

Eau Claire July 25th 80

Good Friend! (Anders Olsen Solem)

I will now take pen in hand in order to write some words, and let you know how I live and feel; I am now well again, but I was sick eight days ago and this illness consisted mostly of a headache so I went to the doctor and immediately became well again. I was not seriously sick either, so I didn't even stay in bed, but it is surprising that I, whom you know fram before have been against doctors, visited him now anyway. But I have until now been very well the whole time I have been here in this country.

I have as of now no news of consequence to report which would interest you as everything here is about the same as usual. Concerning the crops I can indeed report that as far as I know the present year's harvest for Wisconsin, Illinois Minnesota and Dakota will have an average yield, both for grain, hay, fruit, potatoes, etc. But it is as the old folks have said, that there is none who knows what kind of a harvest one has before he has br'ought it into the barn.

We have had warm weather these days with occasional little rain during the nights. I also received a letter from you this winter for which I want to give you my best thanks. I should have written to you before, but it has been my carelessness and lethargy, and partly also I have not had time for it, this will have to serve as my excuse. I have this winter, and up until now, worked at a place called Witten (Withie ?) Here there is a mill which is in association with Porter Mills, and my position was mainly to repair that which broke down; but I think I will go to Porter again.

I often think of Norway, and I think I will be coming back in a few years if I remain healthy and live that long. I must now quit with this poor writing for this time with a heartfelt greeting to you and all in the house from me.

Knud S. Aspeggen*

You must greet my sister Siri from me. At the same time I must ask you to greet them at home in Aspeggen also - that everything is fine with me.

Dear Grandfather!

As the writer of these lines I want to also add some words for myself. I have nothing new to tell you other than that I am healthy and living well in all possible respects. Also in the spiritual area as we here in Eau Claire have a converted minister (?) and I have the opportunity to hear God's Word 2 or 3 times every Sunday. I can also tell you that my brother Karl has come to this country, but he is not here in town; he went further, namely to Minnesota. I received a letter from him the first of this week and everything was well with him. Many greetings from your grandson

A P Solem

* Knud was the middle-aged neighbor to whom Anders P. was entrusted on trip to America. His sister was a servant at S.