Gerittiena is 13 jaar die hebben de moginheis Mat mign Dersoon aangaat it hab den is dezer 59 jaar getild it ben nog good kras in volug it ben tegensdoordig at den dag aant slootgoaden het Duare is vielal soormig al den dag aant slootgoaden het Duare is vielal soormig het dalt mig ook nog niet dad aar, mign gezigt word minder het dalt mig ook nog niet dad aar, mign gezigt word minder myn verin in ik moetin Sadond Brillen Sidgenas is need best bestagen het Laad is light in brengt ookneet but am Mardappels dijn totaal mislutt en die er tyn ook slight van deugd en die nog Redelijk goed Lijn deuer Lijnborden verkogt wood / 5 fl demero dus als er en lange ndenter home dan Dow it tiggen dat het wil van belang Bom worden kare want de ver diensten Lyn ook maar klein en vlasis er ookmaar Duning Geest would aan de Dedemmaart dat dult ge Lebersel Wel weter it en mign Goon jan wij hebben Sinkstardiet je naar hom toe geweest hij Leeft det Redelijk goed hej heeft in heis mit & Bunder Grond hij is voor do I maal wedn Lukas in de Brugstraat te Groningen in een helder hij moet 2.50 and hour in de week geven hij is ouver work maker in handeld er ook in hij heeft wel druht en ook wel Brood Left hij Lukas is bij de Tenkin dat verdeker ik in hij hoeft en vound met ly horeder en ein onder weg. Gerret woont op de Waarden onder lpripshert die heeft en drous met I hinder de oudste is 12 jaar de jongste madret

Gerrit hust in Boil drukte om zijn gezin aande host te Kouden hij heeft en gade Boer nu goat het anders zou ik denken Ha Broader it ben blij om unent nege dat geneer in france Nan belong arm Rapils Digt Schoon it over America niet oordelen Kanman naar myn in dien is beter soore en hoofda attelijk voorune Kinder om te, Leren en anderwijs in de dienst des Heren Harm huft ons is al wat sanges chreven of schoon volitecht gen haad nes Braider Maas is mign hoops in mensch dat ge nur bij sernieneng als Reg Igraar de aarde Broeder mogt heren in de beest in en de nature hebt ge nort tigen elhas guest dan maas tae wy Broeders wy Eign allen nog in lan der Levenden ma ar nig nor den onder en ieder dag is en mer Ali ge nog seres bejons hindaamd dass soul ge ziggen mat is hier Avranders op elligebied Alleen de Bourderyjen stragger nietmen Saart van gun huur Boer en nu der reel ab er maar een te Roop is dan han men maay stry Leker Leggen dat is aluren Soord Her Scholle uit frominger, en die derheuved derbus dus dit is at ten nadul voort algerrum. Het dorschen by de Boer grat ook alweel door Maciene het sigmet Stoom of ook welmed Sharde Bragt Te Nivel is alle dagen en Per soon vooragtinde dat is en Haarje Hochistra misschier hint ge him niet dign dadie in work ik nogal viel me want we dign beide bij de hidels an Tromelis Gasikima Lift Hartelijt, vanons envanonse hinder bjegroet Un Broeder en Luster Reter Gatima an isom Enguchenkoan onde Gerritdiena Londagschoolkaart Noor risk fantie Doe de Groet- aan Broeder Harm en de Kinder

Dear Brother and children,

We received your letter in good health and learned from it that you are all healthy, too, which pleases us. Our children are all well, too, and take good care of themselves. Janke is 23 years old and lives with Jelte Sikema beyond Kommerzijl. Jan is 21 years old and lives with Klaas Bakker in the place of W. van Kijken, Grietje is 19 years old and lives with Eize Reitsema, an old farmer of 87 years. Jantje is 16 years old and lives with Jakob Schurenga in Frietum. Gerritdiena is 13 years old and we still have her at home. As far as I personally am concerned, I counted 57 years on the fifteenth of this month. I am still healthy. Lately I have been digging ditches all day long. The heavy work is mostly for me. It isn't too much for me yet. My sight is declining. My wife and I have to use glasses at night. The crop is not good. The seed is light and doesn't produce very well. The potatoes are a total failure. The produced ones are mostly bad and if they are passable, they are expensive. They are being sold for 5 guilders per bushel. So, if we will get a bad winter, people will become very poor because the wages are low and flax is very scarce, too. Geert lives at the Dedemsvaart; you probably know that. My son Jan and I have visited him at Pentecost. He is quite well. He has a house with 4 acres of land. He is a widower for the second time. Lucas lives in a cellar in the Brugstraat in Groningen. He has to pay 2.50 guilders rent a week. He is a watch-maker and 6 deals in them, too. He has quite a few customers and earns a living,

so he says. Lucas is smart; I can assure you of that fact. He has a wife and 4 children, and they are expecting their fifth. Gerrit lives in the Waarden under Grypskerk. He has a wife and 7 children. The eldest one is 12 years, and the youngest is around 10 weeks. Gerrit has a lot of trouble keeping his family fed. He has a good farmer now, so it is somewhat better, but otherwise, I think they are very poor.

Yes, brother, I am glad for you that you are back in Grand Rapids, although I can't judge America. But, from my point of view, it is better for you and primarily for your children to study and receive an education in the service of the Lord. Harm already told us something about it, al although it wasn't anything bad. Now, Brother Klaas, my hope and wish he is that you may always live as a true Brother in the Spirit. If you have something against someone, then you have to give in. We are brothers and are still in the land of the liwing, but we are growing older, and every day is one closer to death. If you would visit us again, you would say that everything has changed so much in every area. For example, the farms: in earlier days one hardly ever heard about a tenantt-farmer, but nowadays, one hears about it often. As soon as a man farfor sale, one can say quite certainly that it is another one for Mr. Scholte from Groningen, and he rents them out again, so this is disadvantageous to the general interest. The threshing is being done by machine nowadays, either with steam or also with horsepower. Haaije Hoekstra is expecting a person from Nierzijl every day. Maybe you don't know him. I work with his father quite often because we are both working for the widow of Kornelis Gaaikema.

Sincere greetings from us and from our children.

Your brother and sister,

Pieter Datema and wife

A present from our Gerritdiena -- Sunday School card for your Jantje.

Send our greetings to Brother Harm and the children.