

no date or place noted ^a

Dear Children

I just read your very dear letter at Mrs. Thiel's. Though I must write that I am not well at all; it pertains to my health. Since January 2nd I have been going to the clinic but do not feel any improvement. I have this terrible burning in my chest and also then my face swells.

Dear daughter you wrote wanting to know about Fritz. At this moment he is doing well. He was very hurt when at the time you did not give him the 20 M as a gift^b. He will never forget that. Dear daughter, I also was terribly hurt at the time. If you had given it to him, he was in need/trouble/emergency/distress at the time; I would have paid you back. When you were still here in Koenigsberg ^c and living with strangers, Fritz always asked his first and last favor for you to come to me.

He always cared for others with ^d and gave money for food; so you can imagine that he is very hurt and that is the reason he does not write.

Dear daughter you did not have to suffer as much at home what Fritz had to endure. Father pushed him with his feet down the stairs; he has nobody but me left and I can not also reject him he then would have nobody. I will never abandon him as long as I live; he is all alone in this wide world among strangers. Dear daughter you have a good husband and your children and I think you have already forgotten what you had to endure and that you had to live with strangers. Hopefully the little granddaughter has a name by now.^e Dear children and grandchildren now be affectionately greeted and kissed by your mother and grandmother.

Family Thiel sends many greetings to you all

^a Believed to have been written by mother to Ida Augustin Kletke at the beginning of 1911 (E footnote)

^b Loan/money to tie him over; see letter dated Hamburg August 4, 1910

^c Former capital of East Prussia; see also attachment of map

^d This part is very hard to translate; one word is not decipherable

^e reference is made to baby girl

Believed to be Martha Margaret Agnes Tecklenburg (Kletke) born Jan 2, 1911