

Forword [Foreword]

Free translated in honor of those brave, courageous,  
men and women mentioned in this book.

I tried as much as possible to use their own words.

In memory and admiration I translated this diary.

G. Graham

Mount Helena.

1967.

## **Saturday 24<sup>th</sup> February [1912]**

Left Emmering 3 o'clock, 40 minutes. In München [Munich] we stopped, till 10 o'clock. We bought a few glasses of beer there in a nice market café, and somebody gave me a knife, a person who we met on the train. After that, we went back to the station, where we said good-bye to our relatives and friends, who saw us off. At 10.40 in the night, the train left München [Munich], over Rosenheim, Kürnberg. In Alba we had customs inspection where we left in good condition. Left 10 o'clock in Verona, where we stopped for 2 hours, we had a look in the city, and bought a glass of wine, which tasted very nice. The train left at 12.10 o'clock came then in Brescia, went out of the train, had to wait for 1 ½ hours, therefore we arrived in Milan at 6.45. Had a look around in the city, which we liked very much. Then we left at a quarter to 9 for Genoa, where we arrived at 12.15. Then we stopped for the night in hotel Cresgi, we drank café [coffee] there and had a hot meal. We were astonished, when we got the bill from the hotelier, it was only 34 Mark for 6 persons. Then we had a look in the city, and saw the most beautiful church from Italy [most beautiful Italian church]. Then we went in the Office of the Norddeutscher Lloyd [North German Lloyd], to get our tickets for the ship and arranged to bring our luggage on the ship. Then we went on the ship, and had a look at our room (cabin), and at the same time had an evening meal. Then we went back to the city, had a glass of beer till 24 o'clock [midnight], then we went back on the ship to go to bed there for the first time.

### **Tuesday 27<sup>th</sup> February [1912]**

We rose at 7 o'clock, had breakfast, and went again to town to buy something. At 12 o'clock the ship left, with music to Naples we had very nice weather.

### **Wednesday 28<sup>th</sup> February [1912]**

We arrived in the afternoon in Naples. We did not leave the ship because the ship remained at sea. It is very nice here. It was so expensive to go abroad. We have also seen the biggest steamer from Hamburg *Kaiserin Augusta Victoria*. We left in the night at 12 o'clock [midnight].

### **Thursday 29<sup>th</sup> February [1912]**

Today beautiful weather. Beautiful outlook between Italy and Sicily we sailed on the right side, we had Messina and on the left Regia. We saw also the Stromboli which was smoking badly. We had a bath today.

### **Friday 1<sup>st</sup> March [1912]**

In the morning beautiful weather, in the afternoon a bit stormy weather, we got seasick. Myself, Karl and Toni, we all had to vomit.

### **Saturday 2<sup>nd</sup> March [1912]**

The whole day we were seasick, we could not eat, it was very windy.

### **Sunday 3<sup>rd</sup> March [1912]**

In the morning we arrived at Port-Said, and after our midday meal, we went with a little boat to the shore. One part of the wharf is very nice, the other part is very dirty, and most

wooden houses. There are most(ly) Arabs, wild outlooking people. We have also seen there a Turkish Mosque. There was nothing special to see. Then we drank lemonade which cost us 50 florins a person. At 3 o'clock we were back at the ship, and drank chocolate and had a feed of biscuits, and sailed soon through the canal to Suez.

#### **Monday 4<sup>th</sup> March [1912]**

Beautiful weather, very warm, we passed several boats, we had to wait a fair while, that other boats could pass, because the canal was too small. We arrived at 10 o'clock in Suez, and we saw there a caravan with camels. We also saw Mount Sinai.

#### **Tuesday 5<sup>th</sup> March [1912]**

Today very hot, we got over the seasickness. In the afternoon we had a very nice concert and in the evening dance music.

#### **Wednesday 6<sup>th</sup> March [1912]**

Today again, very nice weather. Nothing special to see. Today I made myself a rug (for the legs).

#### **Thursday 7<sup>th</sup> March [1912]**

Today a bit windy, but not too bad. We passed 12 islands, which are called the 12 Apostles.

#### **Friday 8<sup>th</sup> March [1912]**

Today, very nice weather, we arrived we at 7 o'clock in the morning in Aden, there was nothing special to see, departed at 9 o'clock for Colombo. I did my washing today.

**Saturday 9<sup>th</sup> March [1912]**

Again a bit windy. We saw also flying fish. In the afternoon a great concert, and in the evening, we had our first dance on the ship.

**Sunday 10<sup>th</sup> March [1912]**

Again windy. Early in the morning we had beautiful music in the big room and in the evening again dance music.

**Monday 11<sup>th</sup> March [1912]**

Weather very nice, but still windy, in the afternoon I had to vomit again.

**Tuesday 12<sup>th</sup> March [1912]**

Weather very nice. I have been by the dokter [to the doctor]. Twice I had to vomit. I got powder to take.

**Wednesday 13<sup>th</sup> March [1912]**

Weather all the time beautiful. With my health is it at the present very good. Today I have done my washing, and in the evening, there was again dance music.

**Thursday 14<sup>th</sup> March [1912]**

Today very hot, we saw again flying fish and schweinsfische [swine fish]. We bought ourselves today a glass of beer, which was 1 Mark in the evening, we arrived in Colombo.

**Friday 15<sup>th</sup> March [1912]**

At 8 o'clock in the morning, we arrived at the wharf. The town is beautiful. We saw there a lot of palms and Johannisbrot trees [Carob trees]. In front of the vehicles are

buffalo to pull them. Very curious were the black half naked people who pulled the rickshaw, only one person can sit in it, and they had to walk in it like a horse. A rickshaw is a wagon with 2 rubber wheels and with a roof, but very nice.

We have also seen a Hindu temple, but we did not go inside, that would not be holy. It was very dirty there. After that we had a drink of lemonade with 4 persons. In the Market (halle) we bought ourselves some fruit. In the afternoon we arrived back on the ship. At 4 o'clock we left. The heat was nearly unbearable. In the evening we had the first thunder at sea. It was very heavy.

#### **Saturday 16<sup>th</sup> March [1912]**

Still very hot, it is very hard to sleep, the awning was put on. At 10 o'clock in the evening came Neptune the God of the sea.

#### **Sunday 17<sup>th</sup> March [1912]**

Today in the afternoon we had the equator baptising, which was very interesting to see, but we did not like to be in it ourselves. After the big speech of Neptune and his staff, the baptising started. First the officers of the Marine, then the Matrozen (sailors). First they were treated with soap and black paint, and with a big pencil marked, and then they got shaved with a big wooden razor, and after such a shaving, the hairs are cut and with a big comb combed.

Some were pulled a big tooth, then they all had to take a medicine which was water with soap, and take a pill, which

was nothing else as a bit of white soap, and then they were backwards thrown in the water. The black servants of Neptune put them 3 times under the water.

In the bath which was made of canvas, was salt seawater. The baptised people had then to crawl through a pipe while they wetted them with a hose. The captain and some officers kept peace for God Neptune. Neptune had also a wife, which [who] was dressed up very much on neck and arms.

Before and after the baptising, we had the music from Neptune. In the evening it got very windy.

#### **Monday 18<sup>th</sup> March [1912]**

Weather again very nice, but a bit windy.

#### **Tuesday 19<sup>th</sup> March [1912]**

Today it is raining, so that we can't go on the deck.

#### **Wednesday 20<sup>th</sup> March [1912]**

Weather again very nice, but a bit windy.

#### **Thursday 21<sup>st</sup> March [1912]**

Today was the evening farewell dinner at 9 o'clock, for 3 classes. We had ham, cheese, and several cold dishes also cakes lemonade with ice and fruit. At the same time, there was a ball. It all was very beautiful. By the Matrozen [sailors] was also a concert. Was again very sick.

**Friday 22<sup>nd</sup> March [1912]**

The weather is the same, nothing special, I had again to vomit and dressed in [?] and Jack [?], holding a basin. [?] refreshed me with water.

**Saturday 23<sup>rd</sup> March [1912]**

Today we are very happy together, and all had a good joke.

**Sunday 24<sup>th</sup> March [1912]**

Today the same.

**Monday 25<sup>th</sup> March [1912]**

Today we arrived at 8 o'clock in Fremantle, and went at the same time abroad. And had a look in the city. It is beautiful and clean. We got our baggage through the customs, and had our midday meal. In the afternoon we walked through the city again. In the evening, the ship left, it was very nice to see, the music was playing and we said farewell to our friends. Then we went back to our hotel, Imperial, where we had our meal, and where we wanted to sleep, which was not allowed, which we found out later. The bed was full of bugs, so we moved around the whole night till 7 o'clock and were very tired.

**Tuesday 26<sup>th</sup> March [1912]**

Today at 8 o'clock we got rid of our bugs, had a cup of coffee, then we brought the cards to the post office, and Michl and Garth [note – this could be Hart!] went to Perth, for business. The wives and Toni went for a walk on the beach, and had a bit of a rest from the last night, we bought a bunch of grapes



back, and now we plan to see Reichard. We had a few glasses of beer, and with piano music we had a very nice evening, at 11.30 o'clock we went back to the 'bug' hotel, but Babet and Toni remained by Reichard. We slept very well that night.

### **Wednesday 27<sup>th</sup> March [1912]**

We slept very well, we went on the beach. We bought a wagon for 320 shilling(s), went to the cinema, but it was not very nice and went to bed at 11 o'clock.

### **Thursday 28<sup>th</sup> March [1912]**

Today very hot, got up at 7 o'clock, had a cup of coffee. We all went to Perth, we enjoyed it very much, had a glass of wine, and finished our business, we were back at 2 o'clock, wrote then a letter home, at 6 o'clock we had our evening meal, then we went to Carl's house, and wrote cards for home, then we went to bed.

### **Friday 29<sup>th</sup> March [1912]**

We did our washing by Reichard, were finished at 6 o'clock in the evening. Then we wrote 22 cards for home, we had a glass of lemonade and then went to bed. That was our first stay in Australia.

