

Discovered by Dave Lindgren

The following was discovered by Dave Lindgren in [Obed F Lindgren](#)'s papers, which Dave acquired when OFL moved from Richfield to Bloomington MN in the 1970s. Dave prepared the typescript (below) from a handwritten translation of unknown origin.

Typescript

DRAFT/Publish after proof with original translation (This copy by Dave L)

Paton, Iowa. December 9, 1899.

Dear parents, sisters. Hope you are feeling fine is my daily wish. I will now answer the welcome letter that I got today. It was so good to hear that you have your health and feel fine and I have the same good gift.

Soon we will have Christmas and I wish I could come home, but I'll have to live on that hope one more year. You probably didn't think I'd come home and I hadn't planned much on it because I think I'll go to Chicago and if I get work will stay there till next fall when threshing starts. Then when threshing is finished I will come home. So am I planning now? This if I live and God is willing. He has my way planned and I must go where that is.

Well, I must wish you a glad and lucky Christmas and a good new year, and may God be with us all on our separate paths - then all will go well. If we have Him then we have enough wherever we are.

I wonder if Ida will come here. I don't know what it is with her, she writes so seldom. If you girls want to come here then it would be best if you come as soon as Amanda comes home for the winter. If you wait till then she can tell you about the trip. If I go home I may stay home a year and you can't wait that long. I haven't seen Amanda for a long time so I don't know for sure if she'll come home, but I believe she will.

I am thru picking corn. I am going to have an auction so it is only three days more that I will have four horses. I am also going to sell some machinery, then I will go (to Chicago).

When you write tell me all the news. You know it is good to hear the news from Sweden. Tell me if all the Hamneda girls are married by now or if there are any left for me when I come home.

I must now close for this time. Greet all acquaintances, but first you are greeted, my dear parents and sisters.

Frank Lindgren

I will greet you from John and his wife. Write soon again.

Translation

~~Dear Parents, Sisters and Brothers~~
Paton, Iowa
December 9-1899.
Dear parents, sisters ~~and brothers~~ hope
you are feeling fine is my daily wish.
I will now answer the welcome letter that
I got today. It was so good to hear that you
have your health and feel fine - and I have
the same good gift.
Soon we will have Christmas and I wish
I could come home, but I'll have to live on
that hope one more year. You probably didn't
think I'd come home and I hadn't planned
much on it because I think I'll go to Chicago
and if I get work will stay there til next
fall when threshing starts. Then when threshing
is finished I will come home. So am I planning
now. This if I live and God is willing. He has
my way planned and I must go where that is.
Well, I must wish you a glad and lucky
Christmas and a good new year, and may God
be with us all on our separated paths - then
all will go well. If we have Him then we have
enough wherever we are.
I wonder if Ida will come here. I don't know
what it is with her she writes so seldom. If your
girls want to come here then it would be best if
you come as soon as Amanda comes home for
the winter. If you wait til then she can tell you
about the trip. If I go home I may stay home
a year and you can't wait that long. I haven't
seen Amanda for a long time so I don't know for

sure if she'll come home, but I believe she will.

I am then picking corn. I am going to have an auction so it is only three days more that I will have four horses. I am also going to sell some machinery then I will go to Chicago).

When you write tell me all the news. You know it is good to hear the news from Sweden. Tell me if all the Hamneda girls are married by now or if there are any left for me when I come home.

I must now close for this time. Greet all acquaintances but first you are greeted, my dear parents and sisters ~~and brothers~~.

Frank Lindgren

I will greet you from John and his wife.
Write soon again.

Swedish Letter

Patou Iowa

December 1 — 1899

älskade föräldrar

snart syskon men så gott
är min dagliga önskan

Jag får nu besvara
ditt kärkomna brev som
jag bekom i dag roligt
att höra att ni har helan
och mår bra och jag har
äfrin den samma goda
hälsan jag snart har vi jul
och jag önskar att jag
kunde gått hem men jag
får vel & lefa på loppet
ett är till men ni tror
visst inte att jag kommer
och jag ändrar inte mycket
på det för jag har haft

For further information, please contact Dave Lindgren (see contacts).