

113. Auguste Stark to Alexander Krueger, March 5, 1934

[99] JOHN STARK TO ALEXANDER KRUEGER, MARCH 5, 1934
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Osmand.-5.Mar. 1934
Dear Cousin + Famly!-
We have recieved
your wonderfull letter, also
5 the nice pictures, for whitch we
say many thanks,
you were saying, of surprising us,
you certainly did, but never the
less, we all sure were very glad
10 to hear from you folks, + injoyd
the letter + pictures very much,
We are all well, + hope this finds
you all the same,
You know Alix "we are all getting
15 old, + this letter writing is getting
kind a hard for me, but I will
try + do the best I can,
as we see by your letter, you are
still living on your old home
20 place, + your Son living on the
same place, that is sure fine
+ we seen what a beautiful big
barn you build, + Silo also.
it certainly cost a lot of monay.
25 ouer boys cant think enough about
your big barn, there are big
barns in this country + silos also,
but they dont use the silos no
more, takes to much corn of the
30 fields, + then there are no corn-
stalks for the stock to go in
over winter, you folks dont have
no other Stock but milk ^{cows}, + here
they are fatning to many cattle
35 we have creamreys + butter factory
but no cheese fac. like you have
there, yes "we see you are making
lot more with you milk, then we
do, we cant make that much here
40 with cream, you folks sure make
lot of monay with your milk,

we often talkt a bout it, + wonderdt
why people coulden start cheese
fact. here, then we farmers could
45 get more far ouer milk, + maybe
do better too, there is some awful
good milk stock in this country
too, but everybody sells cream,
+ they cheat the poor farmer just
50 awful, yes “the poor farmer is always
the looser, no matter what you do,
or how you do it, they always get
the best of you,
Well we are not no big farmer
55 any more, I think you have heard
that we lost every thing, first ouer
nice farm, + an top of that, where
sold out by the Bank, poor crops
+ poor prices, brought on every thing
60 had \$300 left, + with that the boys
started up a gain, ouer neighbors
+ good friends helpt us a long, + now
now the boys are doing fairly well,
we dont want to complain now, we
65 are all so nice + well this winter
+ thank ouer dear Lord for it,
for I know he has helpt us +
answerd ouer prayers often, in
ouer sad houers of troubles,
70 the boys now have 6 working horses
3 milk cows + are all fresh now,
3 hieffers one year old + these 3
little calfs, then they got 6 brute
sows, + 30 fall pigs, + they got all
75 the mashinery what they need now
except no grain binder, they
always help the neighbors, + then
they cut ouer grain, so they think
they get a long a gain, ofcourse
80 they only rent 160 acers , they dont
have, enough mashinery to run
a big farm, but if they have
good luck one more year, then they
will try + rent a big farm a gain,
85 + what they have got now, is all
payd for, they are sure tickelt
+ satisfied that they done so nice,

+ the Bank that sold us + lot of other
out, is broke now, had to close
90 its doores this winter, so we where
glad we where out of it,
well "we see dear cousin, you follks
diden have a big famly, only the
two, + it sure is nice that you
95 folks can always be together on
week end, we have 5 children 3
boys 2 girls, the youngest a girl
+ she is mairred, she will be
mairred 21 years already her Maw's
100 name is Geo. Heering, he was manager
of the Lumber yard here in Osmond
for 8 years, then they sold out,
+ he lost his job, he could get
jobs a gain, but they where always
105 so far a way from here, + she
diden like to go, so he diden take
em, + so he is doing Carpenter work
they have 3 children one boy is
19 years, + is in the Forresterion
110 work, he registert last May, he
was way out in Organ, + now he
is back in Kansas, he is head
Clerk for the Co. + gets \$36. a month
he was only in 2 months whe he was
115 second Clerk, he wanted to go
to Colege so bad, but his Dad diden
have nothing to send with, + we
where sold out, + coulden help him
either, so he work around, till
120 he got in this, besids this work
he is taking a corensponding
course thru mail, he want
to get a higher pasation
+ his oldest Sister is 17 years
125 + is teaching her second year,
the first year she ^{got} \$60 a month
+ had 16 children, + 6 eight graders
+ they all passed, she was only 16 yrs
at that time, she got the same
130 school back, + has 15 children this
year, + only gets \$45. a month, but
the law in Nebr. was made, that
all teachers had to take a drop

