

Ströhen 21 July 1912

Dear Son and Daughter-in-law together with children

It becomes time that I write your letter from August we received and have seen your 9 children and Herman has written to us that again you have a small son that makes much work however it is only healthy Herman has written us that Johanna has sent to him 5 Confirmation pictures our children were this winter seriously ill many children died

Our William is this Easter also confirmed our Friez is in Septembers 11 years our Sophie is in September 4 years. Marie is in February 3 years. William on 1 April will be with a master bricklayer he will become a mason. With me it becomes no longer better my strength and sight are missing for me my age in October, will be 68 years old. I am pleased that my children do well all being able to become successful Christian has 3 children Sophie has 2 youngsters the oldest will be in August 8 years.

Last summer we had a totally hot summer and completely dry we had no water in wells and also not for the cattle and in the winter very long cold weather and in this early summer it was very wet and now it is very hot and dry and in the winter was in the whole country the foot and mouth epidemic the cattle were not to be sold we have not had good prices now the ox livestock is expensive and the small pigs from 7 to 8 weeks cost 20 Marks

God with us and you

Now we are doing hay and over 8 days must we reap rye also much work we have a pig that has 17 piglets those are 5 weeks A pieces of news I did not mention, many people have died also young men and maidens.

Writes again soon I am pleased when I hear from you of your wanting to visit I probably do not wait on more

What you do not read you must be able to think it.

Many greetings from Mother brother sister and we are all hot

(from Sophie Summann Strümpfer, Wm. Struempfer's mother)

(In Aug. 1911, the 9 children of Wm. and Johanna were Carl, Bill, Lydia, Henry, Emil, Ted, Lena, Alma, and Freddie. Otto had died in 1908. The new small son was Albert, born Feb. 1912.)