### **Saturday 30<sup>th</sup> March [1912]**

Today we did our packing, and brought it to the station. Michl and Garth went to Perth, before going they went on the Pier, and saw the big *Kurfürst* [this would be the *Grosser Kurfürst*] come in, we bought a pound of grapes and went again on the beach. At 10 o'clock, we had our midday meal,

then we went for a walk. In the evening we heard the music in King Theatre, went to bed at 9 o'clock.

### **Sunday 31<sup>st</sup> March [1912]**

Got up at 8 o'clock, had an early breakfast, then we walked up to the church, in a hurry, where we attended the Holy Mass, and the blessing of the [people]. We went for a walk and then our midday meal, did some packing, and went to Reichard. At [?] o'clock we were back in a very good mood on the beach again. Listened to the music, and went to bed at 9 o'clock.

### **Monday 1<sup>st</sup> April [1912]**

Today raining. Garth and Michl went to Perth. [We?], women and Toni went to the beach. We bought ham and went for a walk. In the evening we had 2 lemonades by "Carlshausen" [at Carl's house?], and then went to bed.

### **Tuesday 2<sup>nd</sup> April [1912]**

Got up at 7 o'clock, had early breakfast, then loaded up the wagon. Michl and Toni went at 4 o'clock to their former farmer, and liked to buy a horse. We, women and Garth packed the remaining things, and bought something to eat for the trip, in the evening, we went to Reichard, to get the mail, where we got the first letter from home, and then went to bed.

### **Wednesday 3<sup>rd</sup> April [1912]**

Got up at 4.30 o'clock, and went to the station at 5.30 o'clock. At 6 o'clock we left Fremantle, on the trip we drank

coffee, had ham and bread, it was raining the whole day. We arrived at 2.30 o'clock at Doodlakine where Michl was waiting for us with the horse. Toni came with the next train. Michl went on to Kellerberrin, to order a water tank. We were then in the bush, and got food and water for the horse, and gave it to him there. We also made a fire, and made tea, and then had our evening meal. We brought our luggage to the station, then we made our sleeping facilities, from grass and sticks, and slept very well.

#### **Thursday 4<sup>th</sup> April [1912]**

We made early tea. At 7.30 o'clock the train was unloaded and our wagon loaded. We fed the horse, and we went out at 11 o'clock. At 2 o'clock, we prepared for our midday meal, then we went on till evening, had a spell again, let the horse graze, and had something to eat, then we went on by moonlight, we always had 2 persons on the wagon. We arrived at 11.30 o'clock at our block. We fed the horse, and put up our tent, and went very tired, after we prepared a sleeping place, to sleep.

#### **Friday 5<sup>th</sup> April [1912]**

It was Good Friday, we got up at 7 o'clock, and made tea, we did not have bread. Michl and Garth had first to get water and yeast, so they could bake bread. Then we had our meal at 12 o'clock. It was Good Friday. Then Toni and Michl went to the station to get some more of our luggage. We chopped trees, and made a fire, and cleared the place for our house, then we brought our beds in the tent and our other luggage.

We made [suge?] from water and flour, it tasted very nicely, and then we went to bed.

**Saturday 6<sup>th</sup> April [1912]**

Still beautiful weather. Karl and me went early in the morning to get meat and water. Babet and Garth brought the beds in the sun, baked the bread and the meat, after that we had our midday meal, after that we chopped trees for the building of the house.

**Easter Sunday 7<sup>th</sup> April [1912]**

We made tea in the morning. It was a holiday

**Monday 8<sup>th</sup> April [1912]**

Chopped trees for building our house after that we had a holiday. In the evening Michl and Toni came from Doodlakine, they brought us the message.

**Tuesday 9<sup>th</sup> April [1912]**

Today Toni and Garth brought [came] to the station, and we went on with the building of the house.

**Wednesday 10<sup>th</sup> April [1912]**

Worked on our building, in the evening Toni and Garth came back.

**Thursday 11<sup>th</sup> April [1912]**

Early in the morning, we got the tank and water. Then Michl and Toni went for the last load.

### **Friday 12<sup>th</sup> April [1912]**

Built [Worked?] again on the house. Michl and Toni came back at 4 o'clock.

### **Saturday 13<sup>th</sup> April [1912]**

Michl brought the horse. The lending of the horse did not cost anything.

### **Sunday 14<sup>th</sup> April [1912]**

Got up at 8 o'clock. In the afternoon Michl came by bike. Then we have put the gramophone together, and let it play for the first time.

### **Thursday 18<sup>th</sup> April [1912]**

We have eaten the ...from the garden, it was very good. We worked the whole week on the house.

### **Sunday 21<sup>st</sup> April [1912]**

Today, we went in our house. At midday we had a dinner party from roasted [roast] pork with potato salad, at 3 o'clock, we had coffee with shortbread. Beer is the only thing what lacks us [which we lack]. Everything tasted very nicely.

### **Sunday 28<sup>th</sup> April [1912]**

This week we finished with the last hand on the house, kitchen and the chook pen. We also arranged our room, after that again roasted pork. At 3 o'clock we had cacao, and played the gramophone, we also wrote a letter home.

### **Monday 5<sup>th</sup> May [1912]**

This week, we burned down trees, we have had rain too. It was good luck, because our water was nearly finished. This week, we had the first [rose bottles?].... and pudding, and apricots and the first...

### **Sunday 11<sup>th</sup> May [1912]**

This week we have done the washing and ironing, and chopped down trees by the workers. I had to do the cooking this week.

### **Thursday 16<sup>th</sup> May [1912]**

Ascension of Christ, we burnt down trees the last days, and the workers chopped trees and shrubs. We caught a wild pig on Wednesday, and preserved it in a bottle. On Thursday it had been raining in the night, we have also had roasted pork, and in the afternoon we had a holiday.

### **Sunday 19<sup>th</sup> May [1912]**

The last days, we burnt the bush, and today for the first time, we did not have any meat, otherwise nothing special.

### **Sunday 26<sup>th</sup> May [1912]**

Last Monday Garth and Michl went to Perth for business, and came home on Thursday, tired and dirty. We burnt trees with Toni. The last day the workers build a dam. Today it is Pentecost Sunday, and we received our first visitors, Frau Birtscher with 3 children and husband.

### **Monday 27<sup>th</sup> May [1912]**

In the morning, we worked on the dam, in the afternoon it was a holiday. During [For] 4 days, I have a sore arm, up till now it is not any better yet.

### **Sunday 2<sup>nd</sup> June [1912]**

Past week, we finished building the dam, at the end we had to use dynamite, the ground was too hard. The dam holds about 20,000 gallons of water, so that we for the coming year are prepared with water for cattle.

### **Sunday 9<sup>th</sup> June [1912]**

The last days we chopped down scrub and burnt down trees. I happen(ed) to fall with my left hand in the fire, and burnt my whole hand.

### **Sunday 16<sup>th</sup> June [1912]**

Last week, nothing special. I still can't work with the burnt hand.

### **Sunday 23<sup>rd</sup> June [1912]**

We are still burning down trees, and the workers started with ringbarking trees. On Thursday, we caught a turkey, which gave us a very good dinner. It goes a bit better with the hand. The weather is often very nice, but we expect soon rain.

### **Sunday 30<sup>th</sup> June [1912]**

The workers are still ringbarking the trees, they don't come home at midday, they have to carry the meal ½ hour, and we women burn the wood. My hand is cured now.

### **Sunday 7<sup>th</sup> July [1912]**

The last week, still the same work. This week, I had to carry the meal. We have had a good bit of rain. The last 3 days, we did the washing. On Monday the railway men came, and put up their tent in our block, they worked they whole week through our block. This week the chooks started to lay.

### **Sunday 14<sup>th</sup> July [1912]**

We still have the same work.

### **Sunday 21<sup>st</sup> July [1912]**

This week the workers finished the ringbarking, they still have to chop down shrub[s]. We still have to carry the meal, our food position is nearly finished, so that we had to buy some from our next door farmer.

### **Sunday 28<sup>th</sup> July [1912]**

The workers go on with chopping down trees. We women finished burning down trees. It has been raining again a fair bit.

### **Sunday 4<sup>th</sup> August [1912]**

On Monday, we caught a bird of prey, resembling a night owl and fed him with duck eggs. Till now we had very nice weather, although the nights are very cold, hot also several times a trip. Still the same work.

### **Sunday 11<sup>th</sup> August [1912]**

This week, we finished chopping down scrub. We have built a horse stable. Last week, we received a letter "Meter" from Mr Hagtlerer from Emmering. I was sick the whole week,



and had to stop in bed, I also had a very bad finger and eyes, I had terrible pain, special [especially] in the night, but now, it is a bit better.

### **Sunday 18<sup>th</sup> August [1912]**

The last week Michl and Toni went to Perth, they bought 3 horses and stores, Leonhard and we women were alone and started cleaning. My finger is still very bad.

### **Sunday 25<sup>th</sup> August [1912]**

The last Monday, Michl and Toni came home with horses and several things, then they went straight on with ringbarking. Then Tuesday, the 20<sup>th</sup> August at 10 o'clock, we left with our luggage from Nunagin, coming down it was raining very much, so that we 7 o'clock in the evening arrived in Doodlakine, wet through and frozen. Then we brought our luggage to the station. Michl and Toni went on to the next farmer. We made a fire in the bush, warmed ourselves a bit and had something to eat, and dried our clothes, but that was not very easy, they were too wet. We went back to the station and wanted to sleep on the form, but it was too cold. The station master took us to his room, and made us a kind of a bed, in front of the stove, and slept very well.

At 3 o'clock, the train came, we had a cup of coffee twice in [on] the train and we arrived Wednesday 10.30 o'clock in Fremantle, went then to restaurant "Madrid", had our midday meal there and ordered beds, after that we went to Bateman, to buy provisions and things we needed for the house. Against the evening, we went to Reichard, and got 2

letters from home, we were soon back, and went to bed, were very tired from the first night. This time we had good beds and a nice room. Thursday we had breakfast, and went soon to Perth to Bond Office. We saw also Mr Kämpf, and had a look at the city, and at 3 o'clock in the afternoon we saw Mr Rotkehl [note – there was a Mr Rothkehl noted in the Post Office Directories as a farmer at Jibberding] in the German Club, who was to arrange our things to bring to our block.

