

Letter No 9 , Neville No 1

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No date, probably 1856

Dearest brother-in-law!

As much as I wish to be with you to tell you my situation verbally, it is a hard thing to do. I wanted to make a trip to Germany to see you this summer, but it will be hard, as my wife would have lost her life while we were there this summer, but it will probably not work out for this one, I have taken on too much work.

I want to do it well for another year, when only Anton would be ready, but I have to be everywhere

I still have to be everywhere, and it's a very hard business with lots of people, but once I'm in the business, I just have to keep going. I'm still too young to stop, you can imagine how I feel. All the work, the people, one wants this, the other that, and when I get home, I have no one again.

Only now do I feel what I've had. My brother-in-law is probably here, but I have the most worries: when he needs money, he just says I have to have money, and otherwise he doesn't bother. I've already laid out over 600 dollars in his store, but I'll get the best thanks in the end.

I'll just have to see how it goes.

As far as my sister-in-law Eva is concerned, she is healthy and doing well so far, she also wanted to come to the city to live there. She sent me a messenger and asked if I didn't want to marry her. I told her that I wasn't thinking about getting married yet. I still had time.

I didn't think it was possible for her to think that. I have enough to do now.

With the children, and yet to marry a woman with 5 children, I think I still have enough time to get through my life like this. I wouldn't even know what to think. Such an imposition; I would have gone out long ago (to Germany) but I didn't want to. I think I still have enough time for that. I don't need it. I can wait and see. I would have put a cross on myself first! If I stay healthy and change my position then I would come out to you next summer. If it wasn't for the children, then I could do it completely differently, but I can't leave them in the lurch. It is a hard job for me to make it happen, but with God's help it must be possible. I will close my letter until next time and keep it to yourself. I hope you stay healthy and hope to see you again.

Write to me again soon and tell me how you are doing.

Remain your sincere brother-in-law

Anton Burkart

I would have written to you long ago but it wasn't possible,