

## Meyer Brothers Letters

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On the left is a representation of the original letters, in German or Yiddish. On the right is the translation. Translator notations are throughout these documents, indicated via highlighted sections or observations regarding difficulties in determining the meaning of a particular passage and/or the condition of the letters.

Comments or questions about these letters as well as requests to view the originals can be made by contacting Jay Silverberg at [jbsilverberg@gmail.com](mailto:jbsilverberg@gmail.com). Please use the translator's notations accompanying each letter batch when requesting to view an original letter.

Thank you.

Jay Silverberg  
October 2015  
Petaluma, CA

Louisiana Letters, Batch 13 (File 20130722145753730.pdf)

This is another file with miscellaneous pages.

Letter 1 (2 pages on pp. 1 & 2 of PDF 730) is a complete letter written in Galveston by Karolina on Oct. 24 (no year given).

- Format: narrow paper with blue lines
- Karolina hasn't heard anything from brothers for three weeks
- She and Aunt Elis and Sele (Sale?) were in Houston, at some event at Leopold's (identified in Yiddish)
- Karolina spells her name "Caroline"

Letter 2 (4 pages, on pp. 3 & 4 of PDF 730) is a letter from Lachen, written on March 11 (hole where year would have been written)

- Format: double-wide paper, folded from side to side. Much yellowed with age. Holes at the top of the page at the fold, and corner torn off.
- Writers: Karl, Babetta & 5 lines written in Yiddish by Regina.
- Family just received a bill of exchange
- Family just heard that Emanuel has a new baby son.
- Family doesn't know if Emanuel is in New Orleans, or not.
- Karl wants to go to America by fall.
- Butchering business is bad; they want to turn it over to someone else.
- Karolina has written about new dresses.

Letter 3 (3 pages on pp. 5 & 6 of PDF 730) seems to be a loose sheet from another letter written from Lachen.

- Format: double-wide sheet of paper, yellow with age, folded in half from left to right, and then folded again in the same direction. Up-down fold about 1/3 of way from the bottom. Symmetrical holes at the top of the page and on either side of the center fold, about 1/3 from the bottom.
- Writers: Karl (continuation of a message), short note from Josef, written by Karl, page of Yiddish, written by Regina
- Karl tells Heinrich someone has agreed to have their picture taken in the summer.
- The family received a letter from Aunt Hanne.
- There are reference to Emanuel's son Heinrich
- Karl urges his brothers to try harder to help Karolina
- Karl writes a message on behalf of his father Josef.

- The family in Germany has received a present
- Josef would like to get a surprise like Haas from Tegenheim [= news of daughter's engagement? surprise visit from relatives who moved to America?]
- Lion Haas has told family in Germany that Heinrich is well-behaved and works hard.
- Karolina is looking after Aunt Elis

Letter 4 (3 pages on pp. 7 & 8 of PDF 730) is another loose sheet from a letter written in Lachen.

- Format: double-wide yellowed piece of paper, folded in half from side to side, and then again. Holes at the centerfold at the top and bottom of the page, at the quarter-fold at the bottom of the page, and many small holes on one half of the pages.
- Letter is to "brothers" and sister and little Heinrich; message to Sara Mayer, maybe written by her parents.
- Messages from Babetta, Regina, short note from Karl appended to end of Babetta's letter
- Karolina has been ill
- Little Heinrich can't walk yet
- Mr. Haas has brought presents of money to the family from Heinrich and Emanuel
- It's "Easter Monday", and the family has recently enjoyed a Seder
- Babetta is about to be engaged to a man named Blum.
- War between France & Prussia is looming.
- Karl has decided to move away from the family (?and join the army?) because there's no work in Germany.
- The family in America is supposed to send letters through an uncle Henry Mayer in Paris