He did not know himself if he would leave Saturday or Monday, because he needed more men. Leonhard told him that there was a German ship, perhaps he could get some people from there. We were then about 5 o'clock back at Fremantle. Leonhard went to the ship, where he soon got 4 men, he met them at 8 o'clock in the evening, and arranged meals and beds for them, and then went to bed himself. On Friday we bought everything by [from] Donald, what we could not get by [from] Bateman, and let them bring everything to the station. Reichard had also brought our luggage to the station, and is everything send [sent] to Gunjidi [Gunyidi]. Then we went to get the 4 men, because they did not have money, we bought food for them, and brought them to the beach where they waited till Mr Rotkehl came.

In the evening at 7 o'clock, came Mr Rotkehl , while we waited for him the whole afternoon at the station. We had a quick glass of beer, and then got the 4 men, which we took with us to Perth. We went then back to our restaurant.

Rotkehl said also, that he would sail on Monday. On Saturday we bought provisions for our trip, on Sunday is everything closed, and I wrote 2 letters home, we packed our things for the house, and then we went for a walk. In the evening, the Salvation Army played in the street. We had all the time bad weather. Sunday after, we drank coffee and we went to the Holy Mass, and we also took some, "Weiwasser" with us. In the afternoon, we went to Reichard, to cut the time short a bit.

### **Monday 20<sup>th</sup> August [1912]**

We left Fremantle early, at 5.30 o'clock. In Perth we met Rotkehl and his people (labourers). We left at 8 o'clock, at 10 o'clock, we had café' [coffee], and in the afternoon, at 3 o'clock, we arrived in Gonyidi where to our big surprise our things did not arrive yet, we expected them with the next train, but nothing was on it, as Rotkehl's things, and we had to wait patiently till they came. The people made a fire and tea and a shelter from branches, with a rug, we made us a [laydown?] on the ground, had something to eat and were very worried. On Tuesday Rotkehl got his horses, packed his things, and went further on. He left 2 horses for us and a wagon. Leonhard had to accompany him twice, he came back in the evening, but the evening train still did not bring anything and the time went so slow, the nights cold, and the bed on the ground very hard, in the night, one horse broke loose, Leonhard tried to catch it, but he could not get it. On Wednesday, with the help of 2 men, he caught it again, and brought both of them in the paddock, and we waited again

for the next train, but everything was in vain, there was again nothing, we were very worried. My finger did hurt very much, we were shivering, and the provisions were finished, we did not have anything to eat, and you could not buy anything there were only 3 workers houses. On Thursday, we bought from a labourer, some meat and jam, the train came today at 10 o'clock in the evening, and again brought nothing for us. Carlshausen went today in the afternoon to Perth, to phone to Midland Junction for our luggage. On Friday went the lady of the post office with her husband to Watheroo, and made inquiries for us, they brought the message back, that our luggage on Thursday in Watheroo should be and it was supposed to come today or tomorrow. They also brought us a lot of meat, because we did not have any. The train again brought nothing. On Saturday we were sure it would come, in the afternoon we wanted to catch the horses, but it was raining all the time. The train again did not bring us anything, our patience was finished. Leonhard wanted to go straight to Watheroo, but there was no train going, and also not on Sunday.

Today in the morning asked the postman Leonhard to go on the kangaroo shooting, but they did not see any, they only found a pair of birds' nests. We both could have a meal there, and his wife had baked a loaf of bread for us, and gave me green salve for my finger.

### **Sunday 1<sup>st</sup> September [1912]**

Today, we have been the whole day in [Schugen?] and we

had to sleep there also while the postman and his wife were away. The last three day we slept in the room of the Postman's wife. On Monday Leonhard went to Watheroo and made inquiries by the stationmaster, and he assured him that his luggage would be coming this night, and at last it came. Tuesday the 3<sup>rd</sup> September [1912], we rose at 5.30 o'clock, we loaded our luggage on, and looked for the horses, in the afternoon, we left the siding, we did 13 miles, it was raining the whole day, and a very bad road. In the evening we made ourselves comfortable for the night in the bush, we put the tent over the cart, after we had something to eat, and warmed ourselves, then we crept in the cart.

On Wednesday, we got up very early, because we could not sleep from the cold, we made a big fire, and made a warm [Suge?] from the water which we collected from the tent over the cart. After the horses were fed, we went on again. At 1.30 o'clock, we arrived at the 26 miles dam, where we had our midday meal, but as soon as we started our meal, it started to rain so heavy, that the rain put out our fire.

At 3 o'clock, we went along again, we passed some salt lakes, at dark we arrived at the salt well, but we could not stay for the night there, it was still raining, and therefore we could not make a fire, we had to go on. We arrived at last at 10.30 o'clock, half frozen, wet through, on [at] our place of destination.

We made immediately a big fire, warmed ourselves, and made tea. After that we hanged the tent over the branch, and crept under it for the night.

On Thursday, after breakfast, we looked first at the water tank, it was still all dry, but it was all mouldy, and also the mice made a terrible mess of it. Most of it was damp and mouldy and most of the provisions were destroyed. Then we had a look around, where we wanted to build a house. We put up the tent, and unloaded our luggage and unpacked it.

Early Friday, after we cleaned out the water tank, we got water 5 miles from here, from the salt dam, we could not use it, because it was too salt.

On Saturday, we wanted to boil peas, but we could not get them cooked, even in the evening it was still not ready. We started today with the building of our home.

### **Sunday 8<sup>th</sup> September [1912]**

This morning, we saw 2 big emus, not far away from where the house will be, we could not shoot them, because the gun was not cleaned out after the postman had used it. In the afternoon came Rotkehl, he told Leonhard to bring the horses and cart to the salt dam, they could pick them up from there.

### **Sunday 15<sup>th</sup> September [1912]**

The whole week, we built on our house. Every 2 days we had to bake our bread in a camp oven, with baking powder

because we did not have any yeast yet. It is all the time beautiful weather.

### **Sunday 22<sup>nd</sup> September [1912]**

Leonhard was by the salt dam, he wanted to collect the letters, but there were none there. On an old tree, we made an old tea box, which is our letterbox, also made the road ready 3 hours walking distance long.

Leonhard was on Tuesday by Klein, he wanted to borrow horse and cart, to cart water, they could not give him any, because they did not have any home.

They were willing to send us a water tank for 20 Mark. Leonhard brought also a cat from Klein which disappeared in the night. On Saturday, we finished the building of the house, and went in it. My finger is now also better.

### **Sunday 29<sup>th</sup> September [1912]**

On Monday, Leonhard started ringbarking. I am again the whole day alone at home. On Tuesday, we saw a big bobtail goanna (a killer of snakes) he wanted to go in the tent, but we killed him with a thrashing.

### **Sunday 6<sup>th</sup> October [1912]**

On Monday, an emu gave me a terrific fright, he came only a few feet away from the home, and when I turned around, the big animal was looking at me, and it did not go away, only when I took a big stick to hit him, he ran away. I could not

shoot, and Leonhard was too far away from the house, it was a pity, because it would have made a very nice meal. We also caught a lizard. Have been ringbarking the whole week, cut down trees and burn [burnt] trees.

### **Sunday 13<sup>th</sup> October [1912]**

The whole week I have been ringbarking and cutting down trees, it has also been very hot.

### **Sunday 20<sup>th</sup> October [1912]**

On Monday we started clearing around the house. This week it was a bit more lively here, there passed us a camel caravan, and they stopped for the night with us. Besides that there were a few men here, who wanted drinking water, and they liked to buy some meat. They came from 200 miles away. Also did we kill a snake killer and a snake this week.

### **Sunday 27<sup>th</sup> October [1912]**

Monday 21<sup>st</sup> at 2 o'clock in the morning, an emu brought us a little boy; therefore it is a healthy, strong Australian. Leonhard was on Sunday the 27<sup>th</sup> Oct. by [Choury?], he brought mail down, and intended to buy some eggs and meat, but could not get any.

### **Sunday 3<sup>rd</sup> November [1912]**

Last Monday, we had a thunderstorm, and it was raining a lot at the same time. We also saw a tremendous lizard, he came out of a birds nest, we got the tree down, and we could kill the animal. Today Sunday, Leonhard was by Klein and got a lb of fresh meat and half a dozen eggs, and some medicine for



the baby, because it was vomiting all the time. Coming back, he got the mail, the first mail, since 8 weeks except the papers, it were 3 cards and 2 letters. Close by the house, we killed again a bob tail goanna. The last days it is all the time very hot.

### **Sunday 10<sup>th</sup> November [1912]**

Till now it is every day very hot, so that the candle gets bent over every day, even at 8 o'clock in the evening. Monday Leonhard brought 12 eggs, for frying, but unfortunately we could not cook them, because it [they] were eggs from a lizard? There was also again a horseman here, he wanted to look for his horse, who ran away from him 3 months ago, and he was afraid that he would have died from thirst in the bush. I am again all the time clearing.

### **Sunday 17<sup>th</sup> November [1912]**

Last week no news, except 4 snakes which we saw, we killed 3 of them, one was 1 meter long. Today Leonhard was again by Klein and got again a lb of meat, and brought also mail, letter and 2 cards. It is very hot all the time.

### **Sunday 24<sup>th</sup> November [1912]**

On Wednesday was Leonard again by Klein, and liked to register the bank papers but he could not do it. Then he brought the letter to [Clawry?], for Michl, to tell him that he could not do anything towards it. Klein told him, by going away, that we had to go to Perth, to register the child, and within 6 weeks we would get 5£.

### **Sunday 1<sup>st</sup> December [1912]**

Leonard was the last Sunday by Klein, this time he did not get any meat, because the last days, they had a kangaroo. However the wife gave him again some eggs. We waited for 2 ½ hours in the street for Rotkehl, he was supposed to bring stamps, but he did not bring any, so we could not send over new year's mail away. On Monday he was on the new well, he wanted to borrow from a farmer, who promised him a fortnight ago, to have a horse and cart, to get water, he could not find him.

### **Sunday 8<sup>th</sup> December [1912]**

It is all the time very hot, and we finished the water and we had to carry the water from 5/4 [?] hours away. Today Leonhard was again be [at] Klein, and got again some eggs, he had no sheep meat, they shot again 2 young kangaroos, and they gave him a whole lb of kangaroo meat, in the evening we made kangaroo steak, it was very good and tender. On the way back he brought water with him at the same time. Close by house, we killed a big black snake, he was 1.20 meter long, and the biggest we have seen till now, she went 3 times for Leonhard, when he tried to kill her.

