

Meyer Brothers Letters

These letters are part of the Meyer Brothers' Store Records, Mss. 2909, Louisiana and Lower Mississippi Valley Collections, Special Collections, Hill Library, Louisiana State University, Baton Rouge and are reproduced on this website with permission. Any reuse of these letters must be obtained via: <http://www.lib.lsu.edu/special/findaid/2909.pdf>.

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. 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 15 (File 20130722151500980.pdf) = "File 980"

Letter #1 (= page 1 of File 980)

Letter to Emanuel from Uncle Abraham Levy dated Sept. 22, 1861

Dear Emnel,
[Schihen?] so Lange habe ich
noch nichts fon dier gehert.
Wie ist es mit meinem
Hause ist das balt
fertig Lasse mir doch
wissen gestern kahm
ich zurük fon N.O.

Tobias hatt ausverkauft
Sons nichts Neues als
wen es dir meglich ist
Kome balt nach ~~N.O.~~
Bayousare zu mir bis
sunday Empfange Gruse
von dem Unccell

A. Levy

Gruse [an?]
[Alles?] & liebste Kinder
und frage sie warum
sie mir nicht schreibt

Dear Emanuel,
[?Seems?] I haven't heard anything
from you for so long.
How is it going with my
house? Will it be finished
soon? Let me
know. Yesterday I came
back from New Orleans.

Tobias has sold out.
Otherwise, no news except
if it is possible for you,
come soon to ~~N.O.~~
my house in Bayou Sara until
Sunday. Greetings
from your uncle ("Uncell").

A. Levy

Say hello to
[Alice?] & very dear children
and ask her why she
doesn't right to me.

Letter #2 (= page 2 of File 980)

Letter to Emanuel Meyer from Leo Oppenheimer (writing in English on behalf of A Levy & Co.), dated Dec. 12, 1861

Bayou Sara Dec 12 / 61

Mr. Eml Meyer
Clinton La

Dear Sir,

This morning per
Steamboat Inv. A. Totten we Send you three
cases mdse & one Box Tobacco purchased
by you when here last. The small box of Shoes
is from Meyer Hofman & Co. with the exception
of the Boys Shoes. The long delay of your
Goods is on [account] of the unregularity of the Steamboad*
this week. Trusting the Goods will arrive safe
we remain yours very respectfully

A Levy & Co.
per Leo [L?] Oppenheimer

P.S.

We should be very glad to record your
large order of Spring & Summer Goods
as our stock will be very extensive this coming
Season & the writter of this will be c very
carefull in of Soliciting your orders

*Reason for spelling mistake ("steamboad"): German spelling habits. In German, "d" at the end of a word is pronounced like "t."

Letter #3 (= page 3 of File 980)

Letter to Emanuel Meyer from Leo Oppenheimer (writing in English on behalf of A Levy & Co.), dated Dec. 18, 1861

<p>Bayou Sara Dec 18/61</p> <p>Mr. E Meyer Clinton</p> <p>Dear Sir</p> <p>We send you to day per St^{em} I A Totten Six barrels of Molasses the Invoice will Shortly follow.</p> <p>Our A. Levy is not at home at presend* he is on a trip up to Williamsport w'ell Send you the Invoice by his return</p> <p>Very respectfully A. Levy & Co Per Leo L. Oppenheimer</p> <p>Let me know whether you paid for the Gloves at M. str To [Mr. Tobias?] or not as they Keep on asking for it</p> <p>L.O.</p>	
--	--

* Spelling mistake "presend" from German spelling habits ("d" at the end of a word is pronounced like "t").