on salray during this depresoin
135 lot of teachers woulden take no
drop, but Dorothy said, yes “I take
the drop \$45. is better then sitting
at home doing nothing, besids
that, she works every Sat + Wens. at
140 the Penney Store, + besides that, she
finger waves hair evenings 3 to 4
a week always helps a little, + is a big
church worker, teaches Sundays schools
she will be 18 years in March 23
145 she is saven her monay to
go 6 week to College this
Sumer, + the youngest girl is
11 years + is in the 7 grade, she
is helping her mama quite a bit
150 they live in Plainveiw Nebr. it
is 15 mils from Osmond, so you
see they dont live far from us,
yes “I often wish we had a camar so
we could take ouer own pictures
155 we sure would send you folks some
pictures too, but as we dont have
no camrra we cant do it,
Well we sure have a mild winter
here this year, it was pertty cold
160 for a couple of day but it didn
last long, last Sunnday we had
a snow storm, had 5 in of snow
+ here Sat the 3 of March we
had rain, a dandy rain, I wonder
165 what it will be to morrow,
you where saying, you well
remember, when the Grosse lived
in Hustisford, I dont think you
was there very often, I do remember
170 when we dug fish worms, for when
Uncle Aug. Kruger came, he would
alway say, now girls have you got
lot of worms dug, you bet, we always
had plenty for him, for he always
175 give each of us girls 10¢, you might
know, we always run for him,
for he never left ouer house,
without giving us girls 10¢. but
Uncle Carl Goetsch only give each

180 a pennie, we didn't like that so
well, you were so little at that
time, I didn't know you could
remember, I think I was 12 years at
that time, + you were only 6 or 7
185 years, but those 10¢ I never forgot,
we always had to save it, to
buy pencils for school, yes those
were wonderful times, + how
fast they go,
190 Well "now here I am a gain,
I didn't get this letter finished, so I will
do it now, I want to tell you a little
about my Brothers + Sister, brother Frank
lives 50 miles farther north from us, they
195 thought, they would lose their farm too
but as far as I know now, he thinks they
can save it, I was sure glad when we heard
it, Frank is getting to look pretty old, + his
wife too, of course they raised a very large
200 family had 14 children, one girl died when
she was 18 years old, they have 13 left, 6 are
married, has 15 grandchildren, they all
live close around their folks, except 2
the oldest boy lives at Brugston Nebr.
205 he is married + has family + one boy is Clerk
in an Omaha Nebr. Hotel, but he is
not married, Brother Frank is 71 years old his wife 65
then my youngest Brother Emil.
he lives in Beemer, Nebr. they have 2 girls
210 + are both married, one is a farmer,
+ one lives in Omaha runs a beauty parlor
Emil is 58 years + his wife is the same,
then my youngest Sister Dora she lives
in West Point, Nebr. she is a widow, her
215 Man died 4 years ago, she has 2 children a
girl + a boy, they are both married, the girl
lives in McCook, Nebr. her Man is county
Agent there, they have one child, + her
Boy is Principle in Brancroft School,
220 they have one child, my Sister has her own
home, she rents her down stairs + lives
upstairs by herself, but she doesn't make
nothing rent is so cheap she only gets \$15
a month, + she has high tax to pay, her tax
225 this year was \$62. so you see she doesn't have

much to live off, so this is all a bout my
Sisters + Brothers,
I sure was very much surprised to hear
that old Hustisford is getting so
230 City fied, + about that Iland, my
that certainly enterrested me very much
who “ever thought, that it would come
to that, yes “I very much would like
to see that all once more, but what
235 is the use to wish, when it cant be done,
but I like to hear so much of my old
home, yes “those days are past + gone,
I am so sorry to hear Sarah is not
well, I dont understand why she cant get
240 helpt, O “we do hope she will get well
enough to make this trip once more
+ how we do wish you folks would
all come + visit us, + get better
acquanted, O “how often I have wished
245 for your Parents to once come + visit
us here, but no they woulden come, this
is no mild cuntry, this is a good cuntry,
do make up your mind + come with your
own famly + children, if Sister Sarah cant go
250 but we sure would like to have
them come, we injoyd there visit so
much, + stay a week or more
Well now Mrs. Krueger we dont know
each other personly, but I will write
255 a few lins to you too, now what do
you do every day? I spose it is a foolish
quetion to ask, where there is no end to
the work on the farm, we are piecing
quilts Tillie + I, Tillie is my oldest girl
260 + she sure is a good girl, she always sees
that mama has good care, yes “we sure
have good childres, that are taking such
good care of us, now I was saying we
are making quilts, got 3 done redy to quilt
265 the names are, one is the road to California
+ one is the, Sun flower, + one grandmother’s
flower garden, the we got a few more
spotted, but we cant start no more this
winter, as it is very near chicken time, I set.
270 my own incubator, + hatch my own chicks
I got 270 hens for laying, we get as

high as 140 eggs a day, but we dont
get such good price as you folks, right
now they are 11¢ a day. cream 25¢ butter
275 24¢ potatoes \$1.25 a bus. corn 32¢ Oats 30¢
Barly 35¢. hogs \$3.65 lb. cattle 3 1/2 calfs
I dont know, praire hay \$5. ton alfalfa
\$5. ton, well I guess I told you folks
all I could this time, next time more
280 it took me 2 days to write this, but
you have to excuse all my mistakes
I will send Brother Frank your letter
for I know he will be glad, to hear
all a bout you folks + a bout Hustiford
285 Now Mrs. Krueger I hope you will write
me a few lins too next time Alix
writes, I am not so young, I was 67 years
+ John is 73 years, so you see how old we
are, I will close hope to hear from
290 you all soon a gain, with best
regards to you all + to Behnd + the
Goetsch girls, we remain as ever
Your cousins Auguste + John Stark