

BYLAAG G2

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Dear Willie, and Petra,

Many thanks for your letter received last August. I had already left Germany when your letter arrived in Hamburg, and as my daughter and her husband were away touring, they did not receive your letter until towards the end of August. I intended writing to you before, but time passes so quickly, and my son and I were working hard restoring and finishing to its original design a 14-roomed house in one of the suburbs. We intend selling it. Hope we'll get our price. I hope you and your family are all keeping well.

My stay in Germany only lasted three weeks, as I had to wait for a connecting plane back to Australia. We visited all the Hesse province, stopping at each little village. They are so quaint and fascinating, and the people very friendly. We went to the Russian border, with its electrified fortifications and high tower look-outs. One could only see a dim view of the guards up there. We stayed in <sup>Greinberg</sup> ~~Gronberg~~ for two weeks. It is a lovely village, so picturesque, like the others, and the countryside so green and neat. We missed you by two weeks. Pastor Bremer said that he would send us a copy of the

records of the Marneueck's when he received them from Doerstadt, but to date we have not heard from him. He either did not have any, or else he lost our address. We did however, meet an old journalist who had a record of most of the people who migrated from Grünberg to South Africa. Amongst them was Johan Boerraad Marneueck. The Marneuecks were all landowners in Germany.

I presume you know the history of Johan Boerraad while in the service of the Governor in Cape Town as bodyguard. I have an 18 page record written in High Dutch which I have tried to get translated, but without success. It is probably a record of his misbehaviour and crime against, or I should say offence, with the chairman of the Council of Justice. (I'm glad he escaped) At a later date I'll send you some copies of the information I have of various people in the family. I know only those connected with our family tree - that of Johannes Marneueck and his wife Amalia Carolina Messer. By the way, we could not find any proof of an inheritance from the Messers. All documents were destroyed from the time of the Napoleonic wars and the last war. Most of the towns and villages in the eastern areas

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were flattened. We tried dozens of places and banks who all told the same story. In Cassel only a church tower was left standing after the last war. The Marnewick's - Marneweck - e. are all descendants of Johan Boerraad Marnewecke who married Angela Elizabeth Otto. From their four children came the rest of them. There is also a D. Marnewick in Somerset West who is trying to trace his family tree. His address is P.O. Box 170 Somerset West. The first wife of Johannes Marneweck was Martha Clara Maria Scheepers. She died some months later, and he then married Amilia Carolina Messer. They had nine children - one of them being to George Cornelius. He was the one who married Johanna Hendrina Barnard from Bality Deep - the same family whom you mentioned in your letter. George Cornelius Marnewick - as he spelt it, was my grandfather. From Welgevonden they went to a farm named Vlakkeplaats where they lived, and where my father <sup>(Adam)</sup> lived for some years before we moved to a farm in Middleburg (Cape) after the Boer war. I still remember how often we collected the bomb shells from the fields, as many battles had been fought there. My mother died in 1911 at the age of 43, and my father

nine months later also 43 years, and nine children.  
One of the sisters of my father was Aletta who married  
a Steyn in Cape Town. One of her sons was a  
well known athlete when we were young.

Are you a son of Johann Boenraad (15 Oct) Marnewick  
in Strijensdorp? He has a garage there. I had two  
brothers and seven sisters. One died in 1980 and  
the other three months ago.

When I was in South Africa in 1980 I stayed in  
Oudtshoorn for a day on my way to Johannesburg. While  
there I made some enquiries about Welgevonden.  
A lady at the hotel gave me the no phone number  
of the occupants, so I phoned them. I asked the lady  
who <sup>answered the</sup> phoned if she had any records of the Marnewicks  
who lived there in 1845 and before, and if there were  
any graves on the property, as I could not find  
any in the graveyard at George. She said no, and  
also that Welgevonden is also a town, and that  
the property had been split into smaller farms.  
She had been there for the last ten years, and was  
unable to give me any information on the history.

The weather here is very changeable, and so far  
we have had only a few hot days. The fire bugs

P.T.O

are on the rampage again. Thousands of acres of forest and bushland have been destroyed by fire again in the last two months, many people have lost their homes, and in some cases whole small towns have been wiped out. This happens every summer here in Australia. It is hard to catch the culprits, as they do these things during the night, and get away on motorbikes.

If you have received any information from Grünberg I shall be pleased to hear it.

Regards to you & your family

from  
Kate Lanzi