



Letters

INTRODUCTION

This section contains a selection of letters written between various family members over a period of almost a century – 1884 to 1977. These letters have been transcribed with only minor editing – transcribed only because the original was not in the best condition to reproduce, and edited to add some punctuation and capitalization solely to make the letters more readable without changing the essential “flavor” of the language. The intent has been to put the reader “at the scene”, listening to the writer speak to them. However, it cannot be denied that reading the actual letter in the writer’s own handwriting has an emotional impact that no transcription can convey.

The letters are separated into two groups—the “Horn letters” written by the Horn family members, and the “Panzenhagen letters” written by other family members and friends.

In addition to these letters, cousin Fred Panzenhagen has a collection of about 400 post cards, written to or by various members of his ancestral line.

HORN LETTERS

(Letters Written by
Horn Family Members)

The following letters were in my mother's effects. I have made an effort to transcribe them as accurately as possible including punctuation, capitalization and spelling (sometimes "sic" is noted as the spelling is far enough from correct to reflect that it is not my typo) .

Fred Panzenhagen

1873 Allentown, Pa

To: Anna Horn Froehlich

From: A.W.Horn

Subject:

Allentown Feb. 17, 1873 V_-

Dear Daughter

A happy birthday to you, with God many Blessings
May you live to Enjoy many happy birthdays and grow
up to be a true daughter of Christ.
I received your Kind letter and was glad to hear
that you are Doing Well. You can tell mother that we
are ready to move any day Either Wednesday of Thursday
if the water does not get to high so that it will take
the rail road away. but she shall not wait longer as
tomorrow so that we can get our things to the Depot in
time for Thursday morning train. Mother and Brothers &
Sisters are well and sent their Love to you all.

A.W.Horn

To: Anna Horn
Froehlich From:
David A. Horn

Subduct: Thanks for Paints

Lehighton Jan 6th 1884

Dear Sister and Brother

You see I have painted a picture with the paint you sent me for a Christmas present. it is the picture of a prominent actress I painted it as near as I could but the flesh color was missing and for that reason you will laugh at me I mixed the lolorss(sic) as near right as I could. I am well and hope this scribbling will see you as well as could be hoped for

I remain your Affectionate
Brother
Master David A.
Horn of
Lehighton. Pa

The following was on the back of the above letter. *FP*

Reciept(sic)
for

Pickeling

Peaches. 7 pounds of whole peaches. 3
pounds of sugar. 1 pint of vinegar,
Cider Vinegar, spice whole put in a
bag the size of a walnut.

Put all in one kettle, and boil the peaches until you can pass a broom straw through a peach, and then strain the juice through a cullender(sic) & boil it until you think it thick enough, & then put the peaches in and let them come to a boil, and then they are done. P.S. Mother says that is the way she put up all other fruits.

1888 Lehigh, Pa

To: Anna Horn Froehlich
From: Eva Horn and Jerusha Ross Horn
Subject: Death of Roy Froehlich

Lehigh Nov 3-1888

Dear Sis & Bro

We got your note last evening I can hardly realize that our dear little Roy is gone it was a blow to us all. even if we never saw him we loved him dearly. May God be with you in your affliction. We all feel for you and wish we could have been with you I hardly know what to write I feel so sorry. how I long to put my arms around your neck dear Sister and comfort you. I will close now with much love to all hoping the rest are well. kiss dear precious Willie for me

Your loving Sister

Mr Shoemaker
is dead.

Eva.

The following is on the reverse side of the above letter.

Dear Ones all

I hardly know what to write we all feel for you in your sorrow know what it is I have stood at the graves of 4 dear children and I don't know how to comfort you for to tell you it is the Lord's will that you know already and to say he is better off that you now too all I can say is look to him who wept with Mary and Martha he alone can heal your wounded heart. if we could we would take hold and help to bear it for you but we can't we can only weep with you and feel for you, so look to him trust him and he will help you, you know where he has gone to and that he is safe in the arms of Jesus. that he cannot die anymore but that he is like the angels, your little sister Lillies test Luke 20:36 so I will now hope to hear from you soon. I had a dream that Saturday morning I had a dream I saw 3 new made graves they were covered but the ground was yellow and I soared so I got awake and the clock struck five *** and I was sure something was going to happen but I did not think of Roy that it was him only let me hear from you so I am afraid you are sick from

ma

ma ***the following was written perpendicular to the rest of the letter

Letter to David Abraham from his father while David was in a show troupe in 1902.

Lehighton, April 20, 11:30 am

Received your welcome letter this last hour - was glad to hear that you arrived safe. We are well as can be expected. It is raining today & cold. Mother has written all the news, so it is no use for to repete [sic]. Our kid does the tumbling act on the ground in the yard, only he hurt his head a little on stone, now he goes from the side. [Ed. Note: no clue to identity of "our kid"]

I have considerable work on the cemetery. We have no call yet for home, that is about all that I have.

Wishing you much success in your venture and hoping to hear from you often, I remain very

Sincerely

Father

.....started on the trolleythere are 50in Beaver Run
whatever they are going to relocate it to avoid sharp curves & some heavy grades.

[Ed. Note: refers to extending trolley line to Mauch Chunk (now Jim Thorpe) in 1902.]

November 25, 1905

To: Froelich Family
From: Abraham W. Horn

Lehighton. Pa,

Dear Children all:

Yesterday we had a great celebration in this old town. We celebrated the one hundred and fiftieth year of the Gnadenhutten Massacre by the Indians. The Moravian Historical Society of Nazareth was here with many friends and people from Mauch Chunk, Weatherly, Lansford, Summit Hill, and all the surrounding county. The old town was full of strangers. You will see an account of the celebration in the papers. I also send you a program.

I am not well, and not able to work. I have a good man in the shop working for me.

We are having a very nice fall so far, and today seems like a mild spring day.

The postal cards you will understand without explanation. I did not want to scribble on them. You can explain them to the young people. My love to you all, and may God Bless you, and keep you in the sincere wish of

Father

P.S. My letter is short, but I am so very nervous, and the rest will tell you more.

1906 March 19 Lehighton, Pa

To: Mrs C. G.
Froehlich From:
Eva Horn

Subject: Fathers death

Lehighton, March

19, 1909 Dear Sister and all

All is over our dear Father is laid to rest and we miss him so. But still do not wish him back, as he was in such misery for the last year he hadn't been in bed for four month, oh I pity him so when I think of it and he looked so sweet and dear in his casket he looked as if he rested so well, and he smiled a little there were only a few of the relation here, and I am going back to E. M. Chunk tomorrow again. I wanted to go this evening but there has been a regular blizzard all day. Web bought Papa a sheaf of wheat and George horn a bouquet of Carnations. George and wife and Son were here and Sallie Spinner that was all of papa's folks from down the road. Mr Mack is so poorly that Sue could not come, then all. Joe Charlie Annie Abbie and Adeline were here. Uncle Will and Aunt Addie and uncle dave and Mary Chamberlain and Aunt Eliza. that was all the Relation just think Mary Wieand did not come, I think if she could not come she might have sent one of her girls. after all Papa done for her. Jill Spinner was sick and he wrote a very nice letter. (Abraham is down again.) Papas text was Genises 48-21. verse, and the Hymns(sic) were Jesus Lover of My Soul and my just as thou wilt, we had all the Servises(sic) the house the rest are all well. Mama is real well. She bear up fine. She says if he had been younger she could not have stood it but the way he was and would have been after this stroke it was best so. I must close with love to all.

From your Sister and Aunt

March 25th, 1906

To: Anna Marie (Horn) Froelich
From: Jerusha (Ross) Horn

Lehighton, Pa.

My Dear Ones All:

It is raining today and we cannot work, so I will write to you. I have a very poor place to write. I am sitting on my knees and leaning on my arms on the floor so as to have light enough to see to write. The boys are downstairs, and then I can't write there, and in the other room upstairs it is too cold, and in the back room the windows are so low nearly to the floor. That is the reason I am sitting in such a position. It is not very comfortable.

My dear girl, I would dearly like to come out and visit you, but I would be afraid to undertake the journey alone. I thank you ever so much for his offer, but, dear one, do not feel bad about it. I would not undertake it, and Eva says if I went she would feel as if she had no one anymore. She was down yesterday and we planted flowers on the graves – 3 peonies on papa's and 2 on Willie's & 1 on Grandma's, & on the babies 3, and a daisy on papa's. The crocuses on Willie's grave will bloom till Sunday. It has buds. It has been cloudy and rainy all week till today. The sun is nice and warm. Poor Dave has to work. Just now the rain has thrown him out as it is outside work and today is too wet yet.

Dear Annie, I will try and finish your letter. It is raining very hard. It rained yesterday, and today at 3 o'clock was change of moon and I was in hopes it would stop raining, but it rains harder yet. We washed and hung out diapers and baby things. The rest stands in water. We have a busy week as we have church every evening, and on Friday church in the morning & evening, and in the afternoon mite society, but Saturday no service. Today it is 4 weeks that papa died. It seems as if it could not be. Eva wants me to plant flowers out on his grave this week, but the grave is not fenced yet so I don't like to plant until that is fenced. Maybe Dave will help me to fix it yet that I can plant pansies and daisies out till Easter.

Well. Papa is gone and we miss him, but we would not wish him back to see him suffer all this again, for he suffered a great deal in the last weeks of his life and for the last 4 months. I used to think until spring when warm weather would come he would be better, and I believe he would have got better if he had not got that stroke, but so it is and he lived the allotted time 3 score years and 10 and over it, and it will not be so very long for me. Even if it is 10 years they fly one after the other so fast the first thing you know it is new year again. I am real well just now, and hope that the Good Lord will help me so the rest are all well too

[This may be fragments of two separate letters. – the second paragraph seems to have been written earlier than the first – and there is no farewell, which Jerusha always wrote]

Date Unknown

To: Anna Marie (Horn) Froelich
From: Jerusha (Ross) Horn

Probably Lehighton

Dear Annie:

I wish I had about 3 months to do nothing but sew, we get at it so little. We have clothes to make, and quilts, and carpet rags, so by that time I could work a good bit out of the way baby was crying, and I just fetched him up to me and he is sitting on the floor by me playing. Abraham went to school again for the first time in 6 weeks. His teacher would like to rush him through so he would get in the second school till next term, but the doctor dint (sic) him to be rushed through.. Oh, Annie, our baby is the very image of you when you was a baby, of course. All three of you favor each other, but yet he favors you most.

I got a letter from Camile Lerch this week. They did not get the letter till Saturday afternoon. They want me to come down on a visit, so I will try to go down some time before it gets so hot. I have not wore the waist yet that you sent me, and it must be fixed around the neck, and I did get that far yet. If I go down I will take it along and try and fix it then, and calico dress that Mary gave me too. We have service every evening, but I have not been to any yet. Maybe I will go this evening.

Mim is ready to go downtown so I will close with love to all my dear ones – Willie, Ruth, Robbbie, Granville and you dear ones all. Answer soon.

Mother

March 26, 1906

To: Anna Marie (Horn) Froelich
From: Eva Horn

East Mauch Chunk

Dear Sister:

I will try and answer those questions you asked you asked me about my insurance. I am insured for 2.50 dol, and Mama for 1.10 dol. I pay 2.40 a month, and four times a year it is three dol. Mama has that lot yet, and papa's funeral expenses by Kemmer and Swartz were 38 dol. and the grave 13 dol. We only got 50 dol. from the lodge and paid thirty cents a month.

We all walked, but Mama and Aunt Eliza all Horn went with her and Uncle Dave with Mama. Our poor Papa did not know what it was to lay in bad for at least four month, Oh, how tired he must have got – the only way he learned to rest was to sit on a chair and lean forward on another. He never could lean back. He use to get into that little store under our place once in a while, but he could hardly go the steps. Doctor Horn said the last two weeks of Papa's life before he got the stroke were certainly misery for him and he said he thought what a relief it would be for papa if he could die. Oh I usued (sic) to pittty (sic) him so when I got home and would see him. I almost dreaded to go home. We can never know what his last hours were for he could never speak. He tried hard to. The Saturday night before he died he managed to get the word waty (sic) [water?] out. That is all we ever could understand. Oh, that was a dreadful week; the poor soul had to lay and starve. He could hardly swallow the water we put on a rag for him. He fell asleep so easy. There was no struggle whatever. We could not help but be thankful, but it was hard.

I must close now with love to all. I did not forget Robie's or Will's birthday but could attend to nothing so won't send anything till I send for Ruth too. Your Sis Eva

Date Unknown [1906]

To: Froelich Family
From: Miriam (Horn) Christman

Dear Sister and All

I am thinking all evening of how papa was here two weeks ago: tonight and it makes me feel so sad. Mother was tired and as Abraham was better I had Webb tend him while I washed the dishes. I got her a rocker and some magazines and papa was sitting by the stove.

When I made some Jell-O Dr. said Abraham might have some and papa said "Make a big lot of it, if he don't eat it I know someone who will". So I made it so it would set until the next day but dear papa never could eat it. It was so hard that he couldn't eat anything, and he always was so good to us when we were sick. I will never forget his death. He must just have stopped as I came into the room for he was quite warm. Sometimes on Saturday night already he would grow cold and then get warm again. The Dr. said he was two days dying. A great weight rolled off my heart when I saw his suffering was over, for it was torture to see him as he was last Monday night He couldn't swallow anymore. I thought as I saw him lay in his casket "Well, papa, you couldn't sleep for a long while but now you seem to rest so good". He looked so natural it was hard to give him up. Dr. Horn said the way he suffered it must have been a relief to him. He meant before he had the stroke. I think I must see him at the window when I come home from the store.

