

Transcript of a letter from Anton Burkart

Without place and date;
Probably end of 1855 before the death of his wife

Dear brother-in-law!

I was in the opinion to make soon a journey with my wife to Germany. but now I must omit it for the time being; have believed we could have now better days, but they are past. In the next few days all the children will come to my house and who will have the biggest trouble my wife and the children will not even owe it to her or will get the biggest ingratitude from it now that they could have helped themselves so far and I would have gotten my money now, now there is a line through it again. It is now 5 years since I received a letter from a named BAUER. I held the letter in my hands and thought it was from you. But when I opened it, I found that my brother Michael had lent 1000 guilders to go to America and I felt as if an arrow had hit me. I have not told anyone but my wife. When I was then with him (Michael) and told him it went better now, so he said, you have well speak and with it everything was said, until she died. Then we came back to the speech. But then she was still quite healthy. Then my wife said, they had it now nevertheless better than the Joseph of his wife and said, she knew what would incriminate them. She told them they owed 1000 guilders in Germany and these people had recently written about it. He had always wanted to get \$100 together before he died but he still didn't have it together. She said she had 65 dollars together, that's what she wanted to send, I said I wanted to add 35 dollars and wanted to send one hundred dollars and they wanted to send that much every year. Their land is in good shape. It is worth at least 8000 guilders, nothing can be sold for the time being until the youngest child is 2 years old.

Johann's children have it best. I also want to teach Friedrich the profession. I think it is also better for him. We will see how it will go. I am now getting a strong household. I also want to let you know that my wife is in other circumstances. We hope she will be down by Christmas, she is quite healthy this time. I will write you right away how it is going, we hope it will be better this time. So I will close my letter until the next time. I wish you would write to me as soon as you receive the letter.

We send our warmest regards to all of you.

I remain your sincerely weak Anton BURKART.

What' is my little godfather doing? I will send him something soon: a gold dollar. You don't have to show this leaf to anyone.