Letter #1, p. 1 (p. 1 of PDF file 730), Oct. 24, no year given

Galwesten 24ten Oktober

Liebe Brüder und Famielie

Es ist bereits 3 Wochen, daß ich nichts von Euch gehört habe Kann

gar nicht begreifen die Ursache

Ich denke ihr wurdet doch nicht so

sehr beschäftigt sein daß ihr nicht

einmal einige Zeilen an mich mehr

schreiben könnt. oder ist es weil ich

jetzt so weit entfernt bin von

Euch. Denn die weiten Verwandten sind

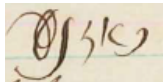
immer Wohl so heißt es aber bei mir

nicht. Nun muß ich Euch mein bestes

Wohl Mittheilen welches Ich von Euch

auch hoffe. letzte Woche waren wir

ich End Elis und Sele in Justen bei



Leopolds wo ich mich sehr gut amusirt habe. Nun wie gehen die Geschäften jetzt bei Euch hoffe gut Ich werde Nachher schreiben sobald Ich von Euch höre.

& Nun hoffe Ich daß sie bei Empfang dieses wenn sie die gute haben wollen wir mein schreiben beantworten.

Es grüßt sie all herzlich wer das

Galveston, October 24th

Dear Brothers and family,

It has been 3 weeks already since I have heard from you. Cannot comprehend the reason.

I think you wouldn't be so very busy that you couldn't write a few lines to me

anymore. Or is it because I

now live so far away from

you? After all, distant relatives are

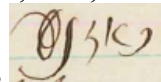
always doing fine, as the saying goes. But

not in my case. Now I have to inform you

that I am in the best of health, which I

also hope is the case with you. Last week

we (Aunt Elis, Sele, and I) were in Houston



at Leopold's , where I had a very good time. Now, how is business with you all now? Good, I hope. I will write later as soon as I hear from you.

And now I hope upon receipt of this, that you [formal you, not usually used with family] will be so good as to answer my letter.

May you [formal "you"] all be cordially greeted. The one who

Letter #1, p. 2 (p. 2 of PDF file 730), Oct. 24, no year given

wünscht ist Ihre Schwester  
Caroline Mayer  
hoffe baldige Antwort

(various calculations, some in pencil, some in ink)

wishes this is your [formal “your”] sister  
Caroline Mayer  
Hoping for an answer soon.

(various calculations, some in pencil, some in ink)

Letter #2, p. 1 (= right side of p. 3 of PDF file 730), March 11 of unknown year (hole where rest of date would be)

<p>Lachen, March 11<sup>th</sup> Theuerste Geschwistern! Mit größter Freude ergreife ich die Feder um Euch meine l. zu benachrichtigen von unserm Wohl welches hoffentlich in Euer Mitte auch nicht im geringsten fehlen wird. Meine Lieben: Euern Brief mit Prehsent haben wir richtig erhalten &amp; Euer bestes Wohl daraus vernomen, welches uns ungemein fre[hole] von Grunden des Herzens Auch Euren Wechsel haben wir richtig ausbezahlt bekommen &amp; wofür wir Euch herzlich danken &amp; Gott der Allgütige wird sein Glück dazu geben, damit Ihr noch viele Freuden den l. Eltern bereiten könnt. Nun will Ich von dem ablahn [ablassen?] &amp; was anders fangen an: Aus deinem Briefe l. Emanuel haben wir ersehen daß du Einen so lieben Sohn hast, welches uns ungemein freute, &amp; wünschten alle den l. nur einmal persönlich umarmen zu dürfen.</p>	<p>Lachen, March 11 [hole] Dearest siblings, With the greatest joy I take pen in hand to inform you, dear ones, about our well-being, which hopefully will not be in the least absent in your midst, either. My dear ones, we received your letter with the present and saw that you all were quite well, which made us very [happy] from the bottom of our hearts. We also received the money from your bill of exchange, for which we cordially thank you, and God the Infinitely Good One will bring happiness/good fortune in addition, so that you will yet be able to give our dear parents much joy. Now I want to [leave?] that and begin something else. From your letter, dear Emanuel, we saw that you have a very dear son, which brought us great joy &amp; wished we could all personally put our arms around this dear on.</p>
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Letter #2, p. 2 (= left side of p. 4 of PDF file 730), March 11 of unknown year (hole where rest of date would be)