The last Friday, Saturday and Sunday he lived he certainly was miserable. He wanted Mother to sit by hum, and as Abraham was so sick and I had to bathe him very much to take down the heat, besides giving him medicine every half-hour, she of course had the work to do and baby to tend. The washing I had done, and I told her not to do much cooking. So poor papa felt very lonesome those days. Oh if only he had not had that stroke probably the other diseases might have gotten better, but the Lord knew best. Webb was a great comfort to me in my time of trouble. Abraham was to come down for the first time today. but we were so lonesome and so was he that we brought him down Saturday afternoon. Kuder had a fine sermon. Well I must bring my letter to a close. I am watching for a letter from all of you. Mother seems real well. I hope God will spare her for a long time. Write soon to your loving sister,

Miriam

1906 April 12

To: Anna Horn Froehlich
(assumed) From: Miriam
Horn Christman Subject:

April 12th, 1906

Dear Loved Ones:

I will write a few lines. Mother simply wont get at it, she likes to be alone, as she gets bothered so easy. I used to be that way but since I have the children I got over that. I sent Robert a small package for Easter. It is not much but these chocolate things weigh too much. Did he ever get his valentine and birthday toys? I sent them before papa died. Will must have something I'll send with Ruths and so save a little in postage on the package. I send them each a dainty little Easter card I wanted postals but they are all foolish. You couldn't think Easter was a religious holiday where you see them so I thought these were nicer. I will write more later on. Eva was down & her and mother fixed papa's grave with pansies & daisies. I want to get a hyacinth or Easter flower for it yet. I went to see "From Sephulchre to Throne" in the Reformed Church. Ma is going to ours tonight "A Story of Calvary". This all I have time to wite. I will try to get mother at it now. Love to all From Sister & aunt Mirrie

May 28th, 1906

To: Anna Marie (Horn) Froelich
From: Jerusha (Ross) Horn

Lehighton [Pa]

Dear Annie and all dear ones:

Again I must ask for forgiveness for making you wait so long but we have been housecleaning and so busy that I did not get at it sooner, but I will try and answer your letter now. It is raining and we can't wash in the first place. We are all well and that is about the best thing we can write. Plenty of work too but I guess you have plenty of that too. I hope this will find you all well. It will soon be 3 months that papa is gone. I think it can't be. I want to go to Annie Gomery now after the rain and get some sweet Elysum (sic) to put on the graves. It was dry that things could not grow and it is too far. I can't go and water it as I used to and can't afford to pay anyone to do it for me, so I will do what I can. I have not been to church for three Sundays. Once they went away for the day, and the next it rained. Yesterday was too late in the morning, and in the evening it rained again, but I was to S. School yesterday and on last Thursday evening to church. I don't go so much anymore it is too far. I do wish Webb would move nearer to the church. I guess we won't have much fruit to put up. We won't have many cherries and plums I have not seen one on the trees yet. The cherry trees bloomed so nice but the frost spoiled them. I don't know how it is with pears or apples. We have none of them. The rain will help everything to grow now. Webb had the lot plowed and planted potatoes and corn and beets & radishes and now is going to plant cabbage yet. Here on our yard we have nothing planted but flowers and salad. Oh Annie when I come to this part I must stop awhile for my longing overcomes me. I would love to see you and have a talk with you. Tell me about your church when you write, and I am glad Will had such a nice time when he was away, and I like those pictures you sent. I see you have your good times too out there, but do you have Sunday School. If not, try and see what you can do in that line. And that is the reason I put off writing. It always makes me feel bad. If you only was nearer that I could come to you sometimes and stay with you awhile. Eva was down last Sunday afternoon. She was tied down at her place. She can't get away as she used too at Links. Dave was up last evening. He is working up the valley painting Uncle Dave place. Jacob Kindler bought it and is fixing it up in style so he gets hired till evening that I did not see him for 2 weeks, and you poor dear Annie I have not seen for 3 years. On Saturday it [will be] 3 years that you went home. One of your children I have never seen. Oh, I would dearly love to see you all, but as that cannot be let me hear from you soon, as I will close with love to all my dear ones, and kiss all for me. From you loving Mother.

1907 June 3 Lehighton, Pa.

To: Mrs C. G. Froehlich
From: Jerusha Ross Horn

Subject: Dear

Ones all

I owe you all a letter but I will write one which will be for you all, yes I was to the union service but I was very much disappointed I thought it was so nice that all the denominations were getting closer together, so on the way to church, an evangelical lady came to me and asked if I was going to church I said yes then she said then I'll go with you. I don't like to go in alone so I took her with me to my seat, and after church she did not notice me anymore and I was looking around to see a friendly face or smile but saw none until our own members came, coming out I said one of our members, I thought it was so cold in there she said why was you cold I said not my body but I was looking for a friendly look or smile for if I looked as though I nodded to anyone they would not recognize me and they were people I knew this many a year but I guess they thought they had polluted themselves by coming to a Lutheran church, what came from the pulpit was very good I enjoyed that, there was Kender Winter Reformed April ME Fasnacht Dubsibe(sic) the Bowmanite did not show up yet we all want to go to the same heaven but enough of that I will now try to tell you about my trip, I got to Uncle David's in the evening that was Friday eve and was there until Tuesday as it rained and I could not get away on Monday eve called on Myra and on Tuesday over to Uncle Wills on Wednesday down to Aunt Lillie Thursday back to Wills Friday morning out to Sue she was down to Philipsburg in the afternoon up to Allentown in the evening up to Lillies on Saturday went there to supper after being to the cemetery could not find the lot was to Lillies for dinner and supper on Sunday again Sunday afternoon went to the cemetery and from there to see George Horn found him in bed with lumbago and then on Monday home so you see I had a strenuous(sic) week of it. Now about the golden wedding it was very nice some of the nicest and wealthiest people of Bethlehem called on them and they got very many and very pretty presents they got 3 Ormulo clocks 2 candle sticks 1 candleabra 1 chocolate pot 1 teapot sugarbowl and creamer 1 large picture 1 small one a white quilt a fine tablecloth an umbrella and lots of glassware and 5 dollar gold piece from her niece and several 2.50 gold pieces but they asked 3 dollars for one so some gave bills instead they treated each caller to a plate of icecream a slice of cake and a bunch of grapes, then on Sunday was the generation reunion grandma Stuber Aunt Mary but Em could not be there she was sick in bed Charlie and his Daughter, George and family, Harry and his wife, Tiny and her family, it was all very nice and I enjoyed it, I forgot to tell you on Monday afternoon I was out to Emmas so till I got home I was wore out and I am not over it yet. I am so

shaky yet I am sorry you had such poor crops this year what was the cause of it was it too dry or too wet but I hope you will have better luck next year it was good you had such a good crop of strawberries. I was surprised to hear it I thought they would freeze out for you do fix them that they dont. Dear ones all it is monday morning and I am tired and trembly already, Miriam has told you about being here, she said when I wrote you I should tell you she would answer your letter soon I forgot to tell you about the decorations at Uncle Davids they had yellow crinkled paper and cut that in strips about an inch and a half wide hung one end over the chandilier then took it down to the table and fastened it to the table clothes so there were 8 then festooned from one to the other and made a bow on each where it was fastened to the table that was in the sitting room on that table they had the plates and ice cream dishes and as the people came in they were served with the cake grapes and ice cream in the parlor it was decorated from the double window to chandilier to the folding door from hall door to chandilier then to window all tied with big yellow ribbon bow it was all very pretty Aunt Mary said she did not think of it or she would have had her wedding dress fixed over and wore it, by for this time love and kisses to all from Mother & grandmother

The following was written perpendicular on top of page 3) I congratulate Will and his wife on the safe arrival of his boy and hope he may grow up and be a good and useful man a joy to his parents and grandparents give them my love and to grandma Froehlich too and granvill and Ruth I will write later and Robbie boy love to all

November 17, 1908

To: Anna Maria (Horn) Froelich
From: Eva Horn

Lehighton, Pa.

Dear ones:

What is the matter that you didn't send us an answer to our telegram or write a letter. It worries us so; we have been to the Post Office for every mail. We didn't have Dear Mother's grave covered last night thinking you might come. Why oh why didn't you send us some answer and set our minds and hearts at rest. If you couldn't pay at that end of the line we would have paid it. Oh, it was hard to give her up, but that dear weak body is at rest. Oh, we miss her so. She looked as if she slept well. She is does sleep sweetly for she does look so dear and sweet and peaceful and we ought be glad. I am glad she is over her suffering, but am so homesick for her. Her dear hands worked till almost the last. I will let Mirrie write the rest – she can do it better than I, so I will say good night – and love to all from your sorrowing Sister,

Eva

Dec. 20th

Dear Sister Mirrie says I must write some, for it hurts her so to tell all. We were so glad to hear from you. Tonight a week ago she was suffering so. I dare not think of it. When she was dying she tried to say something but her tongue was stiff. We could not understand her. Oh, I wish I had. We had a very nice black cloth casket for her. We certainly buried her nice. I got 119.35 dol insurance and that covered the expence (sic) . For her text we had Luke, the fourteenth chapter and the later part of the 17 verse – Come for all things are now ready. It was her conversion text when she was a little girl, and he said it would make a good text now, and he preached a fine sermon. The choir sang – what cheering words are these. Lead Kindly Light, and Asleep In Jesus. In his sermon, Mr. Kuder said there were only two things we would hear, one was Come and the other Depart From Me. I can't say it as he did, and he said we have every reason to believe our Mother had heard the words Come, and while we were surrounding her death bed, she was viewing the beauties of heaven. Oh, he spoke so nice. I can't begin to explain; I only wish you had been here. We won't divide anything now, we want to leave things as they are for a while. We can't bear to touch them. The lot we will sell as soon as possible, so all can be straightened out. Bur there ain't much – that church money, and a little to the doctor We want to get stones till Decoration Day – It is her wish to have them laid on the grave. We can get them for 10 dol a piece. Then we will have a picture taken of the lot for you. Oh, we miss her so – we will not bother with anything for Christmas, but we dare not deny the children some pleasure. It would not be right. And Dear Mamma would not like it. I can't afford any nice gifts to anyone and I ain't been earning any this two months. Oh, my sweet mother, I can't forget her. And the people of the church were so

kind. We can be proud of her memory. She was never idle a minute. When she got her sick spell before she always talked of getting well.. This time she didn't. She believed she would die. Well, she is over all, but it is so lonely without her. I feel as if I ad no aim in life - nothing to care for, or no one to care what became of me. I can't just tell how I feel. I expect to nurse that Mrs. Herman again next month. It will be the third time. Those of the Relation that came to mother's funeral were Mary Chamberlain and Emma Sandt. South Easton, Melie Learch, Uncle Dave and Tiny and Uncle Will and Aunt Addie and All Butz and wife. She was Mame Coss. And George Hearn. Aunt Flora and Cousin Anna. Then Pat and Mame. And Chris Heffernan and Agnes Sheridan were here too. Sheridans are neighbors to Heffernans, and had met mother and liked her. And Mrs. Sheridan is crippled and couldn't come herself, so she sent her daughter. Oh, Mama made friends wherever she went. Well, I must close with love to my dear ones all. Wishing you all a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year. I know ours won't be, and I am sure yours won't be either.

From you loving Sister and Aunt – Eva

P.S. I can't afford to send much, will send the usual handkerchief, ain't got money for more. Eva

December 18, 1908

To: The Froelich Family
From: Miriam (Horn) Christman

Lehighton, Pa.

Dear Ones All:

Well, our hearts are set t rest now for we rec'd your letters at noon. We had the grave left with but a foot of earth in it for we were expecting you up till 1:30 pm yesterday. Mother had a lovely shroud, It was like a fine serge dress trimmed with buttons down the front and had a ribbon bow at the throat and white ruching at the neck and sleeves. She had the most peaceful expression and a little smile on her face. Her S.S. teacher sent a boquet (sic) of carnations & a vine with it., and the Ladies Nite Society. of which she had been secretary for about 4 years, sent ferns or palms tied with lavender tulle ribbon. Dave had such a pretty wreath made of crepe paper, parafined (sic). We will put it in a case all winter. Darling mother last week at this time we were in here (sic) room. The Dr. came, and she & I told him the story of her wrongs from father that the Dr. would fully understand why she so much wanted to sell the lot. For tho' God be thanked we could give her what she needed she always wanted to sell her lot or loan about 50 dollars on it. But I am so glad when I think how last week we done all we could to help her finish up [undecipherable] pincushions for people who had sent her dainties and things to eat. Well, she had but 2 finished off, and last Tuesday I went up and finished shirring the silk to finish the edges of each. And finished things or put things away. And we had Larkin order on the go, and on Sat. the 5th I got \$2.25 in orders at just 3 places and it pleased her so. Then cousin Etta had tried to get the state physician to look after her case, so I answered Etta's letter and asked whether Nellie (Ira's wife) would take something, and she took \$2.50. And Dave got her a .50 cent order and she had asked people that came, so it was all ready to send away. She wanted the \$5 cash. I will go on with it now. And her [undecipherable] goods came on [undecipherable] to pay the expressman and so Web fetched it later. She had the one anxiety of money matters and it pleased her to think now she would get a little. We didn't tell her it came as we thought she'd worry and till Monday. I'd had fetched it Sat. eve. She said the boys ought go to the P.O. see whether a letter came that they had sent it. But it came Monday A.M. Last Friday afternoon she said to Dr. Somehow I like company today. He said So. And he staid (sic) quite a while. Then he took some of papa's tools and said now her medicine was paid and he'd give her a bottle yet. So he helped to ease her mind. And she had wanted to make something for Ruth & Freda, lace I believe, but she said "What I can't get done for Christmas, I'll make for her birthday".

Annie dear, her death looked hard to us because of love for her because she gasped for breath so that we had to fan her. But I asked of she has pain & she said no. Twice she had to strain so to vomit, but couldn't. Once she gasped out "Gastritis". For Dr. said that was

what the vomiting was. Tonight a week ago I was in her room and she said "Well, if I can't get well I hope it won't last long anymore" I said if she'd rest a few days she'd get stronger again. Then again she said Oh now 2 more days in bed then Dr. said I could get up again. But she said different times she couldn't last till Christmas. Once I brought some things & has a hdkf. for her. She asked what I got and I showed everything but that. I told her that I had something yet that was meant for Christmas. She said "Well then, I want to see it." So I showed it to her & she told Eva & Sue Mack that was for Xmas.

One Sunday A.M. as I was dressing her she looked across at the fields one sees across the river & she said Next Spring I won't see them hunting dandelions over there. Oh Annie my heart aches I dare not write any more just now for it hurts me so to go over it all. Oh, I am glad she had all sorts of goodies. Oranges, bananas, candy, nuts, cakes. And we brought ice-cream, turkey, candy & nuts from the Priory supper .It was her Thanksgiving breakfast & and she had a good appetite that time yet. Will write later.

December 20th [1908]

To: The Froelich Family
From: Miriam (Horn) Christman

Dear Ones All:

It is mother's second Sunday in heaven. Two weeks ago today she was still with us and had her last meal at the table with us at dinner time. She seemed as good that Sunday after S.S.. I went up and showed her what Christmas pieces we were going to have. I sang one but had so much trouble with my throat couldn't sing much. And Annie Gomery brought icecream & cake after supper for her and she enjoyed it very much.

