

Waterloo Ont.,
Dec. 29, 1918

Dear Mother:-

Your most welcome letter of the 21st reached me the day after Christmas. Many thanks for the handsome Christmas present enclosed. As the children were well-supplied with candy and toys I did not follow out your directions in this case, but Bonnie and I took Marion down to Satchner and I added 2^{50} to it and bought her a fine overcoat. As we had previously bought coats for the boys and she needed one very badly, having outgrown her old one, I concluded that this would be the best disposition of the money. Now all the children are pretty well fitted out for the winter. We had a very pleasant and happy Christmas. We had our tree, of course. Everybody has them here and a family that didn't have one would be liable to the suspicion of being half pagan. Our tree was very pretty and symmetrical and was well decorated and lighted. There were also plenty of presents for the children. Father DeLong had sent his usual ten dollars, so that the presents didn't cost us much. I bought the

boys Hockey shoes and skates, and they
have been making good use of them ever
since. I was down at the lake yesterday and
was surprised at the skill they displayed
in skating. They can hold their own with
any of the young fellows. They have been
after me to go down and skate with them
and I got far enough along to foster my
skates on an old pair of shoes; but I haven't
been down yet. I'm afraid they will put
me to blame. After Sunday School this
afternoon they went skating again and
will probably not get home till supper
time. The ice yesterday was very fine. The
snow squalls to day which are at times pretty
heavy will spoil it somewhat I fear.
But there is no doubt a big crowd on the
ice this afternoon. We thought up almost
to the last minute that we would have
a green Christmas this year; but on the
24th we had a snow storm that left the
ground nice and white for Christmas morn-
ing and it has stayed with us with a
little more added occasionally, up to the
present. It is, rather thin as yet, however,
and there are quite as many barges
running as ever. We had a beautiful
Christmas Service - German English - in
St. John's Christmas night. The Sunday
School is very large, fully 500 children,
and it was an impressive sight to see
them all coming in. Of course only a

few of this number were given recita-
 tions, but all of ours that were large
 enough had pieces, viz. Corvles, Herman
 and Marion, and they all did splendidly. I
 was down and also to the German Church-
 service in the morning. They had two trees beau-
 tifully decorated and lighted with electric lights.
 These trees were still standing at the service this
 morning. I received a pipe and two small
 boxes of cigars containing 24 in all, of which
 I have perhaps a half dozen left. Bonnie got a
 number of useful presents, which she may de-
 scribe to you sometime. We had a fine goose
 weighing $7\frac{1}{2}$ lbs. So we didn't miss your good
 fat hen or rooster or whatever it was. I like
 geese better than turkey and it is the popular
 Christmas fowl around here. Turkeys are on
 sale only when specially ordered beforehand,
 but geese were in great abundance on the
 market. The Seminary Board held its
 quorally meeting on Thursday the 27th. The
 Board expressed themselves as highly pleased
 with my management of the institution and
 heartily congratulated me on my success.
 Pastor Buckelmann told the Board that
 I made the best speech of any of the ministers
 at the Waterloo peace celebration and that I
 had made a fine impression upon the public.

In the vacancy of the English Secretaryship
I had to act as Secretary of the Board at its
meeting. Peter Bernier of Wornsburg
was at this meeting elected a member
of the Board. We will therefore probably see
him here about four times a year
and have the pleasure of entertaining him.
We will have two graduates from the Sem-
inary this year. Both have been called
to congregations near here, the one to the
Coverdigo Parish and the other to Hespeler's.
They are both excellent men and will make
fine pastors. They will have German-English
congregations in the Canada Synode. I trust
Clarence's and Planché's children are all well
of the Flu by this time. It seems to hang on
a long time down your way. There are certain
communities around here also where it has
retained but there have been only occasional
and scattering cases in Kitchener and Waterloo.
We have our piano back yet. It seems
to be taking a long time to repair it. Tell
Clarence if you can get word to him that I
will return the \$25 borrowed as soon as
I am paid up by the Kitchener congregation.
They still owe me about \$125. We still
have one full week's vacation and I feel
that it is a good long rest that I have
had already. I am enclosing Coradus's
letter, also program of Christmas service.
With love to you all and best wishes
for the New Year,
I am
Most sincerely yours,
Carroll D. Little