

Mr. Rep. Katzenmayer in New York

Dear Sir.

In the absence of Burgomaster C Steiner (who is at present in Carlsruhe as Representative to a Legislative Convention) I reply to your letter addressed to him dated N. York March 1st 1854.

In accordance to your wishes I summons Mrs. (Paver) Rick born Wilderer. & Joseph Schneider & communicated to them the contents of your letter. Joseph Schneider declared; that he is not the curator of Ricks Children, Mrs Rick asked time to consider before given an answer.

To day appeared before me Mrs. Rick (above referred to) & made the following statement: —

" After due consideration I have concluded to conform
 " to the wishes of my Husband in so far, that I am
 " prepared to bring my two boys personal to New York,
 " if my Husband will for this purpose send me
 " \$ 200. which Amount will about settle up my
 " affairs here & pay the traveling, both of the Children
 " are too young to be able to travel without super-
 " vision & are so accustomed to me; I would not
 " trust them to strange hands; The Marriage divorce
 " proposed by my Husband meets with my consent,
 " and could by mutual agreement be accomplished
 " with less trouble in America then here. If my
 " Husband will support the 2 Children, I will make
 " no further claims against him. I shall soon write
 " to my Husband about all these matters in detail &
 " then await his answer.

I simply impart to you the above statement made to me by Mrs Rick, she declined to sign the same in form of a deposition.

very respectfully yours.

Constance January 2^d 1860

Dear Cousin

You will pardon the liberty I take in writing you a few lines as I have the opportunity by which they will surely reach you. —

It is now nearly 11 years, since my Husband has left me & my children, ^{and} not a sign of human feeling has he evinced, it takes a great deal to be so cruel to ones Wife ^{and} two Children as to leave destiny to provide for them. ^{and} often I think it is not possible that man whom God has made as his image should act so inhuman — I know dear Cousin that you have often reminded him to fulfill his obligations ^{and} duty, but it is all in vain, he has always expressed himself that, he did not wish to have any thing more to do with me. he was never worth the love I felt for him — Dear Cousin as I have heard, he has been married for a long time past, ^{and} I would do likewise, but here in Germany it is different from America I have applied to the Courts here for my divorce but it can only be granted if I produce the proofs in writing to the authorities here, substantiating the above, I must therefore intrude on your kindness to favor me by sending them to me sealed. I rely upon your good heart ^{and} your noble character. I shall always be thankful to you — I am tired of being in service, as I am often unwell, the greatest happiness for me would be, to have my dear Children again around me, only a Mother can feel what pain it is, to loose her Children.

hoping soon to hear from you,

I salute you & your dear ones a thousand times.

Y^{rs} Mrs

Mrs Anna Rick

Ponstanz April 10th 1861.

Dear Alois

I have learned that your Mother received a letter from you, relative to our dear Children ^{and} that she replied, I would not permit it, unless you should also want me.

How can that woman say so, when I have not spoken a word to her for some time past ^{and} generally speak ^{and} see her seldom, ^{and} since a short while I know she writes all those lies to America, I do not excuse myself to you, Your Children will tell you everything verbally, they can talk like grown People ^{and} will inform you of the smallest details ^{and} you know your Mother ^{and} also the harm she done me, since I knew you. I have concluded to send our dear Children to you, I have in course of time brought them so far, as to be willing to go to their Father, in their young hearts I have planted love for their Father, they love you ^{and} long for their Father. I have learned them to love their heavenly Father ^{and} Jesus Christ, ^{and} when they are with you, see to it that they remain faithful ^{and} good Christians. Alois went for the first time to partake of the Lords Supper, I was so happy, a holy peace took possession of my heart, next year I hope you will have the same good luck with Charles I hope you will til then, see that, he is diligent in going to school until he reaches his 14th year. I shall trust to you, that ^{you} will use your best endeavours to provide for your Children, I have ^{done} for them all that was within my power to do, It was with great reluctance ^{and} pain that I turned them over to the Orphan Asylum ^{and} how painful will it be to me,

when I shall see them no more, but you will allow them to write to me from time to time.