And we are sending you a package Annie, the lace is for you from mother's dear hands. The hdkf from me. Ruth, the pincushion I made, and her dear fingers started to fill it with cotton. Then Friday night I finished it and showed her. She couldn't see it so well so I showed her again Saturday morning and she thought it was pretty. And the beads are from me. And Freda, the little tie is for you from her and the hdkf from me. Charlie & Willie, I send you these little memorandum books as they are useful and a change from the usual hdkf I usually send you. For Bobbie I send the Foxy Grandpa book. For Bernhard the mittens, the apple for his tree and the dress. It is one that Hiram & Richard both wore and is not very nice any more, but I think Bernhard will look very sweet in it. Dear mother knew of all but didn't see Robert's book. I only bought it last night, but I had told her of it. She was so eager for to sell her icing for. I guess she wanted to send things to the others, Will, Charlie, Bernhard & Robert. I had meant to do up the dress for baby, but I guess under the circumstances you will excuse me. Tell Willie & Freda to read these letters too as ti nearly kills me to go over everything. Oh, I wish I had known how soon she would leave us. I'd have passed every spare moment with her. But she wanted me to go to S.S. with my children and it pleased her more than staying home. Eva wanted to stay home with her that S. night, and she said she shouldn't form such a habit. I am very nervous so will close. Our love to all.

Sister and Aunt

Miriam

P.S.

Each time I wrote I wanted to tell you we had a pretty thin white drapery over mother's casket. All who saw her said she was such a nice a nice natural corpse. Some look so sore. Mother didn't, only very thin. I will write more from time to time, it is too hard to go over everything just now The sermon was fine, and I wish you all could have been here. Darling mother, two weeks ago we little thought of this. Tho' she used to say " Oh, if I don't get stronger I can't live till Christmas". Well, hers will be happy but how sad we will be.

December 26, 1908

To: Anna Marie (Horn) Froelich
From: Eva Horn

Lehighton [PA]

Dear Sister:

We received your Postals and thank you for them. I didn't wish anyone a Merry Christmas for it is the saddest Christmas we ever had Oh, we miss our Dear Mother so. I got a pair of stockings from Mirrie, a collar from Carrie, and a couple of cards. Two weeks ago our precious mother was very sick at this time, Oh, I think it dare not be. Every day we miss her more. Today Carrie's sister's child was buried, Walter [undecipherable]. Tomorrow night Mr. Kuder is going to hold a memorial service in memory of those who died this last year. He does it the last Sunday in every year. I won't finish this letter till Monday.

Lehighton, January 3, 1909

Well, the new year has begun, hope you will have better luck than last yeat. I did not get this letter finished for I washed and baked, then a lady from Mauch Chunk sent for me that her child was sick and I should help her out. I came home this evening for a few things, so will send your letter. She said her children and papa were buried here and she wanted to die here too. This was her home all her married life. Oh, the dear patient mother she was, so sweet and patient. We were not worthy to be her children. She was never idle a moment. The last Monday she lived she basted pillow slips for me to stich (sic) on the machine. Oh, I dare not think. The room she was in is so sacred, one thinks one must see her. You say we weren't unkind to her. No, we weren't, but we would scold her for working so much and the poor soul wouldn't answer us. She should have slaped (sic) our mouths good. She never was idle a minute – sew all the time till the Tuesday she left us. The onlly (sic) time she would rest was at twilight. Dear Sis, get Salal tablets, their (sic) ten cents a dozen and take three a day, and Salhepthica (sic) salts that's 25 cents a bottle. Take a teaspoon of that dissolved (sic) in a glass of water morning and night. See whether you won't get better. And it made me feel so bad that Granville ain't well. It seems it's nothing but trouble all over. You can get that stuff in a drug store, and don't give up if it don't help the first few days. I took three bottles of that and about 4 boxes of tablets. I have great faith in it. Mame Heffernan gave me goods for a lovely wainst (sic). I believe it is called Silk Chiffon (Black). Won't have it made till spring. And she gave me a nice handkerchief. She is always so kind to me. And, Dear Sister, don't think Mama forgot her girlie out west, for she wanted to buy you something to put in your ear so that you could hear (if she sold her lot). They are 5 dol. Mother swa it advertised. We intend to sell as quick as we can. We gave it into Mr. Semmels hands for we want stones till spring and pay what little she owes him, then divide what's left. But her things must stay where they are for a while yet – we can't bear to put them away.

Every body speaks of the nice sermon he had for her. He knew he could not speak different of her. I hope this will find you all well again. Kiss dear little Bernhard for me. Love and kisses to all. From your loving Sister

Eva

November 12, 1910

To Ruth Froelich
From: Miriam Horn Christman

Dear Ruth:

Am sending you a box containing a sideboard scarf from Web and I. Also a handkerchief from Eva. She had bought it for grandmother but she wouldn't use it. But she had promised to use it Xmas day, when she died on December 13th. So it was never used. Use it on your wedding day for your wedding 'kerchief. It is so dainty and fine. My, how we would all like to be at the wedding. Well. our thoughts will be with you anyhow. I hope you will have a fine day, for "Happy is the bride the sun shines on". Don't forget to have a picture of the bridal party if you can manage it.

With all best wishes for a happy married life, and a fine wedding day, and many more. Oh, no, no: you only want one, don't you! Love and Kisses to Ruth Froelich; for when I write again it won't be to Ruth Froelich. So goodbye to the girl, for when I write again you will be a woman with some of woman's wisdom, which increases with the years. Love to all from

Aunt Miriam

April 4th, 1911

To: Ruth Froelich Panzenhagen
From: Anna (Horn) Froelich

Dear Ones

Am very busy but will write next week. Was to Mpls. Went last Sat.; came back Tuesday. Am very tired now. We must clean up today; first warm day. They are hauling manure.

Love to all.....Mama

July 30, 1911

To: Ruth Froelich. Panzenhagen
From: Anna (Horn) Froelich

Dear Love one all:

You asked me to write name out of our dictionary, and they are all old names. I think you have some book with names in. I know I seen names in another book that are nicer. I don't know weather (sic) you got it or not. Their (sic) quite a few nice names in dictionary. Their (sic) is Dorothea, the gift of God, Eva, life, Miriam, weeping, Myra, sorrow, Elmer, noble, excellent, Richard, rich hearted, powerful, Maurice, dark collar (sic).

Sunday, August 6

Oh, give it the names you like best. The Sundays are such long lonesome days. Got your letter Friday; was so glad, and am glad how have someone when you need it, and if Mrs. Oetzman think you need a doctor so get one quick who will be with you till he goes for Mrs. O. – if alone don't wait too long, but perhaps Bernhard will be their (sic) so don't wait too long. Wish I could peek in your box; have you Vaseline. And wish I could see all. The farm next to us is to rent unless it is rented already. How I wish it were you. You must have had a lovely time when Mabel was their (sic). Was she so excited when you showed her all you had and all the things you got for the guest you are expecting, as she was when we opened the box we got from Sears & Roebuck last fall, and did she talk about thrills as the other time. I bet she questioned you a lot, because she is so curious (sic). Wish we could have a talk and you could tell me all or near all she said. You know how I like you to tell me things after the people were gone. Have on one now. Your bed must look nice; did you paint it twice. The cradle will look nice that way too. Did your can of paint hold out. That is nice that you can make so much butter. I make about four lbs. a week, but we use so much cream for lettuce. Have lovely lettuce now, and cabbage and cucumbers and beans. This rain is fine for it. It rained hard on Sunday night, and sprinkled off and on on Monday morning. And Saturday a week ago it rained three times in the morning. One was hail, but all three last only a few minutes at a time. It rained hard three hours Thursday, and today it is raining. It rained this morning, and look like clearing, but started about half past three and raining yet. At half past four our neighbor Donohue went fishing and asked Robert to go along, so he will be good and wet until he get back. After he had gone a girl and a boy came to play croquet with him. And all the rest short pants. We bought him a new suit, and how know how everything shows on black. He has not worn it yet; we may try ad change it when pa get back, if they will take it. We haint got the slip of paper any more, but none of the tags were taken off. They had such nice suits for 6\$ with knee pants.. His was ten\$; we got it for eight. Long pant suit for boys are hard to get.

I got a letter from Miriam & one from Eva, and now I have all to answer and no letter coming. On Tuesday about half past eleven some one knock at the front door. I went their

(sic) but could not see anyone. When I got back to the kitchen their (sic) was Lill and children and Libbie. Well, we had a good time till Wednesday afternoon, when Lill spoke as if Robert was lazy, and she would make Ruby do this, and why I did not that, until I was .so cross I gave her a saucy answer. I know by her talk that Grandma had run us down to Lil. That what made me so mad. Don't say any, but when she goes home this time she can stay. Her place is with her daughters. It would be different is she had none. She was sneering at everything I would say. Libbie asked me weather (sic) my brother was married. I said Yes, then Grandma sneer and said something. Then Lil laughed. Libbie said nothing, and another time G. was running down my relation Libbie said I don't see how can you stand it. I would not have this old thing around. She has money and a home; let her stay their (sic), and I say so too. Anyone as cranky as she is don't need no pity. She snaps, she can't answer decent, and if I haint got an eye on Robert all the time she says he does this and he does that. Last evening about five minutes to four we went down to the garden to get our ripe peas, and got back after five. We thought she was in the closet smoaking (sic), Well, we found out that she wasn't so we look all over, up, down, and out. Could not see her anywhere. I made up my mind she could not scare me. I wasn't going to look for her no more until near dark; then I would have got Donohue to help me look for her. I look in the granary and corn crib, then took that road till near Donohue, looking both ways. Then I said loud I haint going to hunt for her; I will go to Donohue, get them to look. When I got in the house she was sitting their (sic) so mad. I said I thought you were lost. I was going to Donohue to have them look for you. She said I was out on the front step at the time I look for her, but where she was I don't know, but she was watching us, a listening, and when she saw me on the road towards Donohue she came in (Oh, I hope I won't live to be such a crank). She knew I was down their (sic). If I ask her to go along – No, it is too far, she cannot walk so far. Then, when I don't ask her, she come by herself, and so it is in everything. If Lil would say Why don't you pick up the wood when we walk throught (sic) the wood I say Will as soon as I can. Then Grand would say something Why don't Charlie do this and that until I thought they would drive me crazy. Then Grandma would scold Robert; then L:il would. Lil called him lazy and keep Ruby away from Robert. Oh my, I don't care to ever see them again. I was never so insulted in my own home. They went home Thursday, and we had to take them in a pouring rain, but I was glad Lil was gone. They said we will go in time so the horses can walk. We had gone a few rods, then Lil said Oh, make them git. Well, it was going up a small hill; they did not start, so Robert was so mad he said Mama, you don't know what Lil said, She said If I sat in front I make them old thing git, and called Robert crazy. And once at home here she called him a darn fool . One would say Git up, and one would hollor Look out for that mudpuddle. I did not say anything; I had to laugh. Poor Robert did not know what to do, but he was so nasty mad and sassed Aunt Lil, but she had no need to boss. Well, enough of my trouble. I wish the suitcase was like the size you wanted. I thought those for 49cts was the ones, but pa says they were like those paper lunch boxes, so he did not take one, but took the one for 89 or 98, I forget which. Where did you put your company to sleep. I cut a piece out of the paper "The Baby Friend" but when I read about crying I thought I would cut it out and send it to you. On Friday I made five quarts of wild cherry jell, and two of apple. Now the grapes are ripe; must pick them. We have four or five big cherries trees full of cherries, but so high and no ladder to reach them. We have 3 hickorynut trees. You will try and have its bed ready, will you, Monday

noon 1 oclock. We had a hard thunderstorm last night, but this morning no rain, but heavy mist, and now the sun is trying to shine. Last night Grandma was mad at me again, and this morning at Robert. It don't last long, the good spell. Most 2 oclock, no sunshine yet

Wish I could see you. Love to you and Mangus. Mangus, you had an easy harvest, so much rest between.. By by to you both.. Mamma

Oct. 14, 1911

To: Ruth Froelich Panzenhagen
From: Anna (Horn) Froelich

Dear Ruth, Mangus and Baby:

I have been anxiously looking every mail for word from you weather (sic) if Mangus found a place. If it had only been a postal; you know your Mamma is thinking of you every day, and last night I drempt I saw you r sweet baby laying in a baby buggie, and you were coming toward me, He was asleep, but when I got near and look he opened his eyes and smiled as sweet that I can see it before my eyes all morning.. Last Saturday I bought it a cotton blanket for the crib and wanted to sent it with papa and he left it here. I've had a lot of trouble this week. Meg is sick. One of our neighbors went to Mpls. He went to the horse doctor and got medicine. Now he must give it medicine every hour. And this morning one of our neighbors went to the city and took Julia along, and little Homer cried; he didn't want to go home. Oh, he did enjoy himself so. We have had a fair week I hope your papa will soon be through. I wish I had some of the cross stitch pattern; you have to make things. If you give Miss Kelehan coat away send on the fur collar to put on Robert's overcoat. Julia has a rattan go-cart she will give me to send to you. It has stood around in her attic so long that you must japlac (sic) it, and a nut is off. Otherwise it is as good as new. It was a present to little Homer. When those leather ones came out, Claud worked where they sold them, and he got one at cost. So Celia brought this one over to Julia to put her babies to sleep, but didn't use it this long time, and wanted Julia to send it to the Sunshine Society to give some worthy poor.. So when we get in some time we will get it and send it to you unless you are coming this way.. It will be handy for you if you wanted to go to Clara or some such place. I must close and write to your papa. If you have a baby sack pattern for your baby and a large enough for Elmer, send it to me. Hope to hear from you soon. Love to all

From you loving Mother & Robert

And the cap pattern, the one with the round piece in the back

January 12, 1912

To: Ruth Froelich Panzenhagen
From: Anna Horn Froelich

Dear Daughter, Son and Grandson:

Received you long look-for letter, and we were so glad to hear from you. Yes indeed, it is cold; we have the thermometer in front of the house on a tree where we can see it. Every time we look out of the window, and it has been below zero since New Year. 32 below tonite but twenty all day long. This last Monday, the eighth, Robert went to school, but it was 12 or 15 below, and no wind, but next day worse than ever. So he has just gone one day to school this year. It is hard walking as the snow drifts so on our road and not as much travel. Their (sic) are many scholars on the road, but none have gone so far yet this cold spell.

