

Gustav Menke
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(Hannover)
Germany, British zone

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Dear Mister Gregory

During all the months I have now been away from the U.S., I have not had the tun [time] to send you a letter. To-day I will keep one's word and write a letter to you. I and my family are health and I hope you and your family your father and Mister O'Nel too. In Germany we have a very bad time. It is very cold and much people are hungry and they have no a warm room. In Germany we cannot buy how we will. There are only a little sugar, meat, butter and so on. We don't know not only what is that coffee, cocoa, good tobacco or cigarettes, fruits, there are not to buy cars, cameras, clothing, material to build a house. I believe this will be for a long time. We have to [too] much people in the British and American zone of Germany.

You know, I am horseman and I believe I am not a bad horseman. Much people know my name but I cannot find an activity for me, because we have horsemanship and horseshow in Germany no longer. The time is bad for all other business too. A friend, a good horseman too, will emigrate to Argentinia, another friend to South Africa. I will emigrate to the U.S.A. I hope that my brother has presented a petition for me that I can emigrate to the U.S.A. very soon. The best horseman of Germany, Mister G. Rau said to me, go to the U.S.A. or to Argentinia, in this country is much space for good horseman, in Germany not for a long long time. From Germany and from the German people I can much write to you, but my English is bad and (it is) there are to write to [too] much and not good.

Have you had business in this year? I hope that cotton has had good weather and not much rain. Is the horse of Mister O'Nel [O'Neil] in good healthy [sic]? I hope so, because it is a good horse. What do makes Robertson? [sic] Best regards for him. We have had much joke with him and one of your driver a coloured boy. I am asked by my friends often, when do you go to the U.S.A.? I don't know, but I hope very soon. If I shall be in the U.S. I shall go to see you and I shall go to hunting with Mister O'Nel and we shall take a ride.

But now I must finish my letter. I shall write more another time. I should be very glad to get a few lines from you soon. Please give your letter to the Air-Mail and I shall have your letter in 10 days. Thank you very much for the good time at you [your farm] and for the correct treatment.

With best regards to you, your wife, your father and Mister O'Nel.

Yours, G. Menke