My dear Husband why did you not call on me regarding the Children, and I not their Mother (and) I therefore should have given you the proper information. what harm have I done you, did we not part on good terms? I know full well that the fault was not entirely yours, I also know the other guilty party. Dear Alois you have wrecked my whole life's happiness, but I forgive you with my whole heart as I wish to be forgiven by our heavenly Father, (and) I pray daily that he will also forgive you. do not fear that I will trouble you I cannot go to America. You know I had to advertise for you I was obliged to do it, otherwise I should have had no grounds for a divorce suit, (and) now your Mother persecutes (and) hates me.

How can the Children now come to you, none of your Brothers or Sisters will go to America (and) strangers cannot be trusted with them, it would therefore be better you should come yourself to take them.

I greet you many times

Cordial

(Signed)

Anna

no 4.

New York January 20th 1861.

Dear Aloysi:

I received a letter yesterday from Constant of which the following pertains to your affairs:

" In regard to the Children of Mr Rick's there I had
" a talk with Bugonmaster Steiner, who says that
" if Rick should want to take his two Boys to him,
" he would first have to submit official proof, that
" his circumstances ^{and} Earnings are such, that he is
" in every way capable of supporting them, he has
" also to send, in advance the traveling expenses of
" the 2 Boys, whereby it must be taken in consideration,
" that the Children cannot be shipped as wares, as
" they can't travel without supervision ^{and} must there-
" fore have ^{to} await a time when some known ^{and}
" trustworthy person who is going there can take
" Charge of them, I look to your further advise,
" ^{and} will gladly do all I can in this matter.

This is neither half nor whole ^{and} it does not satisfy me, so as I had to write today about some of my matters to Constant I also immediately wrote Müller about positive information in your behalf: that is, I wrote him: — Suppose now Rick sends you the required Documents, also the funds for traveling & fixing up the Boys ^{and} even a proper Compensation for the trusty person to take Charge of them; Are there no other obstacles, ^{and} will the woman make no difficulty? Can Rick be sure to have the Children delivered to him? You will please get Particular information ^{and} report soon to me. — I think this was acting in accordance to your wishes; is the report of Müller to my present enquiry favorable, it then appears to me, that you have won

Horn

the game; The Documents referred to can be prepared by any Notary, there or here. Taken altogether it is but little, but it is chance of Hope that something may result therefrom.

How about the change & about your Beer?
I hope soon again to hear from you,
meanwhile I greet you in true friendship

Signed

Max Roller

If you come here by the way of Washington get me from one of your acquaintance a Patent Office Register.

Huetten was again elected Burgomaster for the City of Constanz on the 3rd inst.

No. 5.

Weberlingen January 6/1869.

Dear best Cousin Alois

First of all a thousand thanks, from your Mother for the 50 Gulden send her. believe me that your Mother knows how to appreciate your kindly action.

Your Mother requested me to see Anna regarding those affairs, as your Mother ~~and~~ Agnes do not stand on good footing with Anna, so I paid her a visit, I did not trust myself to say anything about the commission you gave Mother, as it would not have been well received, as Anna believes that your Mother slandered her to you. ~~and~~ therefore stated to Anna that I had been to America & obtained some insight into the affairs there, whereby I called her attention, for instance; that Men who have Wives ~~and~~ Children have free control of their property ~~and~~ it would be therefore to her interest to come to some understanding with you, I also had it from good authority that you would be willing to set your 2 Boys up in business, provided she would renounce all matrimonial rights ~~and~~ claims on you, She replied that this would be agreeable to her and she had desired this long ago, but she would only treat with you ~~and~~ you should therefore apply directly to herself. - what else could I do? I found it necessary first to inform you, in case you decline to communicate with her, you would have to turn this matter over to some Lawyer, the case will not be so difficult, as she has already sometime ago, applied for a divorce from you. I am at any time prepared to do all I can for you.

With my & our respects to you & yours

I close by wishing you a happy New Year
Anna Quenzler Widow