I see in the city yesterday they left children go home at noon anyhow. Those school are not right in the center of the city. And think of the poor that have no work and no fuel and nothing to eat. The city has its hands full careing (sic) for the poor . Yes, the weeks go too fast; I don't do anything either alth (sic) I am poking around all day. I wish you were in your new home and all settled, and that it wasn't quite so big. It will be so much for Magnus to do, and you will have enough to do to look after such a big house. It is good that you moved everything into the kitchen so that you do not need to warm up the pantry. We have our two stoves from six in the morning to eleven at night: then we pile stove full when we go to bed. And for three days we had the lantern lit in the cellar, but put it out when we go to bed.. And was afraid our potatoes would freeze, so covered them up with sack & old carpet and the robe. The pumpkins froze hard, and water, snow I had melted, as thick ice on it, and around the side of the barrel had it. My meat jar but dipped in the barrel. I covered my fruit can up so far, their (sic) was none froze. Next winter pa will have it fixed better. We stuffed rags in the holes Magnus saw, and made a new outside cellar door, but we must pile up more dirt around the house. Last winter when pa was up, it was all open as Magnus saw it, and the man had cans of fruit & potatoes in it, but then this is such a long cold spell. I do wonder when it will let up as I am so anxious for Robert to get to school. And pa want to sell some corn. Our neighbors are gone most every day, either with hay or corn, but they are strong fellows, so can stand the cold better. And it is too cold for pa to go. We do not notice any bizzared (sic), just blowing a little so it drifts. Their (sic) was a small cupboard down cellar when we came here, but it was so moldy & apart; so I scrubbed it & pa fixed it and had to make drawers for it. We thought we could put our fruit cans in it – instead I put dishes in it. It is one like Aunt Emma had if you can remember. And pa was to Hamel Monday and got papalac (sic), and now we gave it two coats of that, so now it looks as if would pass until we can get a new one. And yesterday he put shelves in the chimney , and their (sic) I have some of my best dishes, and one shelf for dish towels (sic) and towels, one for spices & medicines and the box with shelve in where I had my dishes in before I papered that and I took it upstairs and put book in and other things. So you see what fancy furniture your Mamma has. I had a letter from Julia, and she wants me to come in and spend a week with her, so

your ticket came in handy. I may go after it gets warmer. She says she wants me to learn her something; I think it is an excuse to get me to come in. Oh Dear, I must live in hope of seeing you in spring, or else your Sweet Boy be big before I can see him. And in fall, until Mangus has his work done, it will be near Christmas and cold again, and I am so anxious to see you all again, and hug & kiss you & yours. I just wish you could come nearer to us when you move again. You will be so far away from Ferbers & Richters that they cannot come to see you. I won't be jealous. I am glad babie looks like his papa. I am glad Freda & Willie treat you good; she was kind & good here. She made me my 2 aprons and helped me and bake 2 times cookies for me. But, poor girl, she must be sick so much, she was so weak from vomiting; she vomited five times till she got here. She is a poor traveler. And Will wrote it was the same way going back home, and she has her hand full with their three babies, but they are sweet and they love them too. Elmer is so good. Freddie tell you how they like our place, and does Will like it. Please tell me, and are you well – no ailments from haveing babies

How they helped me set table, that where they could help me they were so cute about it. Bernhard said Aunt Ruth's babie is so big and has laugh, and put his arms apart to show me how big. And Esther said so big, and put her hand about a foot apart. Now will tell you what Robert said, but I know you won't say anything as it would make Freddie feel bad. They were in one room & Robert in the other. He was so tickled, and when I came in where he was he got me around the neck and laughed and said Oh I wish it were Ruthie so I could hug & kiss her. He was afraid to hug & kiss Freddie, and he was as tickled to see them and the same. He is half afraid of Will, that is to hug & kiss, and he such a huggie. If he went on an errand to neighbor, he had to take Bernhard with him, and wanted to take Esther.

Sunday Afternoon

Well, yesterday it went above zero and stayed so all night, but this morning it was cloudy, and then snow, and wind blowing from the northwest. But this afternoon the sun is shining, but zero. I am tired of staying in the house so much, and was thinking this morning if we were living at our old place. I bet Ruth and Mangus would be their (sic) with their precious baby, and I could cuddle and hug it, instead of sitting around and not know what to do. I have plenty of letters to answer but haven't enough ambision (sic) to write. Mabel sent me such a nice letter before Christmas; then I owe cousin even a letter, and Ferbers, Richters & Carstens. How are Masngus' parents. I wonder if they get lonesome as I do, and how I long to see you. How are the rest of the folks, and how soon will you have to move. Freddie told me that Cook did not have anything, so what will he & Minnie live on. Perhaps he is fooling her. Do you think they will soon get married. I wonder how Mrs. O... likes it. Was that rug Freddie got from Minnie a home-made one or a boughten one. I pity Mrs., she has a lot of trouble with her family. My oh my, if I just had baby I would have a grand time playing with him. How does he like his go-cart.

Monday noon, and time to mail this letter. Robert had a quarter for me, so will sent it to you for comfort. Today it is below zero, about 10 I guess. I am trying to make myself a waist, like sample. Robert & pa, since noon, are out getting cornstalks in. Their (sic) is so much work to do, but too cold to do it. We had a letter from Grandma & Will last week too, and I kept looking till your letter came, and everyone fighting to read it first; that always the way with you & Will's letters.

Now write and tell me if you are good and will as if are all right after baby was born. You can ceil (sic) it up alone. How was Grandma when you were at Willie's. Was Grandma over at Wills. Have you heard weather (sic) Aunt Emma is coming to see Grandma. I must close if I want this to go today. Yes, dear girl, money is scarce too. Pa had figured wrong, and when Will was here he had to give 53 dollars yet, and that left us just \$10 cans, and that all we have left until we can sell corn or one pig. And your pa had to borrow money to buy his horses, and borrowed some last spring so he could finish paying for this place. Now, when we get our interest money, we have to pay 35 out of it for interest on what we borrowed, but don't let on to pa. He won't like it perhaps Love to All.

Loveingly, Mamma & all.

January 24, 1912
Hamel

To: Ruth Froelich Panzenhagen
From: Anna Horn Froelich

Well, this week we have it a little warmer, and hope it won't get very cold for such a long time again. I hope you get the sweater in time, for I sent it the 15th. How is your cold? We have not had grip; Of course, pa had his cough off & on all winter. My nose has not bled this winter, but then I have used every night Mentholatum every night even before pa came home. I do not need many hankerchief as I used to. Now, you use it regular and all – how it will help you. I got it with the paper you sent me a slip and pink wrapper that the time was up to pay. Was it for just six months or a year you paid for; tell me as I want to keep getting it.. And wanted to tell you to prop the buggy so if he kicks and lays back too far so it won't upset and spill him out. Wish I could see him. And it is time again for a nice long letter to us from you

. Yesterday, papa & Robert went to the city to sell popcorn & beans. Butter was 35 & eggs 32, Had a half bushel of beans – got \$1.33 - and 2 ½ cts a pound for popcorn on the cob Jan, 27. This is a lovely day; it is 20 above zero when we got up. It was snowing a little; had snowed some during the night, but at half past ten the sun came out and it is so nice. Robert went to school Monday, then Tuesday he went with pa to hold the team while pa had to see where they would buy popcorn. Then Wednesday morning Robert start again, but go just as far as the neighbor, then they told teacher was sick, and that their (sic) was no school this week. So they has been working every day .First got snow to melt so I got soft water to wash with, and we always keep our resovoir (sic) full of snow water. It is so nice and clean that I keep a barreful in the cellar, so I have had soft water ever since the first snow fall. You ought to have the cistern cleaned when you move too, but I suppose it is too full of water for that. Oh dear, when I think of it – in about five-six weeks you will be moving. I wish I could be their (sic) to help you. I would not be much at hard work, but I could take care of baby. My, but I would enjoy that. Perhaps you have heard about Aunt Emma. Harold wrote and said ever since the 20 of Dec. she has been in the hospital. The doctors say she is suffering from acute melancoly (sic) and they could do nothing for her at home. She had to be away from home and friends for a while – not see one of her family. Harold said he went to her hospital every day to inquire about her. She don't find out anything, just what the nurse tell her. It may be three month or more till she can come home. Harold said some days she was alright, then all at once she was out of her head and did not know what she was doing. Now, isn't that awful. I do hope she will be alright soon. Now write as soon as you can. Papa has enough vests now so they can wait till you come, then you can bring them along. The samples black & white a waist blue wrapper card board you can make another leg. Love, hugs and kisses to my sweets,,Mamma & Pa & Robert

June 27, 1912

To: Ruth Froelich Panzenhagen
From: Anna Horn Froelich

Minn

Dear Ruthie & Family:

How are you all. Are you through with your strawberries now, and could you get help .We are always busy. On Tuesday finished first coat paint on house and today Pa went to Mpls to get paint for second coat and paris green for our potatoes and a spring couch or so sanatory (sic) couch. And the horses were in the pasture all night, so they chaised (sic) them over an hour before they caught them. Robert and Homer are in the woods putting brush on a pile to burn. Homer, he came out with us last Friday and wants to stay for two weeks, and Ella came yesterday. How long she will stay I do not know. She look poorly. Then Celia wants to come out with her babies two weeks. So I guess I will have all the company I want. Afternoon I must finish this. I suppose Lillie is with Grandma now. I wonder how it will go, weather (sic) she will raise a rumpus or not, I am afraid. May will slap the little ones. Are you thru with the carpenters. Our corn and all around here is poor, it only 6 or 7 inches high. I have seen just one small nice field, that was just yesterday going to Hamel. Oh, my Dear, I am so sleepy I cannot think to write but would like to send this letter so you could have it this week. Tomorrow I want to bake and do some cleaning, and next week I have a big week to do. What is babies doing; he must be a strong boy. God Bless Him. Where will you go this fourth. I do not know where we will be , mayby [sic] near us somewhere. I am getting so lazy I do not care to dress up to go anywhere, if you go anywhere. Is time for the mailman , so by by loves.

Write soon

Loving Mamma

Four more Horn letters found with the Panzenhagen Letters)

January 21, 1918

To: Anna Marie (Horn) Froelich
From: Eva Horn

Lehighton

Well, Dear Sister and all:

I should have written sooner but it just seemed I could not get at it. It has been so very cold and have had heavy snows these last two months. Abe was nearly frozen working in the round house. He wouldn't go out in the evening at all – just set and shiver – said he couldn't get warm. We had no regular program on Christmas, just songs out of the church book, and we had a harpist and violinist from Allentown to play for us. You said you didn't remember that bridge we sent you. No, that is quite new, and the names of the streets ain't changed. You must remember that new cemetery that was started in Salzburg on the other side of the little Lehigh when we lived on Jackson Street and the bridge crosses the little Lehigh at 8 St. There is a nice double brick house where we lived, and Ray's and Hank's and Susman's stand yet, but there is a store at Susman's place, and everything is very much built up. Allentown is certainly a beautiful place.

Well, Santa was real good to us. I thank you for my gift. My crochard (sic) bag is very nice. I haven't crocheted this winter yet. Miriam has done some. I got what you gave me and some handkerchiefs, stockings, apron, and a lot of cards and booklets and Mame Heffernan's children's picture. I couldn't give a thing but good wishes. Mirrie may write and tell what the rest got. I was down at Dave's. The children all had the chicken pox and are well now, but poor Dave is so miserable. He has such pains in his head. I guess it's from straining his eyes to see. Oh, I pity him so, and when he don't work it throws him back so All worked stopped (sic) for five days except the railroad, and that I know is hard on Dave. They are so thankful (sic) for the money Will sent them. They said they couldn't thank him enough. Carrie got Dave two pair of good wollen (sic) socks for a Christmas gift. He is such a cold guy. Well, Arthur will be fourteen the 19th of February, then he will be able to help them. He had been in a drug store after school hours, but they couldn't afford (sic) to dress him nice enough for that job then he lost it. I felt so sorry for him for he is smart and learns so well.

I saw the letter you wrote that Wills were going to visit Wisconsin. What is the name of the place he is going to.

Well, two of our Lehighton boys died in camp, one at San Antonio and the other at Camp Meade. Both died of pneumonia. One was buried two weeks ago from our church. It was a very large funeral. The church was filled up and downstairs and some didn't get in. He was just married on the first of November when he left for camp, and the other is Barber Diehl's son. He will be buried at Roslyn near Philadelphia. His funeral service will be

held tomorrow night. I would like to see him but perhaps one can't see him. I certainly feel sorry for his parents. Our organist (sic) left for a camp in the south last week and Paul Reichard, a son of Ed Reichard (you know him, a brother to Agie Reichard) is our organist now, and he is only fifteen years old and plays the organ fine. His mother is the daughter of James Hollenback.

Well, according to the old tradition we ought have a very fruitful year this year. They say when there is snow on the ground it protects the grain and things. Well, there is plenty of snow this winter and we won't have to hoverize (sic) on the ice next summer. If only this war would end, but I guess it will be a while yet.

Well, I am feel real good again only I ain't as strong as I'd like to be. Mirrie started a dress for Edith. She grows so fast. She is lengthening one for her too. Webster is getting along fine in school. They can't use the new school building this winter on account of the coal. They say it takes three ton a day in that building and here we almost live on top of the mines and can't get it. It's very plentiful, but there is a blockade of some kind, and they have cut down passenger service too, and the trains that are on are never on time. I wonder if things will never strait (sic) out again. The trolley hasn't (sic) run over the mountain for some weeks. Would like to spend a day with Mrs. Kreider before long. Have not heard from Sallie or Sue for some time. We saw saw by the paper that Schwab is going to entertain the Bach Choir in New York the 29th and Sallie will surly (sic) go if she is well. I guess she is busy preparing to go. That is why she don't write, I think, and poor Sue to[o] nervous. She has such a hard time to keep warm, but it's her own fault. She has money but don't want to use it. She could pay a girl and have some comfort but she says she won't have anyone, and if she must crawl, well, she is near that now. It's a shame to[o], she said if Alvie lived she would have it nicer. He was so good to her.

Well, how is Ruthie and her family. I often think of her nice little girl. She looks so sweet on her picture. I guess she would make a chum for Edie and Viola. How is Norman. You never mention him, and how are Willie's kiddies. Well, I could roar at Edith. She got a toy piano and when Miriam plays she goes at her piano and drums on it and keeps time with Mirrie. Paddy Mack is her favorite. She sings that at the top of her. She is great company.