*[hole]* I. E. da wir nun Begierig  
sind über dein vorhergehandes  
schreiben, ob du ein Geschäfte in Orlins  
hast, so benachrichtige uns darüber  
bei deinem ersten Schreiben. Auch I. E.  
bin ich fast gesonen bis Spätjahr nach  
Amerika zu reisen, da mir jeder dazu  
Rathet, bei den jetzigen Deutschland  
Geschäften. Nun I. schreibe dein Gut-  
achten darüber bei erster Gelegenheit.  
Nun I. Heinrich jetzt komm ich an dich:  
du erfreutest uns sehr mit deinem Geschenke  
*[hole]* [N]un bist du begierig I. H. nach deinem Schreiben  
*[hole]* stelest uns die Frage: was unsere  
Beschäftigung ist? Unsere meiste Be-  
schäftigung ist bis daher bestanden in Schachten,  
aber Außig im Orte haben wir kein  
Fleisch getragen und es ging auch so  
zimlich — . Nun da aber jetzt die Zeit  
komt wo das **Umfahr** & theuer wird so  
wollen wir dieses gute Geschäft einem  
andern überlasen. Liebe Schwester K.  
Auch an dich habe ich einige Worte zu

*[hole]* dear Emanuel, since we are now curious  
to know from your previous letter  
whether you have business in New Orleans,  
tell us about it  
in your next letter. Also, dear Emanuel,  
I have almost made up my mind to go  
to America by fall, since everyone is  
advising me to do that, in light of  
current business in Germany. Now, dear one,  
write you opinion about that at your first opportunity.  
Now, dear Heinrich, I'm coming to you.  
You made us very happy with your present  
*[hole]* [Now] you are curious, dear Heinrich, according to your letter  
*[hole]* ... [you] are asking us this question: What kind of  
business are we doing? Up until now, most of our  
business consisted of slaughtering,  
but we haven't carried any meat except for  
in this community, and it has also been  
rather —. Since the time is now coming  
where that is becoming [...?] and more expensive,  
we want to turn over this good business  
to someone else. Dear sister Karolina,  
I also have a few words to direct to you.

Letter #2, p. 3 (= right side of p. 4 of PDF file 730), March 11 of unknown year (hole where rest of date would be)

<p><i>[continuation of Karl's note]</i> richten. du l. Schwester erfreu <i>[hole]</i> sehr mit deinem schreiben: da du mich auch nach Amerika wünschest für welches ich schon längst gesönen wäre. Auch wünsche ich, dir baldigst gratulieren zu dürfen: Neuigkeiten weiß ich heute wenig ohne dieß daß wir einen warmen Winter gehabt haben. Lieber H. noch etwas habe ich vergesen zu beantworten: du schreibst uns daß wir auch an Euch denken sollen wenn wir den Auszug aus Agypten verlasen: Es vergeht kein Tag &amp; Stunde &amp; Minute da wir <i>[hole]</i> die Rede von Euch haben: Auch wünschte ich <i>[hole]</i> wir alle beisamen sein könnten: Ich schliese mit meinem schreiben &amp; grüße Euch herzlich vieltausend mahl &amp; küset den lieben Heinerle für mich: Auch grüße ich alle Verwandten &amp; gute Freunde: Ich bin wie immer Euer Karl Mayer Entschuldigt mein schlechtes schreiben.</p>	<p><i>[continuation of Karl's note]</i> You, dear sister, made me very happy with your letter, since you also wish for me to come to America, which I have also been contemplating for a long time. I also wish I may be able to congratulate you very soon. I don't have much news today except this, that we have had a warm winter. Dear Heinrich, there was something else I forgot to answer. You write to us that we should also think of you all when we read about the exodus from Egypt. Not one day or hour or minute goes by when we <i>[hole]</i> don't talk about you all. I also wish <i>[hole]</i> we could all be together. I am ending my letter and cordially greet you all many thousands of times and kiss dear little Heinrich for me. Also I greet all relatives and good friends. I am, as ever, your Karl Mayer Excuse my bad writing</p>
<p><i>[Babetta:]</i> Vielgeliebte Brüder Schwestern Ich beziehe mich auf das schreiben des Bruders Karls um Euch wissen zu lasse von meinem Wohl welches ich hoffe</p>	<p><i>[Babetta:]</i> Much-loved Brothers and sister, I refer to brother Karl's letter, to let you know about my well-being, which I hope</p>