### **Sunday 15<sup>th</sup> December [1912]**

Till last Thursday, we had to carry the water, on Thursday a farmer got water for us, it took him the whole day. It is all the time very hot. Leonhard is all the time clearing. Today Sunday Leonhard was at the well, waited for 3½ hours, but nobody came.

### **Sunday 22<sup>nd</sup> December [1912]**

On Monday Leonhard was be [at] Klein, and bought some provisions, got there also a letter, and heard there that the postman came not before 5.30 o'clock. This week, we had a very bad thunderstorm, but no rain, have all the time a terrible heat, so that we cannot sleep half the night.

### **Sunday 29<sup>th</sup> December [1912]**

Last Monday, we had a thunderstorm, the whole afternoon, and we also had a little bit of rain. From the Christmas holiday we did not see or notice much.

### **Sunday 5<sup>th</sup> January [1913]**

Last week was nothing special. It was the whole week very hot. I was sick the last days, and had to stop in bed, because I could not walk and eat. Today was Leonhard by the well, to get the mail. Rotkehl told us to be on [at] the well Monday afternoon, while he went to the siding from the station (railway), we could not do this, because I was in bed.

### **Sunday 12<sup>th</sup> January [1913]**

Last Monday Leonhard went to the well, because Rotkehl should get some things for us, but he did not have the time, so he send [sent] Arthur who came back from Klein, we loaded our things and by Arthur we caught up with Rotkehl , we had a meal there. Mrs Arthur and her daughter came, they wanted to see the child, they gave us 5 shilling(s), after that we went to the dam, where we arrived at 10 o'clock in the evening, after we had something to eat, we lay down till 4 o'clock in the morning, then we went on again, and arrived

at 11 o'clock in Gunyidi, we had a midday meal by the post lady, and went with the 3 o'clock train to Perth, where we arrived at 11 o'clock in the evening.

On Wednesday we went to see Kämpf, who went with us to the registration office, to register the child. In the afternoon we went to the doctor, because I was still sick, and in the evening we went to Fremantle to Reichard. We stopped there for a fortnight because I had to see the doctor, and our money for travelling was finished, because we spent more than we expected.

On the 20<sup>th</sup> January Michl came to Fremantle and the next day we went to Doodlakine, where we arrived at 2 o'clock in the afternoon, where Toni received us with horse and cart, we had something to eat, and went on again till 8 o'clock in the evening, where we had again something to eat and fed the horse. Then we went on in the moonlight, till we arrived at 2 o'clock in the night by [to] our house. We lay down on the beds first to have a bit of a rest, we were very tired from the trip. The next day, we unpacked our things, and fixed up our room. By now I was right again, but a bit weak still.

### **Sunday 2<sup>nd</sup> February [1913]**

Started to build a new dam, I worked the whole week on the wall. It is all the time beautiful weather.

### **Sunday 9<sup>th</sup> February [1913]**

Am still working on the dam, the last days I had to blast several times, because the ground was too hard.

### **Sunday 16<sup>th</sup> February [1913]**

The dam is now ready, and we started to clear. We [Page] 41 have often bushfires. On Friday Michl and Garth went to Doodlakine, to buy food for the horse, and Leonhard got £5 for Franzi, and came back Saturday night.

### **Sunday 16<sup>th</sup> March [1913]**

The bushfire is now over, we have to clean up the place now, from little sticks, that [so] we can plough soon. Last week Michl and Garth were in Fremantle, to buy another horse, wheat seed, fertiliser and provisions, and came back on Friday. The weather was all the time very nice, but toady it is raining a little bit.

### **Bruce Rock. Sunday 13<sup>th</sup> April [1913]**

Saturday the 29<sup>th</sup> May is the new line (station railway) opened, there were a lot of people. Since [For] 8 days we are working with the cultivator. There is now a lot of traffic by us, often wagons with 6 or 7 horses pass by. It is still very nice always. The drinking water is nearly finished, we hope to get soon some rain.

### **Sunday 11<sup>th</sup> May [1913]**

Till now, there is nothing special, we are still working with the cultivator. And [we're?] women. We haven't had much rain yet, we had to buy 100 gallon(s) water for ½ crown.

### **Sunday 25<sup>th</sup> May [1913]**

Since 9 May, we are all the time seeding wheat, we also had

to get another tank of water, because it is still beautiful weather.

### **Sunday 22<sup>nd</sup> June [1913]**

Since 13<sup>th</sup> June, we finished seeding wheat, and we are now again clearing. We also had some rain, and everything looks so nice. Franzl was sick for a while since 26<sup>th</sup> May, she is drinking cow's milk and [she...] The nights are cold now.

### **Sunday 13<sup>th</sup> July [1913]**

We are now ready with the seeding, and leave for Nugadong on 15<sup>th</sup> July. Toni and Garth came also, this time we travel for the first time in the new train (railway). Last week we saw a black woman with a black child on her back, and more children with her, it was a total black family. Yesterday it rained, and a very strong wind.

### **Tuesday 15<sup>th</sup> July [1913]**

Today, in the morning at 9.30 o'clock we left Nunagin, we saw 2 kangaroos in our block. The trip was very slow. In the evening at 5 o'clock we arrived in York, where we stopped for half an hour. At 7 o'clock, we arrived at Spencer's Brook where we had to transfer to the goldfields train. We arrived at 10.30 o'clock in Perth, where we in the "Duke of York" stayed for the night.

On Wednesday it was raining that much, that we could not leave the house. Michl and Garth bought provisions, and the things we needed.

On Thursday we went to Fremantle where Franzl was baptized, in the evening we went back again. On Friday we went to Northam, where Toni waited for us, and stayed in Aronale [Avondale?] Coffee palace for the night. The next day we looked a bit around in Northam and bought a goat. In the morning it was very cold, our midday meal, we had in the bush, and went then again back to town, in the evening we heard the Salvation Army, when they played in the street.

### **Sunday 20<sup>th</sup> July [1913]**

Today Garth and Toni in the afternoon have gone away with the horses, and we three looked for the Catholic church, we could not find one, because all were closed. After that we went home for something to eat. In the night Franzl became very sick, I hardly managed to help her. I was alone by myself, and I can't speak English. By 4 o'clock, she was a bit better. The lady brought me then some cotton wool and I put her then warm in bed. She was very cold from the day before. On Monday, we bought all we needed, and on Tuesday we left at 11.30 o'clock for Wongan Hills, where we were expected by the workers at 6 o'clock in the evening, where the workers in the bush had made already a nice campfire. We made ourselves a meal and tea.

The workers got our things from the station. After that we laid down in our tent, it was very small, but it went all right, we were glad to shut the tent.

Wednesday, the 23<sup>rd</sup> July, we made our load ready, and after we drank our tea, we went on. In the beginning the road was

good, but later came the sand, and it was very bad. We stopped in a hole, and had to unload some of our luggage, and travelled on for 1 hour, where we could camp, it was raining all the time, and it was early dark. We threw the wagon cover over an old tree, and crept underneath, by doing that we were protected from the rain.

The workers unloaded the wagon and protected it, and made a fire. When the weather got better, they got back to get the load who [which] was left behind.

Early Thursday, we went on but it did not took [take] long, before we got stuck again in the sand, the road was terrible bad, we could not get any further, and had again to unload some of our luggage, brought it further, and in the afternoon we sheltered under the wagon again for the rain. Then we went on again. And the road was getting worse. We came till the achsel [armpit] in the mud and could not get out [up to our armpits in mud?].

There came a vehicle, we stopped it, and asked to help us out. One was on the vehicle and the other was standing next to the horses, they whipped and shouted at the horses, that you got frightened of it, but they got through, and we went fast till we passed the worst part. The car flew here and there like a ball, It was no wonder if it would have broken down. We thanked the man and they went there [their] way.

After ½ hour, we came in Milabi (?), a farm, where we watered the horses. The road became a bit better, and about



5.30 o'clock we came by a very nice bush, where we camped again and made a fire and made a shelter for the night.

Today it was better than the night before, we had very less water, and could not bake some bread and could not make any tea. The next day, very early, we went on again.

Half an hour later we came on a rock, where we filled our containers with water, and we watered our horses. We had a better road here till midday, then we arrived at the dam, and had first to bake bread for the afternoon, we were all very hungry. At 3 o'clock we departed there, and had again a very bad road, but came through, in the evening, we arrived at Dalwallinu. We were invited by a farmer for an evening meal, and we women could sleep in a room.

The workers made again a camp ready, and Saturday early they could eat there again, and they gave half a bottle of milk for Franzi. We left at about 8.45, and had a fairly bad road. At midday we arrived at the first well, and had something to eat, and arrived at 4 o'clock in our house. We had a good look around. A real workers camp. More workers had lived here, 2 were still here. They made a big story out of it when they came home from work, and saw that there were other people in the house. We let them get their things out first and put it all in one place, then we got in ourselves, and made us a bed for the night.

### **Sunday 27<sup>th</sup> July [1913]**

We arranged our things. The workers went on at 2 o'clock to Wongan, to get another load, and we women had enough to

do, to tidy up the place. They came back Sunday evening late, because they had to wait for the flour, and most of the time it was raining. They wanted to bring the mail with them, but could not get any.

### **Sunday 3<sup>rd</sup> August [1913]**

On Monday, we had to carry poles, to enlarge the house, because it was too small for two couples. On Tuesday, Leonhard went again to the station, to get the stove, it came later, so he did not come back before Monday afternoon. In the meantime, we built a veranda. Also the kitchen is in there, and at the other site is the dining room.

### **Sunday 17<sup>th</sup> August [1913]**

The last week, the workers built a hen house and a pig sty, a horse stable and some more small things. The weather was all the time very nice. The last Sunday, we had red parrots, they were very nice, we shot them while we were by [at] Rotkehl.

### **Sunday 24<sup>th</sup> August [1913]**

We made the big water tank ready, except the bottom, because we did not taste the water for salt, we had to see the German to show us how to test it.