Well, I must close with love to all as Miriam wants to write some to[o]. Hoping to this will find you all well.

Your Sister Eva. Kisses to all

(This letter was enclosed with the following one from Miriam Christman)

January 22, 1918

To: The Froehlich Family (Mrs. C. G. Froehlich)
From: Miriam (Horn) Christman

Lehighton, Pa. Jan 2, 1918

Dear Sister & Family:

I am ashamed I didn't write and thank you sooner for your gifts to us. I have put the bag to good use already. I made a yoke since Xmas. It is handy in that the ball isn't always on the floor. We had a lovely Xmas. I said we could be glad to be together. Goodness knows what a year my (sic) bring forth. I was well remembered. Received 3 fancy bags, a sweater from Web, a \$2 ½ box of candy from Hiram, a pair silk stockings, crochet liugere clasp, 3 handkerchiefs, and many cards which I always appreciate. Edith got gold bracelet from a friend, ring with Uncle Harvey's money to her, has your quarter and part of his money left. A string of beads from Isabel Scott, a fancy silver spoon from cousin Edith (the two girls she was named for), a toy set of dishes, handkerchief, hand-bag, (ironing board from Dave's, from Hi a doll, from Santa piano and doll's high-chair. I gave Abram a nice umbrella, Hi a year's subscription to Boy's Life, and got a camera with it, Web two checks in the Christmas Savings Fund and each a pair of fancy sleeve holders, Eva an apron, gloves, handkerchief and stockings. Hiram was happy with his camera and took snap shots of us all, even the cat and Xmas tree, but they didn't all turn out well. Jr. got sled and drawing book from Santa, 2 story-books, leggings with Uncle's money, pop-gun, handkerchief, friction trolley car, stockings and 50 cts in money. The children of the primary department gave e a cantata on Christmas night but I didn't let mine take part. A year ago we had to leave before we had supper and got home at nearly eight o'clock and had to go 3 weeks or more. It was too far for Jr. to go alone, and always at 6 o'clock. We went once this year (Wed, eve).

Dear Sister, this has been a busy day, we had such a big wash. The pipes were frozen up Mon. & Tues so we couldn't wash sooner. So I made Edith a dress and myself an apron. Web and Hi were home from last Thus until this morning on account of the fuel situation. Hi has been sick in bed all day. Had diarrhoea (sic) and vomiting and headache. I went for medicine tonight and Dr. calls it grippe..Hope he'll soon be alright again. Since we have the piano it brings so much young company to the house. We have nice times. We have flinch (sic) and Monday eve we went to a neighbors' house with it and our music. Yesterday afternoon a young lady came to spend the afternoon with Hi. He is livelier than Abram. Abram is a comical fellow when he gets started but is too dignified in the presence of girls. Young ladies give him (Abram) one invitation after another for parties but the old silly won't go. So they come here to see my boys. A young lady called Abram up to be her partner to a sleighing party but he refused. Another one wanted him to sing in Bethany church with her but he wouldn't. He could have such nice times.

A Pro-German from town was sent to the Federal Prison at Atlanta Ga. for his talk. There are a few more being watched. It was reported that an air-plane was seen in

Allentown at one o'clock at night headed towards the Bethlehem Steel Plant where big guns are being made. I was so nervous while in Bethlehem last Feb. to Aunt Mary's funeral. I was worried about everything. An automobile tire exploded with two loud reports and I imagined it was pistol shots, my heart beat like wild.

It is getting late so will close for this time, with love to all. Remember me to Ruth and family and tell her will write to her now soon and to Will's too before they change their address. Mrs. Horn called on us early in Nov. With thanks for our Xmas gifts and love to you all. I am your sister

Miriam (over)

I must tell you what Edith said before Xmas while her mind was full of Santa Claus. She wanted a piano so bad and one day said "Dear Santa Claus, please fetch me a piano because I wanted for one, for Jesus sake. Amen. She often says "Are you glad I came down from Heaven?" One day she said so sweetly "I was up in Heaven, and then I came home, didn't I?". She is a sweet busy little thing. And Webster draws so nicely. His school marks are all G's (good) and E's (excellent). He went to a sleighing party with the teacher & pupils last week.

March 24, 1918

To: Anna Marie (Horn) Froelich (Mrs. C. G. Forehlich)
From: Eva Horn

Bethlehem, March 24, 1918

Dear Sister:

I suppose you are surprised to see I am Bethlehem. Am here since the 13. Promised to stay only 3 weeks, for Miriam needs me badly to. It's housecleaning time and she can't do it alone. She has Rheumatism in her elbow for about 6 weeks and Sue don't want to let me go. She can hardly get along on her feet and she has been quite ill. A trained nurse was there for four weeks. She has a good appetite but she can't dress herself and her legs are dreadful. They have big black spots – bigger than a hand. They say it's gangrene and cancer, but her legs are dry. They claim it's eating inward. She knows nothing about it. I don't know

(undecipherable)..says she wants to take her down to live with them and Sue won't do it. She wants Willie Spinner to give up his job in Jersey and come and live with her. They never will, for when he was out of work she would not have them. Then she said she would rather crawl around on her hands and knees than have them. The Moravian Church put the nurse here. The Kings daughters pay her. Sue is hard pay. She don't want to pay anyone anything. She says she is poor. And I know she has 25 hundred dol in the Easton bank to be for Ira's daughter and Sallie. Ira's daughter came when Sue was so sick, and Sue says she only (undecipherable)... with Sue when she is here. She stays at the Eagle hotel She wants to b near Toney. She works at Jamestown, New York State, and her mother is a fashionable dressmaker in Warren Pa.

Oh, it's a beautiful day. I would so like to go to church but it's spring here and I have nothing but my heavie (sic) Astrakam coat. I wanted to take my other one but it was too cold at the time. Henry's wife is going to the hospital for an operation. This will be the third time. I am sorry that Granville s so sick. I hope he will soon be allright. Again every one has their troubles one way or other. Sallie has kidney trouble pretty bad. She was coming out this week and she wasn't (sic) here so I guess she ain't very well. I suppose you (undecipherable)... Sue said I should tell you she would take a trip out to see you when she felt younger and her income larger. Well she could come if her limbs could cary (sic) her, money she has .I am homesick for the kiddies. I hope Ruth's family are all well again. You certainly have your own time and you are the prop and mainstay of them all. I guess they would not know what to do without you. I wish you and Hubby could come east this summer. Tell him to hurry and get strong Janes babie had Bronchitis and Pneumonia but is better again, and poor James legs are so sore again. I pity him so goes to work with it all and can hardly see. Well I give love and Kisses for all hoping this will find all Well.

(The following was written perpendicularly on top of the page)

Well, I must close. Sue sends love and (undecipherable).. Ans as soon as you can and write as Sue can read it. Don't ans certain things , I mean. Lovingly yours, Eva.

(There is a note on the back of the envelope "Eva's last letter")

July, 1972

2082 Berwyn Street,
Union, N. J. 07083

Dear Dorothea:

Since I have so much to say I will forego my usual script and type my reply to your very welcome letter and contents of the 18th.

Your mother's first letter to me said that she had an old Bible in the attic which had several sheets in it holding some geneological material, that you were interested in this field and that she had promised the Bible to you and that sometime when her headaches were better she would get the information for me. You can imagine how thrilled I was to get the copies for now certain stories I heard from your great-aunt Eva when I was a child have a relationship and begin to fill out the picture. For instance, I have been irritated that no one seemed to know my great-grandmother's maiden name. Your paper tells me Hepler and also the tale of the slaying of one of the Hepler men. Aunt Eva told me that this occurred at the Settlement of Christianbrunn (Christian Springs) I have visited this area about halfway between Bethlehem and Nazareth. I have heard that the Abraham Horn Sr. family left Allentown but no-one seemed to know where they had gone or when they returned, that they had owned property which they had disposed of and which later became extremely valuable, that a Ross had tended lock on the canal near Allentown. I note that this information was inscribed on regular printed geneological sheets bearing the family name and one of them signed A. P. Horn. Although I can't positively identify him I beleive him to have been the Rev. Alfred P. Horn (1852-1906) who lived in Lehlghton. I will have to do abit of research on him as he might have collected a mountain of Information I could use.

I have been checking Into the Horn family tree for almost two years now and have made many day-trips to Allentoen, Bethlehem, Easton, Lehlghton, Weissport and Mauch Chunk (now Jim Thorpe) all of which are between 60 and 100 miles of Union. One of the best sources of information I have been able to use has been the geneological library of the Mormon Church which is quite extensive. I also have had all the unmarked graves in the Horn lots in Gnadenhutten Cemetery, Lehlghton probed to verify whether they are occupied and by knowledge of the cemetery custom of Interring from right to left as deaths occur and from the marked graves have been able to put aluminum markers Imbedded in cement slabs on the graves previously unmarked. I have found the grave of Abraham Horn Sr. (1784-1851) in Bunker Hill Cemetery, Weissport and that of his son, Franklin Charles (1827-1842) seven graves away. I have also visited the graves of Magdalena Horn, her son John and her grandson John in the cemetery at 10th and Linden Sts. Allentown and now can add this-The CCC, after the depression made a project of this cemetery and listed all the graves, their occupants and then laid the stones flat, imbedding them in cement. There, also marked with a bronze marker stating "Revolutionary War Soldier" and also noted on a large bronze Placque at the entrance is the Grave of Lt. John (Johannas) Horn, the John Conrad mentioned on the Sheets. I also have taken pictures of Magdalena Troxell 's birthplace still standing in Egypt Pa. and now a historical property of the Lehlgh County Historical Society. There are records showing that a

Burckhard Troxell was a councilor in Berne, Switzerland in 1367. Peter Troxell came to America in August 1733.

I am enclosing several photocopies of some of the information I have gathered together. You will note that I have gone one generation beyond John Conrad and Abraham, Nicholas and Barbara, but here I am making no progress at present, although deeds in the Northampton County courthouse mention his owning property on the Easton Square. I could not locate Barbara's grave in the Old Williams Cemetery last Saturday but the records indicate that she is buried there.

On genealogical sheet 1. I have not noted the fact that Abraham "Horn Jr. was married previously since further research must be made. I found a record stating that he married a Polly Peter of Lowhill on May 15, 1853. I remember as a tot meeting a George Horn whom my father said was his step-brother. He was still living when my father died in 1933.

I have some information on other names mentioned on your sheets, but have not concentrated on them, not being a trained genealogist and realizing their value at the time. Here is what I have on the Rosses-Wesley Methodist Church, Bethlehem-
Abraham Horn, Carbon County married Jurusha Ross on Dec. 24, 1859 (Jerusha Ross note spelling above) "Joined church in 1858.

1790 census (1st U.S. Census)

Charles Heidelberg Twp. Northampton County	3	males,	2	females
John Lehigh Twp. Northampton County	1	"	2	"
William- " " " "	4	"	3	"
Thomas -Mt. Bethel " " " "	5	"	4	"
Zachar'S- " " " "	3	"	1	"
James " " " "	1	"	3	"

1820 Census

Thomas " " " "	3	"	2	"
Samuel " " " "	2	"	2	"
David " " " "	4	"	3	"
John " " " "	5	"	5	"
Joseph " " " "	5	"	2	"

1830

Census				
Thomas " " " "	5	"	2	"
David " " " "	5	"	3	"

Union Cemetery Interments (Rosses)

Plot #1 Jacob 4-22-1827 to 11-24-1877
 Sybilla (wife) 8-23-1836 to 1-29-1910
 John (son) 5-4-1844 to 9-12-1865
 *David (son) 1795 to 5-14-1867 (Jerusha's father)
 * Henrietta (wife) 1806 to 2-24-1882(Jerusha's mother)

Plot #2. *David 11-24-1834 to 11-9-1911 (Jerusha's brother)
 *Mary Ann 6-2-1840 to 2-7-1917 (David's wife)
 John H. (son) 11-9-1867 to 8-24-1868
 Sarah A. (daughter) 2-4-1857 to 1-15-1859

Anniversary History of Lehigh County Vol.1, page 155
 7th class privates Co.7, 3rd Battalion, Northampton County

Militia per Muster Roll 6-18-1777

Charles Ross Lawrence Ross

Extracts from Bethlehem Daily Times 1867-1890 (Rosses and Spinners)

1. Charles, son of David Ross, married Miss Mary Moritz, daughter of X(?) Edwin Moritz, Philadelphia. By Rev. Mr. Spooner in Bethlehem Nov. 11th, 1866.
2. Mrs. David Ross (Henrietta), born in New Jersey, died Feb. 24, 1882 at residence of son, William, in Bethlehem, aged 77. Buried in Union Cemetery, Allentown, Methodist Episcopal. Survived by William a. of Bethlehem, David of South Bethlehem, James S. of Mauch Chunk, Mrs. A. W. Horn of Lehigh and Mrs. John Geehr of Freemansburg, and 5 grandchildren.
3. Howard, son of David Ross, died 8-26-1877, in Freemansburg, Aged 4. Buried in Trinity Cemetery.
4. Moses Spinner, born 3-20-1811, died 8-3-1866 in Bethlehem. Married Miss Catherine Horn, daughter of Abraham and Anna Maria Horn 10-21-1832. He was a wheelwright and coachmaker.
5. Catherine, wife of Moses Spinner, born 6-18-1812 in Lehigh

Married 10-21-1832 by Rev. Joshua Yeager of Allentown. Issue 7 children. Survived by Miss Susan Mack of Altoona, Henry T. Spinner of Phillipsburg, Miss Sallie E. Spinner of Bethlehem, a brother and a sister, 5 grand-children and 3 great-grandchildren. In reference 2. above the Mrs. A.W. Horn is my grandmother Jerusha. References 1 and 3 above show that she had two brothers not listed in 2 so that the David Ross children were Jerusha, Her sister-Mrs. Geehr, and five brothers-Charles, Howard, William, David and James.

I remember Miss Sally Spinner when I was a youngster. She had a beautiful handwriting quite like Edith Long's and used wash-blue instead of ink. She was small, dainty, a regular lady. She sang in Bethlehem's Bach choir under J. Fred Wolle.

I feel that I have been able to unearth an awful lot in two years. A great deal may never be found because of the early years of Easton's records being lost or misplaced. Wm. Penn's sons had the town laid out and sold lots there as early as 1752. The town map included with these papers was drawn from old plots after the Revolution and many lots had already changed hands. In 1755 there were only 40 dwellings in Easton, including 5 taverns, but it is recorded that John and Stephan Horn lived there-at that time. In the papers I am including a copy of John Conrad's estate inventory, as listed by Magdalena and John, their son. I am also enclosing a print of a picture I took of a posed photograph of the Abraham Horn family taken near the turn of the century. Your mother may not have had a picture of this group.

