[Letter written by August Hilpert to his brother David while David was still in Germany. Apparently it was written in haste and with much concern. There is little punctuation and the meaning of some phrases is not clear. To help clarify some statements, I have made use of an earlier incomplete translation of Werner Hahne's and have provided some necessary punctuation. LSH, 8-24-78.]

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Wiehe, 29 September [18]'52

Dear Brother!

Finally, after 11 difficult days, I arrived home. In the evening of the 17th I left Köln [Cologne]. At the beginning of the trip the weather was bad for several days, but then it turned nice and on the 28th at noon, 1 o'clock, I was in Wiehe. Shortly before I arrived in Wiehe my joy was not as great as earlier in '45 and '48. I entered the city with fear because I already had learned at Kampfer that Christel [sister] had had a baptism a little while ago. And then [when] I went there Mother was alone at home. She was astonished at the surprise, but at the same time was happy that I had come. Then Christel arrived. She was so hoarse that she could not talk. She was not at all well since her last childbirth.

After I had rested I went to the questions of all affairs and learned that Mother's wish to go to America is even greater than sister Ihna [this word is not clear]. Her [Christel's?] heart's desire is that you should go as fast as possible to Pomerania and help along so that Mother would have support because I cannot yet come along.

The situation has developed that they sold the house and got 450 Tr [Thaler?]. That is, they [new owners], have not received it [or will take possession] until October 10th. Now, if you can make it, you should come because they beg you very much, and it should not do you any harm [if] you can sell your acre with house [?]. But if your debts should not permit this, you should see about settling it in court, [if] you want to take it there.

Letters are said to have arrived from Krug [?]leben which sound very favorable and, for this reason, Mother would like to go there. For your acre, not more than 40 Thaler have been offered and if you can go there at once [page 2] you do not need to send me [your] power-of-attorney. But if it is utterly impossible [to go] there, send me power-of-attorney over all your belongings and I will bring to you everything, to please Mother, but come if you can.

On the 10th of October you must be here. For this I send you for the time being 5 Thaler until you come, so that you can travel part way by railroad, and if you do not come, then I will take 4 Th[aler] from you by my power-of-attorney.

I do not know as yet how it is with my acre[?]. I cannot tell how long I have to stay here (at least 10-12 days) and because Christel is not well. See to it that you can come. 'Til [on] Monday I will go to Leipzig to buy some items for myself. Whether you come or not, write immediately because I can [only] stay here at best 'til the 10th. Then bring my song book, but if you will [not] be here until later than the 10th, leave it in Köln with the Brauns, because I may have left.

Now write at once, while I am in Leipzig.

P.S. I have to note that today Christel bought a seat for you, just to be sure you will come.

[Page 3]. I have to close. Write at once & be sure to come.

Many greetings from all of us.

Your brother,

A. Hilpert

[P.S.] This cashier's check has to be cashed by a banker. There were none to be had Prussian [There were no Prussian dollars to be had]. You will [may] suffer some loss, perhaps 2 Thaler total.

[Inverted note] I tell you, for me alone, that you [should] come. It is better; the whole business is so complicated and we can generally understand each other much better.

A. Hilpert

[Page 4]. Further on the 10th of October the money will be paid. Leave Wiehe on the 13th and be in Bremen the 15th aboard ship. Make sure that you be here on the 8th or 9th.