### **Sunday 31<sup>st</sup> August [1913]**

The last week, we started building a dam, we worked as fast as we could at it, we had to use dynamite again.

Today, Sunday, Mr Klein and Mr Bamberger came and brought hydrochloric acid, also is the German here, and

showed them everything. Till now we have all the time nice weather. The last weeks, we have been clearing all the time. Lately we had often birds. Magpies and green parrots. They are good food, and also nice tender meat. Last Sunday we had a look at the big new dam, which hold(s) 5 Million gallon(s) of water.

### **Sunday 5<sup>th</sup> October [1913]**

Last Thursday, we had a very heavy rain, so that our new Dam got 1/3 filled. In the morning we were by Klein, and bought a dray (low cart) to carry water, and at the same time we took a tank full of water with us. On Monday we got another 2, and we are now ready to depart on Thursday for Nunagin for the harvest.

### **Sunday 19<sup>th</sup> October [1913]**

We left on Thursday the 9<sup>th</sup> of October for Nugadong and came without troubles in Nunagin. The first days we had rain, and it was very cold, the last days it was getting warm.

### **Sunday 26<sup>th</sup> October [1913]**

Last week, we have been clearing, and got also our new binder, and on Monday the 27<sup>th</sup> October, we started [hay] making. On Wednesday we shot our first kangaroo, it had a young one, but it got away. It weighed about 20 lb. This was our first wild (flesh) except the birds. Leonhard had the good luck, to dress the kangaroo.

### **Monday 3<sup>rd</sup> November [1913]**

We got ready with the hay making. From Lübschen, we bought a horse [for] £25.

### **Tuesday 11<sup>th</sup> November [1913]**

We stopped home and on Wednesday, we bought a new machine, a harvester. It cost £96, we started with cutting.

### **Wednesday 19<sup>th</sup> November [1913]**

We got the chaff cutter and Tuesday the 25<sup>th</sup> November we finished cutting, one is always by the harvester. Last Sunday we got again a bird for dinner.

### **Friday 20<sup>th</sup> November [1913]**

We had heavy rain, so that all our chaff was wet through, there was nothing special.

### **Thursday 4<sup>th</sup> December [1913]**

For my birthday, I got a box of fruit, as a present, which I liked very much. For Christmas evening we had also fruit and a very nice bath, and Leonhard bought me a beautiful album for cards. We don't have a Christmas tree here, and also not a "Christ" child. They call it here Father Christmas. They give cakes. We are always busy, and it is very hot.

### **Prosit New Year 1914**

Nichts besonders. Nothing special in summer. We are doing all the time.... and it is all the time very hot. Toni and Garth are still in Nugadong and got since the 6<sup>th</sup> December a little Amalie Theresia.

### **Sunday 9<sup>th</sup> February [1914]**

Last week, Leonhard was sick, and was all the time in bed. He had a terrific headache, and went on the 11<sup>th</sup> February to Perth hospital.

### **Sunday 23<sup>rd</sup> February [1914]**

Yesterday 22<sup>nd</sup> February Leonhard came back for hospital, he is not totally right yet, but it was too expensive there. It cost 6 shilling a day. I had to get up a lot, because Franzi was also sick.

### **Saturday 7<sup>th</sup> March [1914]**

I went to Fremantle, to enroll in a maternity home, I did not had a good time, because I was sick all the time. On 20<sup>th</sup> May Ernst Leonhard was born. I was after that sick for 8 days. But after 14 days I still went home to my Franzi. She did not recognize me, and only came the second day to me.

### **Saturday 9<sup>th</sup> May [1914]**

The workers started seeding the wheat and finished 13<sup>th</sup> June. We got very less rain.

### **Thursday 16<sup>th</sup> July [1914]**

Michl went to Nugadong and Babet stopped here. Leonhard was all the time clearing. It doesn't looks if we get a good harvest, because we got no rain at all. We are all healthy and in full spirit, the little Erni is very strong.

### **Thursday 17<sup>th</sup> September [1914]**

Leonhard shot in a short time 4 kangaroos, and we have all the time fresh meat and fat. Today Michl, Toni and Garth

came from Nugadong. The little Amelie is already big and strong. We did not have any rain yet.

### **Sunday 15<sup>th</sup> October [1914]**

Last Wednesday, we had a heavy rain, so that our Dam was filled. But unfortunately the rain was too late. We have the hay in, but it is such a little bit, that it only fills the barn for one fourth. The ground is very bad here. Leonhard shot up till now 12 kangaroos. The workmen are all the time busy clearing and fencing.

### **Sunday 22<sup>nd</sup> October [1914]**

Last week Franzi had for the first time his little boy's pants it looked very nice. Erni had this week for the first time glaxo milk every second day and night. They are both healthy and strong. Leonhard is all the time clearing and rolling. The weather is all the time windy and rainy. We also had a rabbit for the first time.

### **Sunday 29<sup>th</sup> November [1914]**

We are still rolling the bush we have had a bad accident. Last Friday Toni did not come home for his meal. At 2.30 Michl went with the bike to have a look. But it was terrible what he saw there. Toni was in his last moment on this earth, he was heavy wounded by the horses.

We went for help, while Garth and Leonhard came as soon as possible, but Toni was already gone. Garth was terrible upset, because he died so lonely, without speaking to his wife and child. They brought him home, and stopped there

for the night. We washed and cleaned and dressed him. He had terrible wounds at his head and neck. On Saturday in the morning came the inspector had a look at him, and had a look where the accident happened. In the afternoon, at 3 o'clock came the hearse, with the funeral procession and box. It was all very simple, no reef [wreath?], no priest, no cross, no Holy water, a black procession no one to carry the holy water, and no one said "our Father".

Two men carried him, and we went all to the station to the cemetery. At the cemetery, it was a wilderness, three lonesome graves were there, that was all. A man read a bit when they lowered him in the grave, and more friends were there, that was the finish of the funeral.

It is very sad here, to be buried so lonely. It is a terrible life for us, but God is good, and governs and leads all things (even if we don't understand it at those moments). O, God, give him the eternal rest, and let him rest in peace Amen.

### **Sunday 6<sup>th</sup> December [1914]**

Last Tuesday, Hartl, Michl and Kathl went to Fremantle, and we were the whole week alone. On Thursday, we had a bit of rain.

### **Sunday, the 13<sup>th</sup> December [1914]**

Monday evening, Hartl came back from Fremantle, and brought me a sewing machine. Michl and Kathl came Wednesday evening. This week we finished rolling.

### **Sunday 20<sup>th</sup> December [1914]**

This week we started cutting the crop. The hay is not very good. Last Thursday afternoon, Erni started to vomit, and was sick, but was better by Saturday.

### **Christmas Day, Friday 25<sup>th</sup> December [1914]**

This week was again a very bad week. Our darling Erni is again very sick. Monday evening we both went to the doctor, and on Tuesday afternoon at one o'clock in great pain, he died. We cried terrible and were so sad, because our darling Erni was a very charming and brave child. He had to die in a strange hotel, and we had to bring him home, gone (from this earth). That was a terrible painful sickness, and was gone in three days.

On Wednesday, at 2.30 o'clock, he was buried, on the same way as Toni, as they do it like that. It is a terrible fate for us within 4 weeks, two died. We pray now for our darling Erni as an angel. Also Franzi is not very well.

Thursday, holy evening, Leonhard went to the station to deliver some things. A nice woman gave him a Child of Christ for Franzi and Mapi, several toys, picture books and sweets, it had done me a lot of good in my big loss.

Also came a woman, to see if Franzi was better, she brought also a handkerchief and biscuits. The people are very nice here. It was a very sad Christmas here. God will give my darling angel Erni more luck, he was too good for this world.



### **Sunday 10<sup>th</sup> January [1915]**

The last week we had a very bad thunderstorm, and rain, it made our tank and dam full, and the other dam also full  $\frac{3}{4}$  [three quarters full]. At the moment we have enough water. We are still cutting the crop, and it is all the time very hot. [Karl Fuchsbichler?] came back last Monday to Mrs Butcher as a help in the house. On Sunday Leonhard shot 2 kangaroos.

### **Sunday 24<sup>th</sup> January [1915]**

We are still cutting the crop, and it is all the time very hot. We got again a kangaroo. Nothing special.

### **Sunday 31<sup>st</sup> January [1915]**

Today we had so much rain, that it looked if the sea was there. Both dams were filled. The haystacks floated like ships, everything was flooded. Leonhard went last Tuesday to Perth, and is not yet back.

### **Sunday 7<sup>th</sup> February [1915]**

This week, I am alone by myself, because Monday evening Michl went also to Perth, and both are not yet back. Yesterday, Saturday we had again, a lot of rain, but not as bad as Sunday. Otherwise it is all the time very hot.

### **Sunday 14<sup>th</sup> February [1915]**

Last Tuesday, we had a terrific thunderstorm, we did not know where to go, and the noise from the rain. The strong wind did a lot of damage to the house and the roof. The children were crying and frightened, and we had a terrible

job. The next day we fixed it up again, so that we were protected again. We waited all the time with fright for our workers but nobody came, and we are all the time alone.

### **Sunday 21<sup>st</sup> February [1915]**

Last Wednesday after an endless time, did our workers come home. Yesterday, it was raining the whole day. We brought the Weizen = wheat home.

### **Sunday 28<sup>th</sup> February [1915]**

Last Tuesday, we received the chaff for the horses, the whole day we went up and down to the station. We had again very strong rain. The train had to wait on another track, because it was too wet. The weather is all the time cool, we are not yet ready with cutting the crop because it is raining all the time.

Today we were again at Erni's grave, we were very sad. He has now also a grave name, that you can see the grave soon. O, my darling Erni has died, mine glück [luck or fortune] in life is buried.

### **Sunday 7<sup>th</sup> March [1915]**

We were today for the last time on the grave of our dearly beloved Erni, I hardly could get myself away from mine Erni, and cried heart breaking. Leonhard made a nice tombstone and I arranged for the last time his grave with flowers and reeves [wreaths]. The love of a parent goes further than the grave. For years I will not be able to see the place (the dearest place on earth,) and that is very hard. After that we went to our friends and relatives and told Adies... that we

were going to our second block Nugadong. We arranged our business, we think to leave here next Tuesday. We finished cutting the crop, and cleared some more.