I have not been able to trace any Froehlich records because I would have to have just an inkling of where he came from and a bit more background. And that might even be futile.

I would like to have the day in July 1934 that your Grandma Froellch, my Aunt Anna died.

In the Revolution, the militia, something like our National Guard, usually were signed up for a three month period and, when not in the

field, were on call. The 2nd Battalion, Later 3rd, according to the Pa. Archives, saw action in either skirmishes or battles at Germantown, WhiteMarsh, Brandy-wine, all in Pa. and in Assunpink, Princeton and Monmouth, all in New Jersey. They were mustered in June 18th, 1777 and took supplies by ox train to the troops at Brandywine, loaded the wagons with wounded and brought them to the hospitals at Bethlehem. It is quite

probable that they helped transport the Liberty Bell to Allentown prior to the British occupation of Philadelphia.

John (Johannas or Hannes) is listed as a "Hudmaker" (hatmaker)on the tax lists during the Revolution and Abraham Jr. is listed as a cordwainer (shoemaker)in the 1860 census. I can get no verification that Abraham served during the Civil War but I do remember that he had an old rifle and bayonet when I was young and my father belonged to the Sons of Veterans.

Well, how's that for an answer. By John's Involvement in the Revolution, which is documented, you are eligible, if you desire, to belong to the D.A.R. or the Colonial Dames.

How, for myself. After a strenuous Easter Sunday, I collapsed and had to be rushed to the hospital with hypertension, irregular and slow heartbeat but I am home again and feel fine with no extreme limits to my activities. My mother is in the hospital in Palmerton with some gastrointestinal trouble and we are concerned about her. Now I'll have to close.

Your second Cousin-

Arthur

PANZENHAGEN LETTERS

(Letters written by other
family members and friends)

Found among the letters

1905 (assumed)

By: Unknown

My grandfather told [me] that in the revolution there was a man by the name of Ross [who] had three sons; two fought for the Tories, and the other one [fought] on the American side, for which he was disowned by his father. Going home at one time his father saw him coming, move[d] to the door and motioned him away. And my grandfather was a descendant of that man; was grandpa of Grandfather; it was Mother; don't know which.

My grandfather had only one brother, and he moved to Canada. His name was Ellis Ross, and [he] had a sister Prudence [who] did not marry until [she] was 60 years old. [She was] married to a man by the name of Allen, and a sister Hannah married to a man by the name of Losey, another brother and sister died young, Jacob and Sallie. Jerusha don't know if she lived to grow up or not.

1908 November 8

To: Mrs C. G. Froehlich
From: Ruth M. Froehlich
Subject:

Taunton Ha Ha
Mpls Minn
Nov 8-1908

My Dear Mamma & all

Hurrah for Taft! I know papa this isnt what you wanted but we have to make the best of it Claude & Mr Hontz voted for Bryan. I think it is awful mean Monday night a lot of factory owners payed their men off and sent them home told that if Taft was elected they could come back to work Thursday and if Bryan was they wouldn't need to come at all that was as bad as bribing them

Julia Ann just about five picked a dandeloin (sic) what do you think of that? and about the twentieth of October she picked a violet and the twenty four so something like she was throwing out water when she found the dandeloin(sic).

Mamma Julia wanted to know if you would send that perscription for that medicine she doesn't feel good at all and wondered if that would help her she said it wouldn't hurt to try I mean that what I was taking you can copy it off. I didn't mean to send the perscription you got but one like it Ha Ha

Julia said she was having a cup of coffee and a piece of eggless cake for a second breakfast and acting the fool.

I have my skirt all most done just to fix the bottom and sew on the belt and press it and overcast the seems(sic) also hooks and eyes

Celia cam up Monday in the after noon she went down she wanted me to go along but I wanted to keep on sewing after I started in the evening Claude came after her he played on the piano quite a while. Celia cut up I had to laugh at her so. Their little baby is going to walk before he creeps.

Well to-morrow I go to Rex's and next week I am going to Celias maybe I will make a skirt for Celia.

I wanted to write to you last night Mabel too but before we had the dishes washed Lib and Clarence and Mr & Mrs Williams cam up Celia came up in the morning and in the afternoon she went to the met with her sister-in-law I guess then in the evening Claude came after her so we had a house full.

Geneva hasn't been to work yesterday nor to-day, Tuesday noon when she went to work some thing got in her eye in the evening she rubbed it and Julia told her to put something on it she told her to scrape a potatoe and put in on instead of doing that she just put a slice on in the morning it was worse Julia told her to go to the doctor or stay to home and she would fix it she went to work but at ten she was home she had been to the doctor then when she cane back they put beef on it was better but this morning it is worse she didnt go to day

Mama don't you like my dress you didn't say much about it if you don't like it tell me so they all made such a fuss over it here and I was dissappointed when I got you letter I am sorry if my hat

don't suit you. oh ray mamma I wish you was here I haven't had
no love, petting or coaxing for so long

I hope baby dear is over his cold I bet he looked
nice in the syrup and papa dear how are you getting along and
Robbie boy too

I must close now and get to work or I won't get my
skirt done hoping to hear from you soon. I will write to
Grandma soon I wrote to grandma H night before last.

Love and kisses to
all from Your
loving daughter
and sister

Ruth

I haven't heard from Minnie yet tell I'm looking for
a letter.

November 25 Minneapolis, Mn To:
Mrs C. G. Froehlich From: Ruth M.
Froehlich Subject:

Mpls Minnesota Nov 25-
1908

My Dearest Mama & all

Well tomorrow is Thanksgiving all ready it doesn't seem like it tho because we have such lovely weather it is so warm. we had nice weather till yesterday and it has been raining awful hard to-day it started just a little while before noon and rained something terrible just poured down, just when the people had to do home for dinner then there has been heavy showers of & on during the afternoon, it lightning once and thundered (sic) real, hard to-night it is sprinkling we expect show till morning but it is hard to tell whether we will get it or not.

Monday morning we had a heavy fog. a month from to-day is Christmas and yesterday Bernhard was fifteen months old. I bet he has grown I cant wait till I see him.

Well mamma if every thing goes alright I will leave here Tuesday morning December the first and arrive there Tuesday night. "watch for me" "I'll Be There" Dec 1.

I was looking for a letter this week but i haven't go(sic) I got one from Freda and Minnie also Clara too last week, and thot(sic) sure I would get one from you to-day.

I was to the Fowler church Sunday night as I said. so Celia and I, oh my! it is beautiful oh just lovely the pipe organ was the whole front of the church that is the place in front where we our altar there are seventy-two ouoes and about twenty-six summies it certainly is a large one the pews are mahogany it is very rich looking the singing was lovely and the music, it just made the church ring oh I cant tell you what it was like. then Tuesday I was to a wedding in the St Joseph catholic church win Mrs Kern that is a beautiful too they have such lovely pictures the bride was dressed in white satin the brides-maid in white silk, it just poured down all morning well id did all day on the hack there was a piece of white muslin on there was printed with red letters "Just Married" there was a cow bell tied to it too. The bride carried whit chrystanths (sic) and the bridesmaid pink she wore a veil .

Julia has every-thing for her Thanksgiving dinner she has a good, turkey was to high. Where are you going? Freda said she thot(sic) they would stay home in the cornfield

My cold is gone this long time. I had forgotten all about it and when you spoke of my cold I had to stop to think when I had one .

I have done a thing to Minnie's R. lace yet its seemes(sic) as tho I dont get a thing done.

Well it snowed last night but did not cover the ground as there was to much water on the ground but the house tops are covered and also where there isn't no water.it looks like Thanksgiving

I must stop now and get ready for church

Geneva doen't have to work today

How is every body? I have been to five churches already and will go to another this morning

Well I will close with love and kisses to all from you Own
loving daughter and sister

Ruth

I intended to write to Granma F. but didn't have time I may yet. Bye Bye

1909

three letters in one envelope

To: Ruth Froelich
From; Robert Froelich, Anna Horn Froelich

Taunton, Minn.

Dear Ruth:

I got your letter today too, Have the grippe got you. Had me to long didn't(sic) it.

We have a new team . Fannie is very strong, pulls very hard, and eats too of corse(sic) – haha.

Willie was up Sunday, and we hitched up Fannie pretty buckie well, started off, went pretty good for a few steps and then started off like a crazy galloping but could not get away, and after she found that she could not get away, and walked so nice. Then we hitched her 2day, don't get scare, nothing happens. Starting dragging.

We hitched her up in the wagon first, only me and papa, and she never forgot – went offnale (sic) as the old horse and drove around the on, hitched her it to the drag on hard ground. She started off wild on account of the noise, but got settled down and went good; but when we quite (sic) she was an old horse, tired as a mule. She would not stump and we let the other horses out. She did not come so good[by] loses and kissed [love and kisses?]

Robert ans soon
Hope the other horse goes a little better

April 6

Dearest Daughter:

Received your letter today and am sorry you had grip so bad, but hope you are a great deal better now. We intended to come over Sunday but papa and I had the grip Friday and Saturday and Sunday we were better when Willie and Frieda came. They left about two for her fold. Papa is shurely (sic) over the grip – he is singing and playing the organ. Teacher washed dishes Thursday evening & Friday. Saturday she swept dining room. Saturday night I took a sweat and did not sleep good, and last night papa & I kept each other company, coughing till near morning, then was sleeping so good when it was time to get up. On Saturday morning papa brought up the little chicks their (sic) there were 30 of them – 2 were cripples – then he set it on Sunday. Saturday morning Mrs. Schmuhl came over here for the eggs – could only spare eight dozen – and Matilda came for 2 doz.

more today. Tomorrow I must get up earlier (sic) as papa & Willie want to go to an auction. Papa wants to buy a cow if he can, and it commences at ten o'clock. If he come home early enough we will come over in the evening to see how. Now pick up courage and be my brave little girl. The time will slip around. I am sorry I did not get this letter sent today and yet I wanted to hear first if we don't get their (sic) tomorrow evening. If I haint (sic) mistaken Matilda said if the younger ones were over the grip they would come over Sunday. I had to think what she was saying for quite a while. I am pretty shure (sic) that what she said, I do hope not. for I thought we could come out on Sunday too.

Teacher and Robert were at Carstens on Sunday afternoon. Robert churned butter for me this morning, and last Wednesday he laid in bed all day on the long again, but now he is all right but cough, so am I. But enough.

Good Night Sweet Heart

Tuesday sixth

Well, half past nine, and papa gone to auction and I have a rooster to clean, and all the work to do, and haint (sic) started yet. We slept (sic) so late papa say he can't see why we can't do our coughing towards morning so we could get up in time. Robert is hauling manure out of the pasture. Teacher say Hello to you. She was kind to me – I feel better – can work alright but by by now I must begin. Love and kisses from Mamma.

Got my dress Aunt Miriam sent; it like soft gray calico.. Willie stocking were tan. Robert tie is small check. blue and grey. Papa will get the wash machine today/ You don't get mad – your shirt hanger did not come. The machine came from factory, and the hanger they have in store, and to sent it alone would cost more freight than the hanger itself.

Love to Minnie and babie Mamma

November 15th, 1910

To: Ruth Froelich
From: Mary ?

Minneapolis, Minn.

Dear Ruth:

I rec'd your letter some time ago, but did not have time to answer it, and we also rec'd the invitations for your wedding. Thanks, am sorry we can not come. You see, we are building an addition to our little cottage – a kitchen, pantry and a bathroom. So I have carpenters thru the house most all the time, so it would not do to leave the house. I'm rather disappointed 'cause I'd very much like to take in your wedding. Hope you'll remember me with one of your wedding pictures. I spose you think I have my nerve. Our little girl is doing fine, full of mischief. She tried hard to talk. Emily is back from Wilmar – came last Thursday. Mother is fairly well; father had a sore foot, and was better when he slipped and fell – hurt it over again, so he's laid up.

Ruth, here is a little present, not much tho, and I wish you a long and properious (sic) life and a very happy one.. If you'll be as happy as I am you will never regret it. Wishing you all the happiness in the world, I remain your Friend Mary. Greet your father and mother. Thank you for the Invitation, with best wishes,

Ans soon.

November 15th, 1910

To: Ruth Froelich
From: Mary ?

Minneapolis, Minn.

Dear Ruth:

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Ruth, here is a little present, not much tho, and I wish you a long and properious (sic) life and a very happy one.. If you'll be as happy as I am you will never regret it. Wishing you all the happiness in the world, I remain your Friend Mary. Greet your father and mother. Thank you for the Invitation, with best wishes,

Ans soon.

(This letter was in the same envelope as the preceding one)

January 14, 1912

To: Ruth Froelich Panzenhagen
From: Robert Froelich

Hamel, Minn.

Dear Dear Dear Dear Sister:

I received your letter and was glad to here (sic) from you. Ma says I should write anything and everything, so I suppose it will be quite a letter, don't you think it will. I have about a half page wrote already. What is my big nephew doning (sic). I suppose he is picking cofe (sic) fore you by the bushel, and is helping Mangus do the chores. You want to send him down here I think I could make use of him. Could help mama and papa. And I wright (sic) or not. I guess I am not anyway, not know (sic). I have one page wrote already. It is snowing all the time. Wht are you Boo oo oo oo oo oo oo oo about; why don't you say Hoo oo oo oo. It is nice and warm down here. There is lots of trees and lots of stuff. It is above zero now, and was all last night, isn't that nice. You musn't say dogone (sic) it, that isn't proper You must say go on it, and that would be proper. You know me and I know you, so there no use of inturducing (sic), is there. Say, you see that you get down here in spring. If you don't, I will come and pull you down. Do do do you ferstay (sic). Know (sic) mind and be a good girlie.

