

Melsungen, June 14th, 1869

Dear Daughter & Son!

We have received your dear letter of May 5th and from it took the joyful news that you received the things we sent through Mr. Kothe and all's well, but we were much surprised at the late arrival of same. We would request now that you write us what was contained in the package, since we included the hymnal you had wished for, dear daughter, and you never mentioned it.

We regret that the crude oil drilling venture of last year has failed, and we wish you luck with this year's drilling.

Last year, it was very wet here, too, and as a result, the prices of products have risen sharply. A quarter of wheat (16 measures) which cost 8 Thalers last year, now stands at 15 Thaler, and other fruit has risen similarly.

We also want to let you know that last year, Georg Wilhelm's wife and mother of three minor children was torn from his side by death; however, he will marry again shortly.

We regret that you cannot come over here to us as yet, but we live in the hope that our separation will not last as long as it has already. We extend cordial congratulations on the enlargement of your family by a little son.

I and Mother were very sick this last winter, but now, thank God, we are quite well again and wish and hope that the same is true for you.

In the hope that this letter finds you in good health, our regards go to you and the children from

your parents who love you.