### **Sunday 14<sup>th</sup> March [1915]**

Tuesday 9<sup>th</sup> March, we left Bruce Rock, we had a bit of troubles, because we could not get it all on the train, also not the chooks, it made us a bit late. I could not any more have a look at Erni, and that was very hard. The whole trip I felt miserable, and had pain in the back. In the evening at 9.30 o'clock, we arrived in Fremantle, and looked for sleeping accommodation, which we found very soon by a German family.

The next day, Leonhard went to Perth, to organize his business, but he could not do anything, so we had to wait a whole day. In the meantime we bought some things, and Tuesday evening we left Perth for Northam, we had to wait there till 5 o'clock in the morning, we slept in an empty train, till the train came. At 5 o'clock in the morning, we left for Nugadong, where we at last arrived at 4 o'clock in the afternoon.

### **Wednesday 17<sup>th</sup> March [1915]**

We could get out of the train by [near] our house. Leonhard alone went to the station. But the house looked terrible, everything was upside down and terrible dirty. All the good things were stolen. Workers had lived there, it took a long time, before we had the house right again. Leonhard got the things from the station, they send everything after us, we

had a bit of rain. On the 17<sup>th</sup> March came back again by train to Buntine.

### **Sunday 28<sup>th</sup> March [1915]**

We made the house look very nice. We cleared till last Thursday, to find a place for our new dam, because we need more water. Tomorrow we start with the dam.

On the 17<sup>th</sup> March 1915 Leonhard got the first Sunday Times. We had two Italians to visit us. The inspector is also here, to have a look at the block, and to give his permission.

### **After Sunday 4<sup>th</sup> April [1915]**

Last Tuesday, we started with the dam, and it goes very well, also the ground is very good for the dam. Today we had heavy rain, and the small dam is full. We found out that a kangaroo has been there, but we could not see him, they are very rare here.

### **Sunday 11<sup>th</sup> April [1915]**

We had to stop with the dam for the rain, and during 2 days hacked fence posts. The weather is very nice. Last Wednesday, I was by Mrs Norris to do the washing and was paid sh 3.6 for 4 hours [3 shillings and sixpence for 4 hours work]. Today Leonhard went to Klein, he could not do anything because Klein was not at home, he had to come back on Monday.

### **Sunday 18<sup>th</sup> April [1915]**

The weather is all the time very nice and warm, and we are

therefore all the time building the dam, I helped also with washing.

### **Sunday 25<sup>th</sup> April [1915]**

All the time the same work, we are doing this for the second time, but by a big dam, it goes very slow. The weather is all the time very nice.

The last week, we planted the plants for the kitchen garden and colrabi [kohlrabi], while we have had the change of getting rain. We had again some birds for dinner.

### **Sunday 2<sup>nd</sup> May [1915]**

The dam is not yet ready. We also had a bit of rain. The skins of kangaroos came last week. Did also again the washing.

### **Sunday 9<sup>th</sup> May [1915]**

On Monday, we had a lot of rain. On Tuesday, I went with Franzl to the station. I was supposed to help 2 days in the dining room, and did some washing and ironing. I got for 1 ½ day work 4 shilling, a pound of meat, a tin with fat and some herbs. It are very good people here. We could not work on the dam for the rain. So we ringbarked.

### **Sunday 15<sup>th</sup> May [1915]**

Last Sunday, we had a visitor. A man was looking for work, and he is already here the whole week. He helps us with the work, and next week we start clearing. On Monday I did the washing again. On Friday, Leonhard went to Perth, and we are by ourselves now. Today we had a lot of visitors, three men were here, they wanted some socks and shirts. Straight

after that we got 2 Germans to visit us, and in the evening a farmer and his wife visited us, and their son. Leonhard was not home. The dam is now totally ready, the weather is all the time very nice, but the nights are cold.

### **Sunday 23<sup>rd</sup> May [1915]**

Last Monday, we had again 2 people to visit us, the same in the evening, and wanted some socks. I have a lot of washing to do and sewing.

On Friday, Hartl came back from Perth. In the afternoon he went back again, to buy a horse. On Saturday, he was by Mr Bamberger, he gave him a chook, who was clucky, we put 11 eggs under her on the 22<sup>nd</sup> May. It starts to rain a bit at the moment.

They wanted to send Leonhard to Rottnest, they had to go to a soldier's camp. They let him go for now, but he had to go straight home. All Germans have to go to Rottnest as prisoners of war. We hope they don't come so soon up our way. It is very bad with the war.

### **Sunday 30<sup>th</sup> May [1915]**

We are all the time busy clearing. It was raining the whole week, on Monday we had very heavy rain. On Saturday we got the horse, the cart is also here, and at the same time, we brought food home. Leonhard bought 2 big black chooks. This week, I was 2 days by [at] Holmes, to do the washing and some sewing, and took a bag with washing home. On Sunday we had again visitors.

### **Sunday 13<sup>th</sup> June [1915]**

The whole week, it is raining, the last 2 days it was raining terrible. The workers are still cutting in the bush. Was last Tuesday again doing washing, sewing and ironing. On Friday we got 7 chickens from eggs, they look very nice. Leonhard brought 2 parrots home, and planned to learn them to talk.

### **Sunday 27<sup>th</sup> June [1915]**

It is all the time rainy weather. Last Friday we had heavy rain, so that both dams got full. The workers are still cutting down trees. Did again some washing, and brought some sewing home. I put also potatoes in the ground, I will try if they grow [try to grow them?].

Babette Augustin.

### **Sunday 11<sup>th</sup> July [1915]**

We had rain, till the 4<sup>th</sup> of July, and our water tank is overflowing. Three days it is beautiful weather, but the nights are cold. We have all the time the same work. Was also again doing the washing and got again some sewing. There is also a lot of work in the garden, everything is beautiful, we had already three times vegetables.

### **Sunday 25<sup>th</sup> July [1915]**

The rain had stopped for a few days, and we have started to make a house, we could not burn because it was too wet. Today we were by Bamberger, and brought the chook back. They were very kind to us. They gave us a lot of fresh milk to drink, which we did not taste for a long time. Mrs Bamberger

is very nice. She gave us 2 chooks, two bottles of milk, and 16 eggs for Franz. Also some oranges, we came late home, and we had visitors when we arrived.

### **Sunday 15<sup>th</sup> August [1915]**

The rain has stopped, and we have nice warm weather. The nights are rather cold. We are still chopping trees. On Sunday, we were by Walters, they have a nice garden and a lot of vegetables, they gave us a lot. Our garden is also very nice, now it is warm. Every day we have vegetables from our garden. On Monday will be the last day to do the washing. Our chooks are starting to lay now.

### **Sunday 22<sup>nd</sup> August [1915]**

We had again rain for 2 days. We started this week with clearing again, but it goes very slow, because everything is still damp. Our workers went yesterday away. Today we had again a visitor. Mrs Bamberger and his wife and Mr Hallman were here, it was very pleasant. The lady brought again a whole dozen of eggs, meat and cakes, she is a very nice person, we enjoyed ourselves very much. I gave him lettuce and all kind of vegetables, and they liked that very much.

### **Sunday 29<sup>th</sup> August [1915]**

Leonhard is very busy clearing (rollen) with 2 horses, and I am nearly the whole week also by the clearing while the weather is nice and windy. Yesterday we got again a worker. Last week was a farmer here, to stop for the night, he was looking for his horse, but could not find him. We also got an inquiry from the ...



### **Sunday 12<sup>th</sup> September [1915]**

We had rain nearly the whole week, we can't do much with the clearing. The farmer who stayed with us for the night, sent us 3 dozen of eggs. The last few days, I was by [at] Mrs Holmes, to help her a bit.

### **Sunday 22<sup>nd</sup> September [1915]**

Leonhard waited the whole week by Holmes to help them out. On Wednesday we put 3 chooks on eggs. Leonhard was again by Bamberger, and brought a lot with him. The whole week was rainy weather, except the last two days.

### **Sunday 9<sup>th</sup> October [1915]**

We are still all the time clearing. Last week it was very hot. We got also again 2 workers on Thursday the 7<sup>th</sup> October for clearing. I was one day by the station to do the washing, I got 6 shilling. And one day I was by [at] Holmes.

### **Sunday 17<sup>th</sup> October [1915]**

We had 3 days of rainy weather, we could not do any clearing. Monday the 11<sup>th</sup> October one of the workers started clearing again. On Monday the Army people visited us, they were looking for Germans, some had to go to Rottnest, they did not want us yet. I also did the washing again by the station, and got good wages. It was very hot the last days.

### **Sunday 31<sup>st</sup> October [1915]**

Today we had again been by Bamberger, and had a very good time. We got again 2 chooks and eggs to put under them, and she gave us one. She is a very nice woman.

Last Sunday Mr. Rotkehl, was here, to visit us, also a country man from us. We have all the time nice warm weather, good to get a tan.

### **Sunday 7<sup>th</sup> September [1915]**

Are still all the time busy clearing, and have very good weather for it. Mr Fred got ready with 10 asses. The other man was last week helping Bamberger by the harvest. I have cut our bit of wheat, it gives a bit of food for the horse. I have also on the 9<sup>th</sup> November 120 eggs preserved.

### **Sunday 20<sup>th</sup> November [1915]**

Mr. Gally is ready, and is gone now, also Fred went into the Army camp. The burning is done now, while the harvest is, we can't burn off now, or make a fire. The weather is still very hot. Last Sunday, Rotkehl was here again. On the 10<sup>th</sup> November, I put down 6 duck eggs for breeding out. I got today also 13 chickens, and I expect some more in a few days.

### **Sunday 19<sup>th</sup> December [1915]**

The heat is very great, last Wednesday we had a thunderstorm, we had a lot of rain, but it lasted very short [but it didn't last long]. We got a little bit of water out of it, so we haven't to cart water for a few weeks. Twice we got 2 loads with water from the large dam. We cut down trees, and we work in the bush. We also had a bushfire for 3 weeks, and just managed to save ourselves and our property. Our neighbour left last week, and our worker is also gone, so we are alone again.

