Correspondence from Germany-M. Hantschko. *Giddings Deutsches Volksblatt*, 21 May 1903. Image 011100284.

e an
Rerreipendens ans Dentidland.
Chleife den 3. Mai 1903.
Bir baben jest nad langem talten.
Wetter wieber recht warm. Am 19. Apill hatten wir einen
Edacefturm vom Borben, mobel 191
Berfouen erfroren lind, Muf ber See
gungen 185 Schiffe in Grunde, 246 wurden Bart beichatat und 293 Bir-
onte ertranten.
Jest Reft alles in poller Blubte und
ble germer find mit ber grubjehrfant finden mur Sonnenfdein,
ben Raffe haben mir genug.
Dis Dort Schleife liegt an Grenze
Edleftens 3 Rin. ned Rorben in ber
Brooing Brandenburg. Die Bewah- Ber von Chleife haben alle jufammen
1800 Ader Bard. Das andere Rand
gebott bem Brof Memin, felbft an ter
Rirde withe fon im 3abre 1667 ges
bant, Einer alten Sage gemiß, foll
ber Lagelohn bamals 4 Biennige wet
Lag gemefen fein (ebenfa gut wie Ecta.
Bir haben einen guten Bafter, bere
felbe halt ben Bottesbienft nach bem
erjogen, 3:ben Sonntag ift beatich
und wendifder Gottebbiepft,
B jaglich der Briettage pat die Obrig-
leit ju bestimmen; wie Bevent und Befte
tage ju fesern, Ferner auch ben Deg
Der Bofter betemmt feinen Sebals 1
von ber Regierung.
Das Laod ift hier fehr theaer 200
fandigen Boben, wit Torfatefen; 1
Done Dinger wicht bier weber Betreite ! .
Doff nab Stren muffen bie Leate som
Grafen taulen. Die Rtafter foftet 8
Reifig in bedeutend billiger. SRan land
in bei Beibe ben gengen Las berumian.
fen, aber, cine + Solange betommt man
nie gu febn, unt bann und mann eine
Einedie, Radftens mehr.
in Coteile, Diutichiend.
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Correspondence from Germany

Schleife, on May 3rd, 1903

The weather is now warmer, after a long and cold period of time.

On April 19, we experienced a severe snowstorm from north that caused the death of 191 people. 185 boats sank in the sea, 246 were badly damaged and 223 people drowned.

Now everything is in full blossom again. The farmers completed the seeding work of the spring. We only need sun, we had enough cold days.

The village of Schleife is located on the border of Silesia and the Northern Province of Brandenburg.

The inhabitants of Schleife own all together 1800 acres of land.

The rest of the land belongs to the Count of Armin, even the church is part of his property.

The church was built as early as 1667. According to an old story the daily wage was 4 *Pfennige* in the old time (as good as slavery).

We have a good pastor, he offers the religious service in the old fashioned rite/manner because he has been taught this way.

Every Sunday we have a service in German and one in Sorbian/Wendish language.

The authorities decide of the holidays, how to celebrate grief and feast. They also decide on which day it is allowed to dance.

The pastor receives his salary from the government.

The land here is very expensive, 200 *Thaler pro* acre, and it is cold sandy earth with peat meadows.

Without dung you cannot grow anything here, no cereal or weed, only heather, nothing else.

People have to buy wood and straw from the Count.

The *klafter*\* costs 8 marks which is cheaper than 23 years ago. Brushwood is even cheaper.

You can walk around the heather all day long, but there is nowhere a snake to see, only sometime a lizard. More next time.

> Mit Gruß, M. Hantschko In Schleife, Germany.

> > Translated by Hélène Yèche

\* The *Klafter* is a historical measure of length, space and area. It is still widely used today in many places, primarily as a measure for firewood in the Southern German and German speaking Alpine regions in rural areas and in forestry. - *Wikipedia*