Letter #4 (= page 4 of File 980)

Letter to E. Meyer from A. Levy, dated Oct. 5, 1861

<p style="text-align: center;">Bayousara La October 5 1861</p> <p>Mr. E. Meyer Dear Nephew hoffe du am besten wohl bist was wird dich mit dem selben mit Teilen kenn <i>[kann]</i> nun Sache <i>[sage]</i> dem Smith das er mit meinem Hause & Fence färtig wirt. So das wenn ich nach Clinton kom das ich alles in Ordnung bekom die Linseed Oil must du erhalten in einige Dage <i>[Tage]</i>. Sanns <i>[Sonst]</i> Empfange Gruse von deinem Unkell A. Levy</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">Bayou Sara, October 5, 1861</p> <p>Mr. E. Meyer Dear Nephew, I hope you are in the best of health, which [I?] can inform you is the same [with me]. Now tell Smith that he [should] finish my house & fence, so that when I come to Clinton, I will have everything in order. You should receive the linseed oil in a few days. Otherwise, greetings from your uncle, A. Levy</p>
--	--

Letter #5, page 1 (= page 5 of File 980)
Letter to E. Meyer from A. Levy, dated Nov. 21, 1861

Bayou Sara November
21 1861

Dear Emmel
hoffe du wohl nach haüße gekommen
bist Nun wenn du dein
wahr [*Ware*] verkaufn kanst den die wahr [*Ware*]
schlaht ab ich kann dier noch
wahr [*Ware*] haben lassen. Such mir dann
viele wahr [*Ware*] zu verkaufen
denn du kanst noch heite sonst
bekommen. Sons nichts neues
alles wohl & munder by
uns die kandels kannst du
by gelegenheit schiken Or [= Engl. "or"]
by R. R. Empfange gruse
fon dem uncel

A Levy

das Linsd Oil & White sied [= Eng. "*wheat seed*"]
wirte by nesten gelegen
heit schiken

So eeben habe ich dein
brief erhalten by Mr Rolhe
Wen du Blak peper
hat gekauft so thuhe
den in einen bl Or Sak
und schike den selben
wie folgt

Bayou Sara November 21, 1861

Dear Emanuel,
I hope you arrived home safely.
Now, if you can sell
your goods, because the goods
are [?piling up?]. I can arrange for
you to have more goods. In that case, try to
sell a lot of goods for me,
because you can get some more
today. Otherwise, no news.
Everyone is happy and healthy at our
place. You can send us the candles
when the opportunity arises or
by railroad. Greetings
from your uncle

A Levy

Will send the linseed oil
and wheat seed at the next
opportunity.

I just received your
letter via Mr. Rolhe
If you have bought
black pepper, then put
it in a barrel or sack
and send the same
as follows

Letter #5, page 2 (= page 6 of File 980)

Letter E. Meyer from A. Levy dated Nov. 21, 1861 to

Mester A Levy
care of L Haus [Hans?] Isolo
NewOrleans und schrebe
dem [denen?] ein brief hr und
shiebe denen das der Mei..
gehert und wen es dir
meglich ist kom Sunday
hier her Sanns
ich mechte dich sehen
fon wegen wahr und so
fort [= "sofort" = immediately? or misspelled English for "so
forth"?]
A Levy

Mister A Levy
care of L. [Ham?] Isolo [or maybe: c/o Leopold at the Isolo site?]
New Orleans and write
him [them?] a letter [..?..] and
[?write them?] that it [?belongs to me?]
and if it is possible
for you, come here
on Sunday. Apart from that,
I would like to see you
regarding goods and
immediately [or, misspelled English: "and so forth"].
A Levy

Letter #6, p. 1 (= p. 7 of File 980)

