From: A. Klenert To: Jakob Sternberger Date: Nov. 19 [no year]

Rock Island, November 19

Mr. Jakob Sternberger.

Yesterday I received your letter from October 20, in which you let me know about the arrival of our friends. I very much regret the sad state in which you are now in. He who has suffered the same understands it best. Things aren't going any better for me. I don't want to complain to anyone about my state, but I just want make it understood that at the moment a return trip is impossible. When I arrived here, I had no money and was forced to work as a result. I worked 12 days and after that could not do anything for 3 weeks. After some time I began to work again at a *butcher's* and cut my finger so badly that once again I cannot work. My worldly possessions are a few tattered shirts, two ripped pairs of pants, and a good jacket that I have the greatest need for. Anyone can see that I cannot come at the moment. I will try to begin a return trip as soon as I am able to get the money.

## A Klenert

Greetings to my friends if they have already arrived.

[NOTE: Italicized words are in Roman alphabet, inconsistent punctuation and capitalization in original document.]