

## NOTE ON EDITING

The original letters in Danish have been translated into English. The only Danish words that have been kept are names of places and people in Denmark and Danish measures. CL's spelling has been preserved unless it was obviously a spelling error.

Regarding names of people and places in German or Swahili, either in Germany or in German East Africa we have consulted a number of reference works. Names of places, etc. are rendered in the conventional or most commonly used form. German or Swahili words are italicised in the text. Words are only underlined if they were underlined too in the original letters in Danish. The same goes for parentheses, whereas brackets have been inserted by the editors for short explanations, etc.

A few letters have been omitted; we have noted when and shortly retold the contents of these letters which mostly deal with family business home in Denmark. Most of the original, hand-written letters have survived and are now in the Royal Danish Library in Copenhagen. Some letters, however, only exist today in the version in which they were printed in *Vendsyssel Tidende*. We have a few letters in both a newspaper and the original hand-written version and have thus been able to compare. The newspaper editor (CL's brother-in-law Vilhelm Carlsen) has made minor corrections so that the text in the newspaper version is sometimes more clear than in the original letter, but the changes are always insubstantial. Basically, the letters were printed in the newspaper as they were apart from greetings to the family, etc.

We have indicated whether the letter is the original or the newspaper version. Where we have two versions, we have used the original hand-written letters, but noted that a version of this letter was also printed as a newspaper article as well as the dates it was printed in *Vendsyssel Tidende*.

The photos in the book mainly consist of photos CL had taken and sent home. CL sometimes wrote a short explanation on the back of the photo. CL's own explanations are rendered in single quotation marks.

### *Measurements, currencies, etc.*

*Fod*: A Danish fod [foot] equalled 0.31385 meters, so it is slightly longer than one English foot

*Tomme*: A Danish tomme [inch] equalled 2.62 cm (12 Danish inches made up one Danish foot). An English inch equals 2.54 cm

*Alen*: A Danish alen [yard] equalled 0.627 metres (or 2 feet). An English

yard equals 0.914 metres, so it is longer than the old Danish yard.

*Pund*: A Danish pund (pound) equalled 500 g, so it is a little heavier than the English pound which equals 454 g.

Because feet, inches, yards and pounds are app. the same whether we use old Danish measures or English measures we have in the text used the Danish word and in brackets translated in the following manner: 3 tommer [inches].

*Mil*: (mile) is also an old Danish measure. One Danish mil equals 7532 metres (4.68 British miles). An old Danish mil is thus not at all equal to an English mile and we have therefore indicated this as follows: 1 mil [4.6 English miles].

*Tønde (td.)*: land, old Danish measure. 1 td. land equals 5516 square metres or app. 1.3 acres.

Apart from old Danish measures CL also used metres, gallons, etc. reflecting that he also had lived in USA for about ten years before he went to German East Africa.

*Reaumur*: French measure, commonly used in continental Europe in the 1880s. Water boils at 80° Rm. To convert to centigrades multiply with 5/4 (17° Rm. equals 21° Celsius).

### *Currencies*

*GEA-Rupee and pesas*: The currency in German East Africa was until 1904 the Rupee, divided into 64 pesas. According to letter from CL 25<sup>th</sup> December 1895 1 Rp is worth 1 kr. 10 øre.

*Kroner and øre*: Kroner (kr.) is the Danish currency. 100 øre equals 1 krone.

CL most often gives prices in kroner, but also in rupees or Mark. Reichsmark or just Mark was the German currency. Until 1914, as long as the gold standard existed, exchange rates were fixed. 1 Mark equalled 88.88 øre, 1000 Mark 888 kr. and so on.

Prices have been converted into today's prices when important. To do so, we have used Statistical Yearbook's price indexes (Statistics Denmark, 2004).