Say, Ruth, how are the roads to town; I suppose they are priety (sic) bad. Are they any snowbanks in your yard or in the grove. I bet Kubesher have lots of banks in there. We haven't any banks in our yard; the woods hides it. It is so nice; you don't feel any wind. All there is is just the steady cold air. We didn't (sic) have know (sic) day that we couldn't (sic) go to town yet. I am sending you that bunny man that you wanted. You can trim his eyes and put the string in. you know how, surely, don't you. You can collar (sic) his eyes, and you can use the black side or the white side. I suppose Minnie is queer, but let her alone and be a good girlie. I suppose you will be glad to get away from there. So Walter has left Will, and is down to Idies. I guess he is better off were(sic) he is, don't you think. So all me and papa does is playing checkers. I skunked papa four times in succession, but he never skunked me so many times. What is Mangus doing. Tell me all about your other farm. I think I wrote about enought (sic), so I will close. From your dear dear dear brother Robert. Ans soon

November 12, 1912

To: Ruth Froelich Panzenhagen
From: Ada Rogers

To: Mrs. Mangnus Panzenhagen
From: Ada Rogers

Porter, Minn.
Nov-12-12

Dear Friend:

I received your letter today, and I don't know as I can tell you how it made me feel.

I guess you must have the impression that I don't want to work for you, or won't. And you think because there is so many of us I don't have much to do. But I tell you the truth I have the most to do of any of the girls. I haent done any sewing since before harvest. And you can guess what there is to sew for four of us girls, Besides mama & the boys there is just stacks of it. And as for me working, yesterday I was mowing away corn fodder in the barn and today I have fri (sic) stacking corn fodder. You know what a nice job that is and I feel like tonight. There is about twenty more loads. The first part of the week we was cleaning house.

I don't want you to have any hard feelings toward me, Ruth, as I didn't mean it that way. And you have misunderstood me. I don't doubt for a minute but what you have a lot of work to do. We all have that. And I expect that I will be able to get help any better than you. If I ever get married. You leave the impression in your letter that you think I am rich, and you are poor. Now mabe (sic) you didn't mean that, but that's the way it reads. Now, my dear friend, if you think that, you certainly thot (sic) wrong, as I never thot (sic) I was rich and never will. And I certainly never thot (sic) you were poor. Most any girl in the country has things as good as I have. And you haven't bin (sic) the only one that wanted me to work for them. There was two or three different ones that came for me, but I told them all the same as we had harvest and haying to do , and no hired man.

I drove the harvester all the time, and I mowed all the hay. Two weeks ago I went up and helped Mrs. Tompson while they were husking there as she had her arm broke. I went Monday morning and came home Saturday noon. She said nobody knew how glad she was that I came to do the baking & cooking for her. And she just forced me to take \$4 for the time I was there. I do hope it will be so you can come to see me. I certainly would like to see your little boy; he is such a cute little feller. He looks awful nice on the postal.

Hoping to hear from you again, I remain a friend

Ada Rogers.

July 6, 1915

To: Ruth Froelich Panzenhagen
From: Mrs. B. Kenyon

Minneapolis, Minn.

Dear Friends, R.,M.,N.,D., (P)

Just a line to tell you we have moved, just a block from where we were, 401 Emerson Ave. N. Bert has the same bar for months. We have 3 rooms upstairs - water, sewer, gas & toilet for \$8, so you see our rent comes to \$12 That \$8 saved seems quite a lot. 3 rooms is not quite enough but we will stand it for month or so' Then by that time we will have something we want. She has to fix the old place, and I hated to stay in the mess. The ceiling in the kitchen has to come down & all the rooms papered & the wall fixed. Some job. Where we are is nice & clean. Of course, 3 rooms makes it pretty crowded, but some of the goods is not unpacked & our stoves are stored as we can easily get along for a while. I wish you could see how cosy (sic) we are, In the front room I have a big clothes closet (sic) , so we have the dresser, leather couch, our bed & Floyd's chair & center table all in the front room. There is just room to walk around without bumping the furniture. Then in the other room is the other dresser, sewing machine, dish cupboard & dining room table & 2 chairs. Then the kitchen is the kitchen goods. The front hall I have packed full. We have a nice white roll-back sink & a nice toilet with a window in too. Really, this little place is fixed up nice for \$8 than her old place is for \$20, you can bet. We hve things really handy & he only has to go a block to the barn. How did you enjoy the 4th.; I bet you had a grand time. I am wondering wether (sic) or not you are back or out there yet. This is the 6th & it is raining, just pouring. How are you all? I must close as I have several letters to write. Oh say, we brought Kitty over & took him back to sleep with the horses, and now he comes over & eats & goes back himself. He hasn't (sic) decided which place he does like, only when he gets hungry.

Love to all, and give little sister a kiss for me.

Mrs. B. Kenyon
401 Emerson

Come over when you can. I looked for you Monday, Tuesday, even Wednesday. But I think your folks had come in & you had went out with them
Come when you can; we will be glad to see you.

February 19, 1917

To; Ruth Froelich Panzenhagen
From; Mangus Panzenhagen

Hamel, Mn.

Dear Ruth:

Frank and Bernhardt got here yesterday morning, drove over from Montevideo.

Papa is very low, did not expect him to last through last night.

He didn't like it that Mama sent for us, but was glad to see me, and Sat. he didn't say anything, but I could tell it on his looks and actions that he was just waiting for the boys to get here. He said he was glad they came.

Will tell you more when I get home.

Mangus

2-19-17

Our father passed away at 10:30 this morning. I don't know just when the funeral will be.

Mamma says she won't leave until she has Papa's grave fixed so it will not get full of weeds.

Bernhard told me he would stay with her until then, and then bring her to us, and if she wants to go with him then he will take her along. We are not talking much now but will once it is all over.

Mangus

I just got your letter. I did speak to Hines. I'll see them when I get back; will be back I think Friday. Funeral will be Wed.

3112 Southwood
Drive Racine, Wis.
July 18, 1972

Dear Arthur,

I'm writing for my mother Ruth Panzenhagen because she finally brought out of her attic the family Bible with some records & clippings which might help you in your research on your ancestors. I find these old records quite exciting and now that I'll semi-retired may be able to spend some time sorting & filing. Mother never was much interested in the history of her family back East, but I recall my gentle grandmother Froehlich telling me stories & also explaining that I was named Dorothea Henrietta for the Rosses whose oldest daughters were often named that.

There are notes in my grandmother's writing that give a bit more information:-"On grandmother's side, her name was Henrietta Smith & her mother was Hannah Schooley from Schooley Mt. in N.J. married to Jonathan Smith...(children?). Edward, Wm., Isaac, Betsy, Henrietta, Sallie & Steven."

Also David Ross was born Nov.24, 1834; Wm. D. or H.? Ross was born July 8, 1837

"Grandpa David Ross kept tavern near Allentown & afterwards tended lock (at Allentown? seems crossed out) Children of David Ross & his wife Henrietta are James Ross -lived many years at Mauch Chunk & died there. Jacob Ross lived & died at Allentown & with his first wife had 1 son named Labon, second wife had 7 girls."

Then this pathetic note: "My grandfather told that in the Revolution there was a man named Ross who had three sons, two fought for the 'torries' and the other one on the American side for which he was disowned by his father. Going home at one time, his father saw him coming, came to the door, and motioned him away. (And he died broken-hearted is written & crossed out) Grandfather was a descendant of that man, either was Grandfather's grandpa or grandpa Mother, don't know which." Later in pencil "it must have been my grandpa David Ross his great, great grandfather." But to me that isn't quite correct. Did she mean her great, great grandfather? I also seem to recall her saying that Revolutionary Ross was a Tory merchant but David & his descendants had been poor ever since.

I'm enclosing some very interesting records signed A. Horn 1903 which my son-in-law Edward Wotruba thermofaxed for me. By the way He owns a factory which makes plastics and Weber fishing tackle; if you're a fisherman, you'll recognize his brand. He married our oldest daughter Joyce who is a music teacher like her father. They'd just moved into a new home when we visited them last weekend - a rather modern one on the bank of the Wisconsin River at Stevens Point, Wisconsin.

I don't know if Mother told you that Gary & I have two other daughters: the youngest-Kathleen, married to Clement Imhoff-lives in

Alexander City, Ala. where he teaches political science in the college there & she is a regional library director. They met at U-Wis. when they were getting their masters degrees. Our other daughter Gail is married to David Freiberg who is principal of a Luth. school and regional director of youth recreation at Phoenix, Ariz. She taught first grade until our granddaughter Gaynell was born & last year she had Andrew David on my birthday. We miss the little ones very much & have flown out at Christmas twice.

Right now we're trying to decide if we'd like to drive those 1800 miles & back in August when Gary's thru teaching summer school.

I doubt whether we'll go out at Christmas this year since my mother seems weaker.

- 2-

I don't know when she last wrote although I think she wrote most all the relatives that both she & Dad had been hospitalized last fall. Although my father had both minor & major surgery, he's made a remarkable recovery for a man of 86 & last week the specialist took him off the last medicine & said he'd live to be 100. Mother on the other hand has some of the debilitation of old age-hardening of the arteries particularly in the abdominal region so she often eats lightly and hasn't much strength. Weighs about 91. We hope she holds her own for many more years, but her Dr. doesn't promise much.

I didn't realize that she hadn't given you the information she had until last week. Or maybe she did, and forgot it. At any rate this is my hurried attempt to convey to you what I think is missing. You were right about Grandmother's birthdate; I know she was born in 1861 because she'd shown me a little silk quilt her mother had pieced for her with that date on it.

My mother sometimes has good recall of the past & we tried to get her to write it down or to use a tape recorder, but she says it's too late now. Maybe if I work at this, she'll show more interest. She was chagrined & disappointed that to date, nothing has shown up about Grandpa Froehlich's ancestors. She recalled & I did also that they often held large family reunions with printed programs & newsletters, but said Grandma hadn't kept those since Grandpa died since she couldn't go East anymore. But mother couldn't even recall their family name except that it was Dutch, but lot Pennsylvania Dutch & may have been something like Van Styvesant, but she knew it wasn't that. I know she'd be pleased if you know of any trace of his mother or grandmother's family.

Please excuse the rambling sentences and haste which is evident in this letter. I've got a touch of arthritis in my hands, and in my position as a school librarian I had a clerical assistant who did all the typing. Now that our daughters are all educated & married I've given up full-time work and have to do my own typing. What with my parents, my active and distant daughters, & working half-time some months as a sort of library consultant, I've really not had much leisure

to practice typing or to research family trees. You are lucky to be on the scene and to have files on newspapers there dating back to the Civil War. Of course, our library has local files but they'd be of little value to me.

Perhaps we'll come East someday again. I believe the last time was 8, no, 5 years ago when we went to NY to meet Kathleen on her return from Europe & stopped briefly at Hartford where my younger brother lived then. They've been in Florida now for 7 years and, would you believe it-we've been unable to accept their standing invitation. We've had weddings, graduations, & grandchildren in those years which seemed to take our spare time.

I must mention one rather odd thing - your writing resembles that of our librarian daughter Kathleen who changed from script to printing in her art work which preceded her library studies. Why did you develop your style?

Since you are a retiree - free as the breeze - why don't you travel this way in September? We may not have all NY has to offer, but Lake Michigan tempers our fall climate and Racine has one unique thing - kringle - a Danish pastry made & eaten here-since we have a large proportion of Danes here.

So come for coffee and kringle and see -

Your second cousin

Dorothea Tostrud

P.S. My mother couldn't remember much about little Roy who died of diphtheria when he was two so I went to Grampa's "black chest and searched until I found a paper from the health dept. stating he died Oct. 27, 1888, and that "the remains were to be fumigated and taken directly from the place of death to the grave". Also discovered that Grandpa Charles was born Nov.17, 1859 not 1860, as Mom thought. I found myself reading some of those old letters. It must have been quite a hardship to be separated so far and so long from loved ones. I found quite a touching letter from Grandpa Horn, and I note Grandpa C.J. Froehlich died at sixty of stomach cancer, too. Sitting there by the old trunk, I suddenly-felt the tides of time...heartaches and history repeating itself in the lives of common people. Do you suppose someday some great-granddaughter of mine will be searching and reading your letters and mine? Gives one a mystical feeling.

Your rambling cousin,

Dottie

P.S.S. The folks' address is Shoop Memorial Residence , 5837 16th St.....

Recent Letters – 1970s

March 7, '75

Dear Cousin Arthur:

We sure were sorry to hear your Christine passed away. You have our deepest sympathy. May God give you comfort & help. No one knows how hard it is until they have been thru it. Did she suffer much & long? I hope not. I hear you are not well either – seems to come to us all. Sorry to hear. I was about to write to you. We have made a change in our life. We have sold our house & moved into Luth. Lincoln apts. They are not high rise, but a couple blocks of 2 story units, a nice size living room & bedroom, a dining nook & tiny kitchen. Very nice, warm & comfortable. Everything furnished but telephone, so we don't need to worry about house repairs, heat or anything. Caring for the house was getting too much for us. It is on the edge of town, pretty flower garden & trees. Fred is still as well & misses his workshop. Moving was quite hard on me, but after more rest I should be as usual with my headaches or pressure & stomach trouble, but it is as God wills & I try to be patient & thankful I can go to church & get around.

Write & tell us all about it and what you are thinking of doing.

Excuse our poor card, but out here we can't go to the store every time we need a card etc. And Dottie can't take us so often.. She worked hard to help us move and had to leave her new granddaughter 10 days old to help us. She takes us to church & groc. shopping.

At the "Center" they have church, entertainment, etc. And we can get free bus service.

We have been thinking of you all day & asking God to comfort you.

Most sincerely, your
Cousin Ruth & Husband Panzenhagen

Apr.24, '75

Dear Cousin Arthur:

I have been trying to get a note to you, but there are many to write to, telling you we are at Freddie's & family in Fla. We arrived the 9th of April and plan to go to our daughter Ruth's in May. Coming this far, we must visit both because we don't have the money to go oftener. If it was the other way around, we could have skipped Freddie's as they are coming north. But Ruth we won't see for another year.

I am sorry we won't be back up Wis.unless you come towards the last of May & we can cut our visit short.. We may have to anyway according how I feel.

Seemed foolish to come when I'm not very well, but I have my good days and bad. And it's so lovely here in the sunshine & flowers. They have a lovely home, perhaps not as nice as yours. But it's so peaceful & they are a happy family and are so good to us. The house is empty many days as Marge, Fred's wife, goes around her functions. The girls are 14 – 13. Most of the time Marge takes them to music lessons & many things keep her busy. She is a lovely daughter-in-law, so kind to us. We ride along on these short trips & to the groc. store, which gives us plenty rides as we don't care for entertainment. Just rest & be ...

(rest of letter lost)

June 14, 1975

Dear Cousin Arthur:

We are so glad you could come and visit us. So great we could meet you. You surely didn't disappoint us, and I hope we didn't disappoint you. Isn't our Dottie a dear?