### **Sunday 26<sup>th</sup> December [1915]**

The 2 Christmas holidays were the hottest for 20 years, we could hardly bear it. Franzi hardly noticed it, she got a small horse and some [nuts], and was so happy. We are now ready with cutting down trees in the bush. Today we were by Bamberger, and had a very good time.

### **Saturday, New Year, 1<sup>st</sup> January [1916] Prosit**

Today the New Year starts. It is not so very hot now. We are making now a paddock for the horses. Nothing special.

### **Sunday 16<sup>th</sup> January [1916]**

Leonhard is cutting down scrub and cutting down trees. His eyes are very bad, he can't do much. I was washing for 2 days in the station and received 20 Mark. It is still very hot.

### **Sunday 23<sup>rd</sup> January [1916]**

When I came home from the station doing the washing and ironing, Leonhard had shot a wild turkey, he was very big and fat. It weight 10 lb, when it was dressed, it gave a very good roast meal and fat. It was the first turkey we saw here. Last Friday, it was raining a lot, so that the big tank, the two dams and the water trough were all filled. We will have enough water now till winter.

### **Sunday 30<sup>th</sup> January [1916]**

Leonhard started last Monday making a road through the bush, and came ready yesterday. I stopped home. Friday we had a thunderstorm again, but not much rain by it, we had also a bit of hailstones. Nothing special.

### **Sunday 5<sup>th</sup> March [1916]**

On 3<sup>rd</sup> of February we left for Perth, and we arrived on 4<sup>th</sup> February in the home for Mothers, and on 17<sup>th</sup> February we got a little Babette Luise, and we are both healthy. 3<sup>rd</sup> March, we went home again, and Papa and Franzi waited for me at the station. Franzi had stopped home by [with] Papa, and was always in the bush, by the clearing. She was very happy with her little sister, and so was Papa with the little baby.

### **Sunday 19<sup>th</sup> March [1916]**

Papa is all the time burning and clearing, and I am all the time at home by the children, they are all healthy. It is all the time very hot. The last days we had often a bit of thunder and rain. This week I received from a woman, 2 packets with clothes, and all kind of good things.

### **Sunday 2<sup>nd</sup> April [1916]**

Papa is now ready with clearing, and is waiting for the horses. He was already 2 times in Gibberding [Jibberding] by Rotkehl, for wheat cutting. Rotkehl was giving the horses. I was alone by myself for 2 nights in this lonely place. We have all the time nice weather, we are waiting for rain. On the 25<sup>th</sup> March we got our first chickens. 11 black ones.

### **Sunday 16<sup>th</sup> April [1916]**

During a fortnight it looks like getting rain, but we did not get any. Our small dam is empty again. On Sunday we were again by Bamberger, and brought my sewing machine back. Leonhard built a new shed. Today we have put 15 eggs under the second chook. Happy Easter.

### **Sunday 23<sup>rd</sup> April [1916]**

The last two days were very hot, we did not get any rain yet. Leonhard had, on Holy Monday in the evening, shot his first kangaroo here on [at] Buntine, we got very good roast and meat and fat out of it. It was a young one. It weight [weighed] 18 lb. We are again busy clearing.

### **Sunday 7<sup>th</sup> May [1916]**

This week we got a little bit of rain, but hardly was the ground wet. Are all the time clearing. Today we got again 7 chickens.

### **Sunday 14<sup>th</sup> May [1916]**

All the same work, and no rain yet. The small dam is already empty we have to cart the water. This week I planted the first vegetables. In the garden we have already some gerkens [gherkins] and tomatoes. I had some washing today from the station.

### **Sunday 28<sup>th</sup> May [1916]**

Last week I was on holiday in Perth, to see the dokter [doctor], and ordered at the same time stores, manure and wheat, and I had to walk a lot. Papa and Franzi were at home at work. Put 12 eggs under a chook.

### **Sunday 4<sup>th</sup> June [1916]**

This week we had the first heavy winter rain, and it is raining every day now, we can't do much work at the moment, we are waiting for the horses. In the garden I planted everything and transplanted some things. We are longing for turkey

roast, but they are so shy, they fly away before we can reach them. We eat about 1 or two cockerels in a week, today we have the last one. The eggs are 3 sh(illings) a dozen, we have no eggs to sell yet.

### **Sunday 18<sup>th</sup> June [1916]**

Since last Thursday 15<sup>th</sup> June, a man is here with horses to do some cultivation and sowing the wheat. Last night we had a bit of rain. The nights are cold and a bit of frost [a bit frosty]. The young hens started to lay, and often we have 12-15 eggs a day. Today we got 6 chickens.

### **Sunday 9<sup>th</sup> July [1916]**

We have finished the cultivation, and started on the 2<sup>nd</sup> July to plant wheat, and were ready with it the 6<sup>th</sup> July. We sowed 50 acres with wheat. A good neighbor sowed 25 acres for us for nothing. And Leonhard is helping him some days with some work. We need good rain now that it soon comes up. Last week we had rain enough. On Wednesday the 5<sup>th</sup> July, we have 10 eggs under a chook again. In the garden it is not growing very much, it is too cold. We have nearly every night frost or ice.

### **Sunday 16<sup>th</sup> July [1916]**

Last Wednesday, we had a lot of rain, and the wheat comes here and there up. Leonhard is the whole week, working by our neighbour, I am alone the whole day. On Thursday, we had a few men here, they gave us beer and whisky, and Papa was a bit drunk. They gave the little Betty a little present sh. 10 [10 shillings]. And gave Franzi also a few shillings, that was

very nice from [of] them, because we don't know them at all. This night we had again heavy frost.

### **Sunday 23<sup>rd</sup> July [1916]**

The wheat is getting green everywhere. This week, we had no frost, but a bit of rain. Leonhard stopped working for the neighbor and went by horse and cart to Dalwallinu for a goat, he came back on Friday with a goat who will have a kid next month, August, and brought a little one with him, from both we can't get milk yet. He also bought an old saddle. Last Sunday we also got chickens. Today were Mr and Mrs Bamberger here to visit us, and were all very happy together, they brought also milk and cakes for Franzl.

Babette Augustine

### **Sunday 30<sup>th</sup> July [1916]**

On Monday we had a lot of rain, that was good luck for us. Leonhard shot again a big turkey, it gave us a very good roast and meat and nearly 2 lb fat. It lasted us the whole week. We also gave our neighbours a piece. There are so many turkeys here, but they are so shy, it is hard to catch them.

A man was here, to feed his horse for a few days, and he told us, he will plough our whole place, and also seed it next year. Leonhard has gone today, to pick up chaff and the horses. The neighbour lent him the plough. This week we had nearly enough rain, and I planted the whole garden. Also plants did I put in yesterday. On Wednesday we got again 6 chickens.

### **Sunday 6<sup>th</sup> August [1916]**

We got some horses. Leonhard ploughed 2 days, it is heavy work, because the ground is so soft. We had again 2 days rain. The last days it was very hot. The man got his horses back, on Friday, because he needed them himself. Next week he will bring some other ones. We made a new garden by the dam below, and we planted some things there. There are so many turkeys here, but you can't get them, they fly away as soon as they see somebody far away.

### **Sunday 13<sup>th</sup> August [1916]**

Tuesday the 8<sup>th</sup> August we sent again a letter home, and we hope that you will receive it, and answer us on our letters. At the moment, I am alone since 4 days, because Leonhard is away to get horses from Carnamah, and is not yet back. It is very lonely and frightening to be alone here, and nobody to see or hear. I hope that he will be coming today. We have every day rain, and the wheat looks very nice. A good friend sent us this week, pork and ... the first we have seen here, and it was very nice.

### **Sunday 20<sup>th</sup> August [1916]**

Last Sunday Papa came home again, he had to wait to get the horses. He came home with 2 horses. It was a terrible long and bad road, and he travelled till 12 o'clock in the night. The horses were very tired. One did not want to eat at all, while he had all the time grass, the other one's feet were so bad, and Leonhard shod him straight away. He let them have a rest for the whole week, we were waiting all the time for Mr



Farrel, but till now he is not here yet. Papa brought also homemade butter from a German farmer, it was very nice.

### **Sunday 27<sup>th</sup> August [1916]**

On Tuesday we had an accident, the horse, did not want to eat at all, and deteriorated, till it died on Tuesday morning. We burnt it up straight away. Mr. Bamberger said it had been eating sand, and wrote at the same time to Mr Farrel, he might come. Leonhard can't do anything till he gets more horses. He has started to roll the bush. We have every day rain. Last Sunday for the first time little Betty said Papa and Mama, and tries to stand up, she can almost sit alone by herself, she also has a bad ear.

### **Sunday 13<sup>th</sup> September [1916]**

The warm days are coming now, that is good for the wheat, till now it is very nice. Leonhard is the whole week rolling the bush. On Thursday we got 2 kids, and on Tuesday I have set 6 duck eggs. In the garden it looks very nice, special the cauliflower and shallot, we have every day vegetables from the garden, the first tomato plants are coming up.

### **Sunday 10<sup>th</sup> September [1916]**

The whole week, it was very hot, as if we were in summer. Leonhard is ready with rollen [rolling]. We started a bit of clearing again. We get good coffee and tea from the goat's milk, she gives a good bit.

### **Sunday 17<sup>th</sup> September [1916]**

The summer has started, it is all the time very hot, and no

rain, everything is so dried out, and not much hope for a good harvest, if it will not rain soon. Am all the time doing the same work. Leonhard was all the time by Mr. Farrel, he don't [doesn't] want to clear any more, he has no time and no money for it. He took his horses again.

### **Sunday 1<sup>st</sup> October [1916]**

The sky is full of clouds every day, and still no rain. The hope of a harvest is gone, every farmer worries, that it is all dried up. Our wheat looks very bad. Leonhard is clearing in the morning and rolling in the afternoon as long as we have the horses here. He has to look for some other work, to earn some money. I am kept busy with the children and the house. Sunday the 23<sup>rd</sup> September we got 5 ducklings, and I have another chook sitting on 5 eggs, and one 11 chook eggs. The chooks are laying very badly at the moment.