Letter to E Meyer from A Levy, dated December 23, 1861

<p>Mr E Meyer. Dear Nephew hoffe du am besten wohl bist und hast das Molasses erhalten Wahrschenlich hast du das Lenseed Oil erhalten heite erhaltzt du das ein Keg White Sead Sonns wen du noch mehr willst kan ich dier nach schiken Lasse mich wissen by Leopold auch wegen dem Hardy das will ich in Ortning machen für dich mit den Hardy da ich nicht genau weis was ich ihm schultig bin. auch wen du Silvr & Gold hast so halle [= halte] mir es auf Or schike mir es by Leopold ich gebe dier anderes gelt dafür im brieff wegen die vate [Watte] vo du an And Hanna Schieltig bist schrebe mir wie du es mahen wilt</p>	<p>Mr. E Meyer. Dear Nephew, I hope you are in the best of health and have received the molasses. You have probably received the linseed oil. Today, you will receive a keg of wheat seeds. Otherwise, if you want more, I can send some afterwards. Also, via Leopold let me know about Hardy. I want to straighten that out for you with Hardy, since I don't exactly know what I owe him. Also, if you have silver & gold, then hold on to it for me or send it to me via Leopold. I'll give you other money for it in the letter for the cotton for which you owe Aunt Hanna. Write me how you want to do it</p>
---	--

Letter #6, p. 2 (= p. 8 of File 980)

Letter to E Meyer from A Levy, dated December 23, 1861

und wenn dich dich der
Schlenker fragt, wegen
dem Gelt Wo du
für die vate [Watte] And Hanna
schuldigt bist soll er
warten bis es da
ist welges ist ihm [= im]
January bis [?dant?]
hier denke ich selbst
nach Klinten zu
komen ich wirte
es And Hanna sahen [= sagen]
das du die vate [Watte] nicht
bezahlt bis ich
Relest [= English "released"] bin Und ich
gut mache für and
Hanna Sans nicht
für heite auser Grust
dich der unkel
A Levy
Schike mir den sort
ohne fehl und mahe
alles im Guten mit And Hanna.

and [if?] Schlenker
asks you about the
money which you
owe Aunt Hanna for the
cotton, he should
wait until it is
there, which will be in
January by then.
In this matter I'm thinking about
coming to Clinton
myself. I will tell
Aunt Hanna that
you will not pay for
the cotton until
I am [?released?] and I
will compensate Aunt
Hanna for it. Otherwise nothing
for today except greetings
from your uncle
A Levy.
Send me the [line of goods]
without fail and do
everything in good faith with Aunt Hanna.

Letter #7 (= p 9 of File 980)

Letter from Abraham Levy to his sister Hanna, dated December 27, 1861

Bayousara December 27/1861

Liebe Schwester Hanna
Deine Chikens & Butter &
Eggs habe ich dier alles
besorgt nach N. O. und
habe Tobias dabei
geschrieben. Nun komt
Leopold heite nach Clinton
und wen du mit ihm
hier her komn wilst
alins [=allein?] du must ihn
nicht in Clinton halten
den wir haben jetz keine
Zeit nicht fiehl zu
entbehren auch wegen
meinem nach N.O. zu gehen
Weis ich nicht für gewis
ob ich nach N.O. gehe
die andere woche
den ich habe af
fiele Blatze zu gehen
dann kan ich nicht für
gewis sahen [=sagen] ob ich
Nach N Orlean gehe Or
nicht Sanns alles wohl.
mit grüse fon dein
Br. A Levy

Bayou Sara, December 27, 1861

Dear sister Hanna,
I got your chickens & butter & eggs
to New Orleans for you and
wrote Tobias in that
connection. Now
Leopold is going
to Clinton today
and if you want to
come here with him,
the only thing is you must not
keep him in Clinton,
because right now we don't
have any time to spare.
Also in regard to my
going to New Orleans,
I do not know for sure
whether I am going to New Orleans
next week
because I have to go to
many places.
Then I can't say for
sure whether I
am going to New Orleans or
not. Otherwise, everything is fine.
With greeting from your
brother A Levy

Letter #8, p. 1 (= p. 10 of File 980)
Letter from A Levy to Emanuel dated Dec. 27, 1861