Letter #2, p. 4 (= left side of p. 3 of PDF file 730), March 11 of unknown year (hole where rest of date would be)

<p><i>[continuation of Babetta's note]</i>  <i>[hole]</i> ... nicht im gerinsten fehlen wird und Meine  I will ich Euch benachrichtigen das wir Euer Bresent  erhalten und uns ungemein Freude gemacht jetzt danken wir Euch alle dafür  I Bruder Emanuel aus deinem schreiben habe ich vernommen das  du I Bruder einen kleinen Sohn hast was mich sehr freude auch wünsche  ich das ich den kleinen auf den Arm nehmen zu dürfen.  Lieber Bruder Heinrich du erfreutest uns sehr mit deinem Bresend  und danken wir dir vielecht jetzt will auch die I. Schwester Karo-  lina dein werthes schreiben freute mich sehr besonders freute ich mich  weil du dich am besten Wohl befindest auch Wünsche ich daß ich einmal  <i>[hole]</i> ..te sichtbar deine Kleider sehen besonders freut Es mich das du mir  <i>[hole]</i> ..st du wolltest wünschen du könntest mir ein gemachtes Kleid schenken  <i>[hole]</i> Werthen handzeilen in dem nächten Briefe zu sehen Jetzt meine  <i>[hole]</i> will ich schliesen mit meinem wenigem schreiben entschuldigt mein schlechtes  schreiben auch kann ich Euch meine I. versicher daß nicht ein Tag und nicht  eine Stunde und Minute vergehet daß wir von Euch meine I nicht sprechen  Jetzt grüß ich auch meine I. Geschwister und Wunsch Euch meine I einmal  wieder umarmen zu dürfen grüßet mir alle Onkels und Tantes vielmahl  ich verbleibe Eure Schwester wie immer. ich hoffe daß Euch der Brief  antrifft wie es un verläßt wir hoffen bald von Euch zu hören.  Babetta Mayer</p>	<p><i>[continuation of Babetta's note]</i>  <i>[hole]</i> will not be absent in the least. And, my dear  ones, I want to tell you that we received your present  and were tremendously happy. Now we thank you all for it.  Dear brother Emanuel, from your letter I heard that you,  dear brother, have a little son, which made me very happy. I also  wish that I would be permitted to take the little one in my arms.  Dear brother Heinrich, you made us very happy with your present and we  thank you. Perhaps dear sister now wants to, also. Karolina,  your valued letter made me very happy. I was especially happy  because you are in the best of health. Also, I wish that I could  <i>[hole]</i> see your dresses. It makes me happy, in particular, that you  <i>[hole]</i> ... me. You wished you could give me a completed dress as a gift.  <i>[hole]</i> ...see [your] valued handwriting in the next letter. Now my  <i>[hole]</i>... I am ending my short letter. Excuse my poor writing.  I too can assure you all that one day and not one hour or minute  goes by that we don't speak about you, my dears.  Now I greet my dear siblings, too, and wish, my dear one, that  I would be privileged to embrace you once again. Greet all uncles and  aunts many times for me. I remain your sister as always. I hope that the  letter arrives in the same state it left us. We hope to hear from you soon.  Babetta Mayer</p>
<p><i>[5 lines of Yiddish]</i>  Mayne libe kintr alle ikh gris aykh alle fill doyzent  mahl und hofe das der libe Gott aykh gezond last ikh  dakh fir dakh dafir bete das ikh nokh file frayde an  aykh erlebe das ikh [illegible] das ihr gevis bezorkt fir  [tear in text] ayer Meir? grist alle fraynde fir mikh  und kist den [tear in text]</p>	<p><i>[5 lines of Yiddish]</i>  My dear children all, I greet you all many thousands  of times and hope that the dear Lord keeps you in good health [which] is  what I pray for day after day, that I experience much more joy  on your behalf. That I [illegible] that you certainly are looking after [tear in  text] your Meir. Greet all friends for me  and kiss [tear in text]</p>

