

Letter 327  
Hoogeveen, 24 September 1883

[Postcard]

Dear Theo,

Today I send you by parcel post three studies which I hope are dry enough; however, if they stick to the sheet of paper I put over them as a precaution, sponge them off with tepid water. The paint on the smallest one especially has sunk in a lot. In a week or so brush it over with the white of an egg, or with a little varnish in a month, to restore the colour. I send them to you to give you an idea of the work, which will be better as I go along, you know.

I forgot to reply to what you wrote about sending the money; for the present I beg you to send it by postal order, as you did last time, till I have found an exchange office; but deduct the expenses.

I had a letter from home. Father had been unwell after having a fall. I hope it is not more serious than they wrote – do you know anything more about it?

Last week I went farther into the peat fields – splendid scenery. I think it is more and more beautiful here, and I intend to stay in this neighbourhood from now on. For it is so beautiful here that it will require a lot more study to render it, and only very elaborate work can give an exact idea of the way things are basically in their serious, sober character. I have seen superb figures, but I repeat, a scenery that has so much nobility, so much dignity and gravity, must be treated after deep reflection and with patience and steady work. Therefore, I must attack things as if I had come here merely to get a glimpse of them; but if everything goes well, and if we have some luck, it goes without saying that I shall stay here for good.

Do write again soon. I long to hear from you, for I feel gloomy, notwithstanding the beautiful scenery.

Adieu, with a handshake,

Yours sincerely, Vincent

Remember me to Wisselingh when you meet him, and tell him I am here.