

Letter # 2

Karpowka
19 6/IX 27

Dear Brother and Sister, since we have received your letter of the 23 V, we will also send a return signal from us. We're all healthy, something we heartily wish for you as well, together with your children. Here everything continues day by day, including the stupidity. In Tigerweide they have now cut down the schoolgrounds, half the woods near the school, and about seven desjatins [0.7 hectares] of the land belonging to Peter Berg and Heinrich Friesen. And the woods near the red line. But only one patch of forest was added, the one with the shepherd's house.

Yes, two weeks ago Brother Friesen was ordained as minister; now he has reached his goal. He will give his property to Heinrich. All three live there, and the old man is going to the south, to Orloff, where he wants to serve as minister.

Brother-in-law, you write about 60 (dollars?) per acre, with half the harvest, paid out in 5 years. Please write more about this. Here they say something like you have to pay for the whole property from the half of the harvest that you keep. If that's the case, for what does the farmer get half of the seeded crop?

And write me what kind of tobacco that is, since Bükkert has already ordered tobacco seed. Klassen was to send it right away? Put a cigarette of tobacco into the letter when you write. And you write about lots of wild game, brother-in-law; write to me, won't you, about when you can shoot it and whether it is worth anything.

Here the hunt for ducks is just beginning, but there are only 50 to 60 ducks on the two osers [?]. That's nothing. I would love to come over and shoot foxes and wolves, but that's not possible. No passports are available here. Wilms and J. Friesen from Alexanderkron want to go to the Amur. Friesens now live with the Funks. Should it be possible to get there again, the train would have to be much bigger.

Will close for now. Nothing new to report. During the week the head is full of worries, but now they're all gone. But in any case, keep writing from there, and we'll do the same from here. Nothing new here.

Closing with heartfelt greetings. Peter Dück

Here our Neufeld has sold his property for one thousand 200 rubles. In the fall they want to move to Omsk. The son of J. Hübert bought the property, the one that once was the teacher in Petrowka. This week we received Maria's letter. Responding with a letter right away.