Letter #3, p. 1 of fragment (= left side of p. 6 of PDF file 730), = continuation of another letter

*[continuation of a message from Karl]*

Nun I. H , so wollen Sie deinem Wunsche nachkommen & dir bis Somer deinen Brief beantworten & Ihre Abbildung den Sommer nehmen lasen & dir überschicken. Also I. H. wirst du sie jetzt entschuldigen. Sie bemeldeten auch ihn Ihrem Briefe, daß wir Euch alle grüßen sollen: Auch erhielten wir in deinem Briefe Tante Hannes Brief, & freuten uns sehr über Ihr Wohlergehen & freute uns sehr daß Sie immer an uns denken. Nun m. I. will ich mein Schreiben schliesen & so grüße & küse ich Euch alle vieltausend-mahl & grüßet mir Onkel Aberleh & fa. Tante Hann & familie, & somit die ganze verwandschaft, & so grüße ich Euch alle noch einmal **Eeten**: nämlich dich I. Heinrich, dich I. Emanuel & familie & den I. Heinerle **Eeten** & I. Karolina & wünsche alle I. Schw. daß du unsere Wunschen nachkommen wirst & Einmal befragt sein wirst für dich & nicht für ander Leute:

Wer dies Wunscht & hofft  
ist Euer Bruder wie immer bis Ewig.

Karl Mayer

*[text in left margin:]*

L. Brüder gebet Euch für Schw. K ein wenig Mühe.

*[text in bottom left corner]*

Bin ich Einem von Euch so nahe getreten so entschuldiget mich.

*[continuation of a message from Karl]*

Now, dear Heinrich, they want to grant your wish & answer your letter by summer & have their picture taken in summer & send it to you. So, dear Heinrich, you will now excuse them. They also stated in their letter that we should greet all of you. We also received Aunt Hanne's letter inside your letter & were very happy that she is well and were very happy that they are still thinking about us. Now, my dears, I am going to end my letter & so greet & kiss you all many thousands of times & greet Uncle Aberle (Abraham) & family, Aunt Hanne & family, and thus all of our relatives & so I greet you all once again [many times] namely you, dear Heinrich, you dear Emanuel & family & little Heinrich [may times] and dear Karolina, & [we] all wish, dear sister, that you will fulfill our wishes & will be questioned [= asked to do things?] for yourself & not for other people.

The one who wishes and hopes this  
is your brother, as ever, until eternity.

Karl Mayer

*[text in left margin]*

Dear brothers, make a little effort on behalf of sister Karolina.

*[text in bottom left corner]*

If I offended one of your, please excuse me.

Letter #3, p. 2 of fragment (= left side of p. 6 of PDF file 730), = continuation of another letter

Nun meine I. noch Etwas!  
Im Auftrage des I. Vater muß ich  
Euch benachrichtigen über dein Present I.  
Heinrich: Auch würde es wünschenswerth  
für die I. Eltern sein daß wir auch einmal  
So eine überraschung bekommen wie Selig-  
mann Has von Tegenheim: Nun viele  
herzliche Grüße von dem I. Vater an Euch  
Alle wer dies wünscht ist Euer Vater  
auf Ewig.  
J. Mayer  
Schreibet bald & viel  
Wir hofen Euren  
baldigen Antwort  
[hole] ..chte mal hofe in  
Einem Briefe Mazel Tof zu sehen.