Last Wednesday, we got the first rain, it was raining fairly good, so that the land and the dam came full, but for the wheat it is too late. Leonhard is the whole week by our neighbour helping him with the dam. He goes early away and comes back 8 o'clock in the night. I am the whole week by myself. I have the whole day plenty of work. Parish fair Sunday the 15<sup>th</sup> October 1916. All the time the same every day, no happy sound no holy day, nothing else as working days, plenty of work, and our kangaroo meat, that is the only fresh meat, and milk and eggs, we have no potatoes at all, they are too expensive and not easy. The war makes life very expensive here, there is nothing better than our Heimat [homeland] (Germany).

Papa was the whole week sinking a dam. It was the whole week very hot. I got again 7 chickens, and 2 are still sitting, one on 11 eggs, the other on 14 eggs.

### **Sunday 29<sup>th</sup> October [1916]**

The dam sinking is finished, and Papa was a few days home. But tomorrow he has to go away again. Yesterday we killed our billy (goat), he was very fat and good. We got 21 lb of meat. Yesterday I have set 3 chooks. It is all the time fairly warm, and no rain. There is not much in the garden, to less rain. On Tuesday we had a visitor for a few days, the lady from the station was here.

### **Sunday 12<sup>th</sup> November [1916]**

On Monday, our neighbor came and cut our hay, it is not much, it was too short, but it means a bit of food for when we get the horses. Papa is all the time away for work, on Tuesday, he wants to go to Bambergers to help him for a few days. I am alone the whole week with the children, on Sunday also in the desolated Australien [desolate Australia], and I am often very lonely out here. Last week, it was raining a few drops, but otherwise it is very hot.

### **Sunday 26<sup>th</sup> November [1916]**

Papa is still away at work, and I have to do all the work by myself at home. We have now 47 chickens, 6 ducks, 5 parrots, a little pig, and 6 goats, that gives me plenty of work, and the children give even a bit more work. My good goat died, on Friday, we bought another one, (s)he hardly gives any milk. A Farmer gave Leonhard a small pig and his wife

gave a Plymouth Rock cockerel for Christmas. Our water in the garden is gone, so we have to carry water again, we had a bit of rain, but not enough.

### **Sunday 10<sup>th</sup> December [1916]**

Since 2<sup>nd</sup> December is Papa home again, he started last Thursday, with ploughing with 3 horses. It is very heavy work, he can, you can hardly plough, sandy ground.

It is very hot, in the garden everything died. I have again 10 more chickens. Since 3 weeks, I have a young parrot, he is sitting by the table and chats away, and is very gay. Betty tries to stand up alone by herself, but it goes not very well yet, she falls back.

### **Christmas Sunday 25<sup>th</sup> December [1916]**

We had very good Christmas days. We were by Bambergers, it was a very nice evening. In the evening Papa came to pick me up, and brought also a German friend with him. We had a very nice tea, roast of Pork, with potatoes, Christmas pudding, beer and wine, then we went home, Papa had also plenty of beer at home. Every man who passed he gave him a few bottles. Franzi and Betty got a present of 10 Mark, and many other things. Papa is still ploughing. It is all the time very hot, and no summer rain yet.

### **Happy New Year 1917**

We finished off the old year very well, and we started off the New Year well. We had a German friend here, and they drank till 12 o'clock, and then another man came with 4 bottles of

beer, so they drank some more. Then we all went to bed. I was sick on Sunday, and had to in bed the whole day. In the New Year it is a bit better now. Papa has still the same work. It is cool and windy at the moment. Our water will soon be finished if no rain is coming.

### **Sunday 15<sup>th</sup> January [1917]**

It is terrible hot today, and no rain yet. Our wheat is still standing outside. Papa is now ready with ploughing, he can't do it any longer, it is too heavy for the horses. A man promised to lend him some horses for cutting the crop. On Wednesday he went to Gibberding [Jibberding] to pick up the horses, but the man was not home. He will be coming home next week. The neighbour will lend him the harvester. Last Sunday we had a visit of 6 men, I had my hands full with the cooking. They had plenty of beer, and drank till 2 o'clock in the morning, everybody was gay and happy. 4 men stopped for the night, and went on drinking the next day, till the afternoon, then they went home. They gave Franzi and Betty again 15 Mark. I have been again for 2 days in bed, and not right yet. Betty was also sick for 2 days, and today Papa is sick. Mrs Farrel was here yesterday, and took a horse away from here.

### **Sunday 28<sup>th</sup> January [1917]**

Last Monday, we started to cut the crop, and yesterday, something broke on the harvester, and we had to wait till it is fixed again. We still have 2 days to cut. The wheat federation (?) is not bad, about 6 bushel an acre. The other is worse. The neighbor took the wheat off and had to give 15 bags of

wheat. Till now it is terrible hot and no rain yet, our drinking water is finished and the dam is dry.

### **Sunday 4<sup>th</sup> February [1917]**

The harvester is still now not ready, and Papa is by Mr Davis Chaff cutting. Our water in the dam is empty, we have to get it from Davis, we hope that we soon get rain, the whole week is a strong wind, and today it is again very hot. We have a German friend here for a few weeks. Little Betty has now 4 teeth. Babette Augustin. We have got the harvester here for one day, and it broke down again, and we have to wait again, till it is fixed. Papa is also ready with chaff cutting, and is at home again. Today we had our first roast of duck, and that was very nice. The heat is all the time very bad, and no rain yet.

### **Sunday 3<sup>rd</sup> March [1917]**

At last on Wednesday we got a thunderstorm and a bit of rain, but not enough, that the water filled the dam. It was a terrible hot week. Papa and his German friend went last week to Perth. Papa came back on Friday. The Bank could not do anything, and he had to see to it himself, how he can get the wheat off. The wheat is still standing in the field. We have burnt a bit of hay and grass, that we can plough the ground easier. Little Betty started to walk on Thursday, and it goes very well. I am all the time alone, while Papa is away.

### **Easter Sunday 8<sup>th</sup> April [1917]**

Today we have Easter Sunday, but it has nothing from Easter, it is the same like all days here. We all have had very bad

eyes, Papa, Franzi and Betty are nearly better, but I had to go to Perth last Tuesday, to see the dokter [doctor], because I was nearly blind. I came back on Good Friday, my eyes are better, but not cured, and have to wear glasses. Also my German friend in Perth is very sick. We are very busy clearing and burning the bush.

Yesterday I sowed in the garden, a bit of herbs, cauliflower, swedes and turnips, it is since a few days rainy weather. My chooks lay very bad at the moment, here only a few eggs a day.

### **Sunday 29<sup>th</sup> April [1917]**

We are nearly ready with clearing (with the axe) the bush. Papa has put it in rows with the big horses. We made about 120 acres clear, ready to sow. Our eyes are all better by now. I have put eggs under 3 chooks, one with duck eggs. The chooks don't lay any better yet. My four goats don't give any milk at the moment, we are expecting kids from them soon.

### **Sunday 6<sup>th</sup> May [1917]**

We had a good friend here, with a boy, he asked Papa for a red parrot, and gave him one, now we have 3 red ones and two green ones. The other day, Monday, had one of the red parrots, made a hole in his cage and flew away, when we saw it on Tuesday, he was gone already, he came several times back, but we could not catch him. On Friday early in the morning he came again, and Papa wanted to shoot him, but he could not get him, he flew away again, and came back in the afternoon, he was very hungry, we opened the cage, and

could get him in easily. He had been away for 5 days. The ring parrot is very tame, you can catch him easily, and let him fly, and he comes back to you, he follows you everywhere. He loves sugar, jam and cakes. Last week we had a bit of rain, but we did not get any in the dam.

### **Sunday 20<sup>th</sup> May [1917]**

Papa was last week working by Bamberger, and came back on Thursday. Next week we will start ploughing and seeding. We had again a little bit of rain. The nights are frosty, but in day time it is warm. Our two red parrots got sick, and died. Yesterday we got a friend, and he stopped for a few days.

### **Sunday 27<sup>th</sup> May [1917]**

The whole week, our friend stopped here, and since Tuesday three other men, that gave a lot of cooking to do and washing up, we were all very happy to be together. The men were nearly always drunk, they had plenty of beer and whiskey and a bottle of wine they brought for me and lemonade. Nearly all the food they brought their selves, and still they gave me and the children 25 Mark, they sure are good people. They were 2 from Sweden and one from England. The Swedish people are the best I have seen till now, they have gone away in the bush now. It has been raining. It has been raining since a few days. The man with the plough is supposed to come tomorrow.

### **Sunday 10<sup>th</sup> June [1917]**

The man is here a fortnight, to do the ploughing, has not done very much up till now, it is raining every day, the same



weather, it will be getting very late for ploughing and seeding, we can't do anything on it. The sandflies are terrible, you can't come in the neighbourhood of water. The tank and the small dam are full. I had last night a terrible dream, I hope it remains a dream.

### **Sunday 17<sup>th</sup> June [1917]**

The whole week we had nice weather, and we did a good bit of ploughing. Last Friday he came also with a drill, and Papa helped him. When can get away he does chopping wood in the bush.

### **Sunday 24<sup>th</sup> June [1917]**

Last week we had a big enlargement of the family. Nelly gave birth to 2 kids and Billy to three, on Wednesday we got 7 chickens and on Friday 8 ducklings. The weather is all the time rainy. We have sowed about 60 acres. Today I was by Bamberger, and brought a young goat with me.

### **Sunday 30<sup>th</sup> June [1917]**

This week we could merely [barely?] do any ploughing, because it was raining all the time. Yesterday was the heaviest rain of the year, everything is full of water, we could not come in the paddock for 3-4 days. Yesterday I have put 12 duck eggs under a chook, All the time when it raining I had a terrible toothache, it is too cold, and you can't get dry any more.

### **Sunday 8<sup>th</sup> July [1917]**

The whole week we had rain, and David (or Doowid) was not

here the whole week. On Tuesday Mr. Bamberger was here, and trillt [tilled?] about 8 acres. Sandplain, that was all, he could not go any further, because the horses sank to their knees in the ground, the plough sank till the axle in the mud.

**Sunday 15<sup>th</sup> July [1917]**

The same weather the whole week, on Tuesday and Wednesday we raked a few acres that is all. It is raining every day. On Friday, there was a man here from the Sandal wooder, he had in the store in Wubin left £2 for us, to buy whatever we wanted, because we lent him 50 lb of flour. They are very good people in the bush here.