I'm soory we didn't send more greetings back to your folks all & especially Viola. She did a wonderful job taking care of her mother Tell her to keep on writing to me too. We like our apt. Seems like playing house .So easy to work in & take care of, and all we need. Nice neighbors.

We were the closest to a tornado last nite I ever want to be after the rain came. We saw the most beautiful double rainbow I ever saw & not only that it engulfed the church & trees. They showed out brighter than day on the black clouds. It sure was a great sight. No one hurt in our city. Dottie all alone. Could have been a peek-thru of the sun.

I lost a new picture of Joyce's 2 babies. Could I have happened to put it in your letter? If so, please send it back to me. I can't find it nowhere. I hardly seen it.

My pressure on my head is worse, but I planted a few flowers & 2 ladies planted tomatoes for us.

Take care of yourself & come again if you can, but write .

Love,
Cousins Ruth & Fred

Dear Viola Cousin. Merry Christmas

ANNIVERSARY REFLECTIONS *

Can it really be December now?
We had Thanksgiving with Gail in Phoenix--WOW!
Enjoying mountain scenery and sunny days;
A gift from our family that we'll treasure always.

Our 65th Anniversary was a special celebration;
At Senior Citizen's we got a standing ovation.
We enjoyed a wonderful family dinner;
I wore my wedding gown--that was a winner!

Fred and I are thankful, for the many years together;
Through happy and sad days, sickness, bad weather.
God has blessed us so greatly-- yes, beyond measure,
His love and His strength we always will treasure.

We've had cards, flowers, and parties everywhere;
Even a gift from T.W.A. while up in the air.
We look forward to Christmas with Joyce in the snow.
May your Christmas be a blessed one where love and joy glow.

*credits
text- Ruth P.
poetry- Gail F.

Love
Ruth & Fred

Dear Cousin Viola:

We were glad to get your card but sorry to hear things were not so good this year. It's too bad after all the care you gave her. You sure were a good daughter. You would want her back.

All of our friends are getting at that age. The last of our Sunshine Circle and the rest of us aren't that good. We are coming to that age when we wonder "Who'll be the next". I'd just as soon go but what would my hubby do? The oldest has the least pain but she can't walk much & not outside unless someone takes her & the three youngest are the worst with arthritis [sic] very bad, but we manage to get together once a month.. My headaches or pressure has been getting worse since July. My Dr. says there is nothing to do but it affects my eyes and ears. But God has given us such wonderful health we should not complain now but thank Him.

I've been working on our anniv. Clippings, Christmas card & now I have snapshots. Writing bothers my head & eyes so it's been a slow job. Did I send you a clipping; if so, please send this one back.

We enjoyed Arthur's visit. That picture in the paper we knew nothing about until we opened our paper. It was in for the Thanksgiving paper article. Everyone complimented us & enjoyed it. Our minister even wrote to the editor. It was nice to see God's name on the front page and not all crime & sex and murder.

I do hope you have a better year. I'm going to try a Neulorgist [neurologist?]. Write.

God's blessing and love
Cousin Ruth and husband

March 28, '76

Dear Cousin Arthur:

I'm sure you have been looking for an answer to your letter for at least 40 days. I'm sorry in being so late in answering your letter. But until I got all the newspaper clippings, sent Christmas cards, extra pictures ordered & sent, and all other things. Besides birthday cards., I don't get more than 1 or 2 about 5 days a week. Time goes by. I've had your cards in the envelope lying on the desk plain in sight so it wouldn't get lost. Than days since Christmas my headaches or pressure has gotten so much worse and must lie down a lot with cold compresses or hot. I can't say which is the best. It effects my eyes which Dr. said is old age. My tear ducts are drying up; just gave me different eye drops. Fred id OK but slower & I think I kept him waiting on line too much. We can still go to church every Sunday. The Pastor's theme today was "Does your faith need a lifting up?", the right one for me. It's hard to have pain all the time especially since I have been so healthy. I thought after we got settled here & no house to keep in repair we would enjoy our old age. When I had to get this I feel sorry for Fred as he feels so good. We could go many places with "old agers" but I should be thankful I was well so many years. In one month Fred will be 90 years old: hardly anyone believes he is that old. See, he gave me all the wrinkles and his face is so smooth, but he loves me so that's what counts. One thing I want to say first is I'm sorry that in the news write-up they left out we go to church every Sun.

I just got two clippings & 3 pictures sent to Fred's nieces & nephews wanted more so each had one. Our picture sure has traveled about around the world. I don't quite like the pose, but he, the photographer, said that will do them, he said "give her a kiss". Fred started away & didn't get close to me until he snapped it.

Everyone was surprised but not more than me, as we expected a small picture & write-up – everything is not quite right.

But we surely had a big week & then wisked off to Phoenix to see Gail & family. We never expected to get this far. The scenery is surely different. Trip was lovely.

Now about the ans. on your cards. My horrible printing spoiled that card so will write the rest on here.

First we hunted a while for my mother's old Bible, and then the old large one. Neither had a word about Roy. The best I can tell you Will & Roy were both born in Mpls. When Will was five they moved to their prairie home; in that time Roy was born & died (of diptheria, the dreaded disease at that time), as Will was born in 1884. Roy would have been born & died at about 1 ½ years later, so I suppose the exact date would not make much difference. Ruth was born July 4 1920. Robert was born March 11th & William March 18, the date of his death. I must hunt yet. William was the oldest.

We were gone so much the first year here we really don't have things in place yet.

Norman's wife Bernice was born Feb. 13 1913. Gerhard Tostrud was born Dec. 10 1912 (died Oct. 2 1974). Gerhard & Dorothea were married Dec. 23 1939. Norman and Bernice were married Aug 29 1934. Frederick & wife Marjorie were married May 28 1945. Norman Graham was born Feb. 9. I was born May 27 1891. Ruth's Billy is Norman William – married Debby Dec. 28 1974. Ruth and Norman were married April 25 1945. I don't know Billy's wife's name. M. Fred Panzenhagen was born 1886, Apr. 28. He will soon be 90 yrs. old & very young looking. Dorothea was born Apr. 23 1915.

Dottie was going to write you this week too, but I said I was too & as I had your cards & she was sure I could give you dates better than she. Dottie was to visit Freddie's in Fla. in Feb. She did not get to Gail's; they will be coming in June. Dottie will write soon.

We sure enjoyed our trip there & the family. They will all. I mean Kay's and Joyce's be here Easter.

I don't think we will do much for Fred's 90th birthday. Dorothea's the 23. We always celebrate them together and every one is so far away. It's hard to get together. I was sorry Norman's and Freddie's couldn't have been here for our anniv., but Fred's were west in Aug. and Norman's were celebrating with Donald as he was made Major.

We had an odd winter. Jan. & 1 wks of Feb. was cold & snow. One Sat. in Feb. it would be a snow storm, next Sat. no snow for 3 weeks. We have had early spring all March, 40-72 degrees. I do hope we won't get our snow in April.

Freddie's will go to Ruthie's in July and we won't go anywhere – our traveling days are over except we can go to see Kathleen's in Madison. A few counties north of us had rain, snow, sleet & a terrible wind. We just got a little, the broken branches (large) & wind. Keep Kathleen 3 ½ days from home. She travels a lot from one library to another. She went up in her job very fast. Her husband was in Ala. to tend to their house down there.. Had they been home, their car parks right where a large limb broke down; beside, all their had no electricity, that means no heat. My niece, whose husband came home from the hosp. but stayed at friends 2 days, They have a baby 2 yrs. old so life was hard, but they have a fireplace, but no water. Their brother –in-law brought them a generator, lasted 5 days..

I must stop, can't see good. Hope you are well & write soon. God bless you.

Love,
Cousin Ruth & Fred

Dear Arthur:

A note more, which should have been first. I'm sure you miss your wife, but as you say, we don't want them to live & suffer. I just wonder about us. I don't want to leave Fred yet; he is very capable, but no cook though. We get our dinner sent in, does not he know good clothes from old – the reason he can't see good & I just don't want him to go first. I just couldn't get along alone. Nice you have your daughters, but I think they miss something, not having a life mate.

So I just have to leave everything to God, and trust him to do the best for us, and try to do a little bit for God & be ready when he calls.

We sure are cozy in this apt. of 3 rooms.

I must stop.
Best wishes

Racine, Wisconsin
July 31st - 1977

Dear Arthur,

You are a nice sort - as the English would say in their understated way- not to take offense at the lack of letters from your Wis. kin. We've had quite a few eventful weeks, some of which I had supposed my mother would have related to you. In May, the chaplain of the complex there recommended that Mother be moved to a residential home, and I finally had to concur because her hypochondria was getting more than Dad & I could cope with.

She kept demanding more doctors, more attention, more medicine etc. Then for 5 weeks my father lived in their apartment, but had a touch of pneumonia which put him in the hospital for 5 days. He insisted on going back to the apartment, hoping Mother would rejoin him, I suppose. But she wanted him to join her, and luckily another unexpected opening came so that he could move in also. He seemed to become weaker since the illness and fell a couple of times which worried me. Fortunately, I can now report that she has adapted to a regular routine and is looking better than she has for 5 years. Dad is eating better and seems all right except for an occasional cramp or pain in his hip & some arthritis in his spine.

It really hurt me to realize that I couldn't help them but mother -I suspect tnow- often mixed her medicines with bad effects. When we cleaned out the apart., there were many kinds of medicine and pills hidden, And there was no way I could stop that. She now thinks she is better because she has new or stronger medicine, but actually it's just the same - even reduced amount in one case. The place they are in is not a nursing home, but they do have a nurse for medicine & emergencies. Shoop Memorial is more like a residentail motel or fine dormitory. They are allowed to live together and have their own furniture - only difference is that they have a commons area for meals rather than their own kitchen. Also there are many activities planned and trips etc. so that Mother keeps active & alert.

My daughters were here with their husbands when these decisions were made, and my sister Ruth, husband and daughter came from Asheville to help pack and sort things. Even so it was an exhausting, emotional experience. Thank the Lord that it has turned out to be the wisest move.

I have been away for almost 3 weeks and it's the first time I could travel without worrying about them or having mother call me home. First, Car & I and two friends went to Kansas City to the Booksellers Convention where we sought out new items for gifts and Christmas books and heard many fine speakers, including Charles Colson who struck me as being very sincere and very intelligent. After that, we drove west to Colorado Springs where I visited briefly with my nephew Don (Norm's son) who is making a career of the Air Force. We drove in Rocky Mt. National Park, which was beautiful, and had a harrowing 39 mile (two hour) drive on a one-way road in Phantom Canyon going to

Cripple Creek. Feared that we might be either cripples or corpses 'ere we arrived there. Saw A "meller-dramer" at an old hotel.

We returned to Kansas City for another convention CCRCC - where we heard many fine Christians and authors like Catherine Marshall, Corrie Ten Boom, Maria von Trapp, Derek Prince, Larry Christenson. Only draw back was that we had to stay at the new Marriott which was in the airport complex, but 32 miles from city center so we rode buses early - 7 a.m. and late. Arrived home - ready for some quiet peace, last Tuesday. Next time we'll go by plane or not try to crowd so much into so short a time.

Then your letter came Wed. and it was like a welcome home. I'm so glad Viola is adjusting well and that you are fortunate to have daughter and grandchildren so near you. Your grandson Arthur seems like a fine young man - a good twig on the family tree. If Willard doesn't know what to do with his time - tell him he can always come West to visit.

The heat was terrific in K.Cy. although we had an air-conditioned car and air-conditioned hotels. Just walking a block on the street or sitting in the stadium in early evening left one nearly faint -100. Racine was warm the folks say, but their whole place is air-conditioned they don't mind much. The lake here usually cools us off at night.,

I do have more information for you. Charles died in Cumberland, Wis. and is buried in the city cemetery, Lakeland, there north of town. My Grandmother died in Turtle Lake, Wis. and is buried in Cumberland. Mother was born in Burton Township, Yellow Medicine Co. Minn. and so was Uncle Robert. His wife's name is Emelia and her birthday is 12/27. But believe it or not, mother doesn't know how old she is now. I'd guess she is the same age as Bob, but I'll ask my cousin Alice in Wakukesa if I see her in August. Mother thinks Frieda (she added an i to her name) died in 1968, but can't find papers since many of hers were mixed up in moving. Frieda's oldest son Bernard just celebrated his 50th wedding anniversary in Calif. & Emelia and Bob flew out to it.

Thanks for explaining the Chapin method. I keep telling myself -someday, someday I'll work out that genealogy and take organ lessons.

This Friday AM, I'm going to Madison to babysit a day for Kathleen whose husband is applying for a teaching position in Austin, Texas, Community college. I wish him well, but oh, my heart sinks at the thought of them so far away especially with my newest grandson. I did tell you Kay named him Ethan Charles. He's lost the dark fuzz he had at birth and really looks like Charlie Brown, so we're calling him C.B. or Little E. He must resemble Jason because he weighed 17 lbs. at 4 months and looks like a placid Buddha until he grins and shows his dimples. From Madison I'm going to Joyce's at St. Pt. for a week and should return about the 15th. Then my brother from Florida is coming to spend a week or two here. So there's my summer gone - with little "swinging-in-the hammock". Do you think I'll ever get a vacation to Israel?

I hope you are taking it easy with your daughters away ..don't get caught in any mousetraps. I almost hope your astigmatism is bad enough to blind you to my typing errors but not really - eyes are precious, aren't they? Greet Ruth and Viola for me and take care.

Many thanks for the charts and data. Ever, Dorothea.

P.S. My mother couldn't remember much about little Roy who died of diptheria when he was two, so I went to Grampa's black chest and searched until I found a paper from the health dept. stating that he died Oct. 27, 1888, and that "the remains were to be fumigated and taken directly from the place of death to the grave". Also discovered that Grampa Charles was born Nov. 17, 1859, not 1860, as Mom thought. I found myself reading some of those old letters. It must have been quite a hardship to be separated so far and so long from loved ones. I found quite a touching letter from Grandpa Horn, and I note Grandpa C.J. Froehlich died at sixty of stomach cancer too. Sitting there by the old trunk, I suddenly felt the tides of time – heartache and history repeating itself in the lives of common people. Do you suppose someday some great-granddaughter of mine will be searching and reading your letters and mine? Gives one a mystical feeling.

Your rambling cousin,
Dottie

P.S.S. The folk's address is Shoop Memorial Residence, 587 16th St.