Now, my dears, something else.  
On behalf of our dear father, I must inform  
you both about your present, dear  
Heinrich. It would also be desirable  
for our dear parents if we could also  
get a surprise like Seligmann  
Haas from Tegenheim. Now many  
cordial greetings for our dear father to you all.  
The one who wishes this is your father  
forever.  
J. Mayer  
Write soon and write a lot.  
We hope for an  
answer soon.  
[hole] ... hope to see  
Mazel Tof in your letter.

Letter #3, p. 3 of fragment (= right side of p. 5 of PDF file 730)

[Yiddish]

ibe kindr

Mit grestr frayde erkrayfe ikh di fedr an aykh tsu shrayben dayne tvay brife libr Haynrikh zint mir mit grestr frayde tsuy hende gekommen und daroys erzehn das alle eyreh vohl [illegible] ihr oykh bay uns in/ikh ferzikhrn kent libe lindr und das aykh der libe Gott gezond lezzt vo ikh gevis dakh fir dakh dafir bette libe kindr libe Haynrikh das Brezent vo du/di mir ligst mit Lion/shionhas rekhte/rente. Groze frayde in mir vo ikh dir gar nikht ((knotkhtte/knontte)) shrayben kontte das ikh dokh [zebe/debe/gebe] das di kindr libe hast das du dikh [blanst/blankst/blankst] planst um uns frayde tsu machen und shtikh/g (Stück? Stich?) tsu geben das mir/vir undzreh alle laykhth/r (Leichter?) tsu machen und nikht zo bekimert tsu leben [braynen/braykhen/broynen] das yeder zikh vuntert zo ayn [shens/sheks/lens/lekhs] presend tsu shiken ikh verde [illegible] mir gevis vas shent (schon) koyfen dafir libr Haynrikh [Lion Hos] erf/shelte (erzählte?) Karl das du zo braf (brav) bizt und zo arbatest das dir gevis tsu daynem forhayl (Vorteil?) izt dende/dekde (denkte?) ikh libr Haynrikh er erzehlte das du Libe Karolina zo bezort bist fir dande Elise [v]as makt mir groze frayde ven ikh abr ayn mahl hern kente (könnte) das fir dayn aykhnes (eigenes?) besort vehrst das di frayde fir mikh nokh fil grezr mehr vo das immer mayn vunsh izt libe Karolina [Lion Hos] ertsehlte das di libe [Mak/g/n/vel] zo ayn [illegible] und du zo ayn libs kind hast vo mikh gevis frayde der libe Gott zoll in nur gezond lazzen das du und vir nokh file frayde erleben vayder (weiter?) shlis ikh mit maynem shrayben und grise aykh alle dikh libe Karolina und dikh libe [Manevel/Makhevel/Magevel] und libe Roza und libs kind Hari und dikh libr Haynrikh vehr das shraybt izt eyreh [mut]tr bis evikh Regihna Meyer ikh hofe als aykh der brif antrift

[Side panel:] Vi er uns ferlest

[Yiddish]

Dear children,

With the greatest joy I take pen in my hand to write to you. Your two letters dear Heinrich came to my hands with the greatest happiness and from them I gather that all of you are well [illegible] you also can be assured [*is the case*] with us, dear children and that the dear Lord keeps you well, which I certainly pray for day after day, dear children. Dear Heinrich, the present which you [gave] me [two illegible words] much joy in me, so that I could not [illegible] write you at all. [*It gave me so much joy*] that you have such filial love, that you slave away in order to give us joy and to give us things, so that our old age is easier and we do not have to live in such distressed circumstances, so that everyone is amazed that you have] sent such a present. I will certainly [illegible] myself something lovely to buy with that. Dear Heinrich, [illegible] Lion Haas told Karl that you are very well behaved and you work hard -- that certainly is to your advantage, I think, dear Heinrich. He said that you, sweet Karolina, are looking after Aunt Elice. But what would give me great joy would be to hear that you were looking after your own self. That would give me much more happiness for it is always my wish, dear Karolina. Lion Haas said that you, dear Emanuel have such a [illegible] and that you have a such sweet child, which certainly pleases me. May the good Lord just keep him in good health, so that you and we experience much more joy. Furthermore, I will conclude my writing and am greeting all of you, dear Karolina and you dear Emanuel and dear Rosa and dear child Harry and you dear Heinrich. This is your mother writing you. For always, Regina Meyer I hope that the letter arrives to you.

[Side panel:]

As it leaves us.

Letter #4, p. 1 of fragment (= right side of p. 8 of PDF file 730), = continuation of another letter; Babetta's section

*[Babetta's section of another letter]*

Vielgeliebte Brüder & Schwestern und I. Heinerle  
Eure werthen Briefe wurden uns zu theil und Euer Wohl  
darauß gelesen was uns fiele freute verursachte was ich  
Euch auch von uns allem sagen kann. Nun I. alle  
will ich Euch benachrichtigen daß wir uns ungemein  
freuten über Euer überraschendes Presend und Gott  
der Allmächtige wird Euch viel Glück geben so das die  
I. Eltern so wie wir G. noch viele freuden an Euch erleben  
dürfen. Auch aus deinem Briefe I Schwester gelesen daß  
unwohl warst was mich wirklich sehr zugemüth ging indem  
ich es laß hoffentlich wirst du I. Schwester wieder bei deiner  
völligen Gesundheit und daß wir bald andere Neuigkei-  
ten von dir I. Schwester hören dürfen. Nun I Emanuel  
wirklich habe ich mich sehr gefreut über deine werthen  
handzeilen und mit Freuden gelesen daß du I. Emanuel  
und deine I. Famielie sich am besten Wohle befinden  
besonders eregte sich große freude in mir daß du I Schribst  
daß dein Sohn Heinrich sehr gescheit aber noch nicht laufen  
kann Gott der Allmächtige wird helfen so daß ich denke bis  
unser Brief Euch trifft so das er laufen kann. Nun I  
Heinrich du kanst dir I Bruder gar nicht denken die  
freute die ich habe mit dem Presend daß ich erhielt durch  
herrn haas ist unbeschreiblich auch theile ich dir I. so wie  
Euch alle mit daß ich mir gekauft habe ein schwarzes liester  
Kleid und einen schwarzen Morock was mich sehr freute

*[Babetta's section of another letter]*

Much-loved Brothers and Sisters and little Heinrich,  
We received your valued letters and read from them  
that you are well, which made us very happy, and which I  
can tell you is the case with all of us as well. Now, all of you dear ones,  
I want to tell you that we were enormously happy  
about your surprising present and God Almighty  
will bring you much good fortune/happiness, so that our  
dear parents, as well as we siblings will be permitted to experience  
much more joy from you. From your letter, dear sister, [we also] read  
that [you] were unwell, which really affected me greatly when I  
read it. Hopefully you are completely well again,  
dear sister, and we will soon be privileged to hear other news  
about you, dear sister. Now, dear Emanuel, your valued  
lines really made me very happy, and  
I read with joy that you, dear Emanuel,  
and your dear family are in the best of health.  
What made me especially joyful is that you, dear one, wrote  
that your son Heinrich is very bright, but can't walk yet.  
God Almighty will help, so I think that by the time  
our letter reaches you, he will be able to walk. Now, dear  
Heinrich, you absolutely cannot imagine, dear brother, the  
joy I have over the present that I received through  
Mr. Haas. [It] is indescribable. I'm informing you, dear [Heinrich],  
as well as all of you that I bought myself a black [?linen?] dress  
and a black [?morocco = goatskin leather?], which made me very happy.

Letter #4, p. 2 of fragment (= right side of p. 7 of PDF file 730), = continuation of Babetta's section

<p><i>[continuation of Babetta's section]</i>  Auch theile ich Euch meine I mit daß es heute Ostern Montag ist und erster Tag <b>Collhamont</b> auch will ich Euch benachrichtigen daß wir sehr gefreut haben an dem Sedernächten hoffentlich habt Ihr daßselbe gethan. Nun I Heinrich suchest du noch Corrspondenz mit [?Stroß] von Essingen? hoffentlich auch wirst du wissen daß die Babetta braut ist nach <b>hergemun</b> mit <b>Namens</b> Blum Jetzt meine I. denke ich alles mögliche für heute geschrieben zu haben und Euer baldige Freutige Antwort zu hören jetzt seiet begrüßt und geküßt von Euerer Schwester Babett Auch küsset den kleinen Heinrich für mich. Grüßet mir alle Verwanden. Ich verbleibe wie immer Eure Schwester  Babetta Mayer</p>	<p><i>[continuation of Babetta's section]</i>  Also, I'm informing you, my dear ones, that today is Easter Monday and the first day of ["Collhamont" = ?]. I also want to tell you that we greatly enjoyed ourselves on the Seder evening. Hopefully you did, too. Now, dear Heinrich, are you still seeking to correspond with [?Stross?] from Essingen? Hopefully you will also know that Babetta [= I] will be engaged with [?a man named?] Blum [?afterwards?] in June. Now, my dears, I think I have written everything possible for today and [hope] to hear your joyful answer soon. Now may you be greeted and kissed by your sister Babetta. Also kiss little Heinrich for me. Greet all our relatives for me. I remain, as ever, your sister  Babetta Mayer</p>
<p><i>[different handwriting – Joseph's?]</i>  Viele herzliche Grüße an Sara Mayer von ihren Eltern &amp; an Euch alle.</p>	<p><i>[different handwriting – Sara Mayer's parents?]</i>  Many cordial greetings to Sara Mayer from her parents, and to you all</p>
<p><i>[Yiddish]</i>  Libe kindr mit greztr frayde izt mir eyer brif tsu hende gekommen und daroys erzehn eyer vohl velch(s) ihr aykh bay mir oykh ferzikhrn kent. Und eyer brezent darin erfinden vo vir gevis groze frayde makht da ikh zehe das aykh der libe Gott dan immer klik gibt das ihr und dokh shtim geben kent vo ikh oykh dakh fir dakh (Tag für Tag) dafir bette ikh dokh immer zehe das der libe Gott mir oykh erhert (erhört) Libr Meir du shraybst das dayn libe Hari (Harry) zehr sharik (stark?) izt Gott zoll ihn behiten (behüten) und gezond lazzen das ikh nokh file frayde an ihm erlebe vayter shlis ikh mit maynem shrayben und grise aykh alle libe Kar[o]lina und libe Meir und dayne froy und kind [illegible] dikh [illegible] libr Haynrikh ver das shraybt [illegible] irer mutter bis evig Reniah Meyer</p>	<p>Dear children,  With the greatest joy your letter came to my hands and from it [I] saw your well-being which you can also be assured of us here. And [we] discovered your present in it, which has given us much happiness, because I see that the good Lord is giving you good fortune, that you and [several ambiguous words] could give, which I also day after day pray for. I always see that the good Lord also hears me. Dear Meir [<i>Emanuel</i>] you write that your little Harry is very [strong]<sup>1</sup>  May God just protect him and keep him healthy, so that I may experience much further joy regarding him. I am concluding my writing and greet you all, dear Karolina, and dear Meir [<i>Emanuel</i>] and your wife and child [illegible] you [illegible] Heinrich . This is your mother who is writing. For always, Re[g]ina Meyer</p>