<p style="text-align: center;">Bayousara La December 27 / 1861</p> <p>Dear Emmel da es mir unmöglich ist nach Clinton zu komen wied [wird?] wieter setten nach [noch?] kemmen hatt der Boy Ben die Fences gemaht ich habe Im [money symbol?] 5 00 versprochen aber du mus ihm nicht zahlen bis ich nah Clinton kom und sehe Nah ob der Smith Alles Rehteg gemaht. So auch der William Harrs den Sunds und hat die Gaht [= Engl. "gate"?] in Ordnung machen lassen halte mir die Lie kan auf Vo das oil darin wahr end Nehme den Key fon dem Kleinn Hause und such es aus zu renten so gut als du kanst zu einen guten man das ich den Rent bekom Sanns nichts Neues</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">Bayou Sara, LA December 27, 1861</p> <p>Dear Emanuel, Since it is impossible for me to come to Clinton, Setten will come later. Has the [slave?] boy Ben built the fences? I promised him [Confederate dollar symbol?] 5.00 but you should not pay him until I come to Clinton and check whether the Smith did everything right, and also whether William Harris had made the [..?..] right and and has arranged for the [gate?] to be properly made. Store the [..?..] can for me where the oil was and take the key from the little house and try to rent it out as well as well as you can to a good man, so that I get the rent. Apart from that, nothing new</p>
---	--

Letter 8, p. 2 (= p. 11 of File 980)
Letter from A Levy to Emanuel dated Dec. 27, 1861

<p>als grüse dich dein A Levy</p>	<p>except that your A Levy greetes you.</p>
---------------------------------------	---

Letter #9, p. 1 (= p. 12 of PDF 980)

Letter to E. Meyer from uncle A. Levy dated December 24 [or 29?], 1861

Bayou sara December [24? 29?] / 1861

Mr E Meyer

Dear Nepheu

Als win ich im Clinton

wahr habe ich dem Boy Ben

gesacht das **er** mir die

Garten Fence machen sall

und er mir [money symbol] 5:00 dafür

charged wie mir Leopold

sahte [=sagte] hatte er die noch

nicht gemacht so sei so gut

und sahe [= sage] ihm das er

Sie machen sall und

sall auch den Baum

im Garden umhauen

besorge mir das so das

ich alles in Ordnung habe

mit ihr Sanns Neies

weis ich dier nichts zu **therbn**

und das der Smith fürteg

wirt und der Bill Harris

den **Nundes** bis ich

nach Clinton kom.

Bayou Sara December [24? 29?], 1861

Mr. E. Meyer

Dear Nephew,

When I was in Clinton

I said to the boy Ben

that he should make

the garden fence for me

and he charged me

[money symbol] 5.00 for it.

When Leopold told me, he had not yet

made it, so be so good

and tell him that he

should make it and

should also chop down

the tree in the garden.

Take care of that for me, so that

I have everything in order

with it. Apart from that, I don't

know of anything else to [..?..] you

and that Smith should be

finished and Bill Harris should finish

the [..?..] by the time I

come to Clinton

Letter #9, p. 2 (= p. 13 of File 980)

Letter to E. Meyer from uncle A. Levy dated December 24, 1861, left side of double-wide page

<p>um alles in Ordnung zu machen. So sehe nach das der Boy Ben die Fence macht und den Baum abhaut aber du must ihm nicht zahlen bis ich nach Clinton kom um das ich Sehe ob er alles in Ordnung hatt und lasse mir die Gaht Wie ich dier gesacht habe auch in Ordnung machen das Nimt nicht Lang Zeit auch halte den Key von dem Kleinen Hause und sehe nach ob du das dier nicht aus renlen [= Eng. "rent out"?] kanst. aber zu ein gutem Tenant Sanns nicht neies also besorge mir alles wie ich deiner geschriebn habe mit Grüse dich dein A Levy</p>	<p>in order to get everything in order. So see to it that the boy Ben makes the fence and chops down the tree, but you must not pay him until I come to Clinton to see whether he has everything in order. And, as I told you, arrange to have the gate also in order for me. That won't take much time. Also keep the key from the little house and see if you can rent it out, but to a good tenant. Otherwise, nothing new. So take care of everything for me that I wrote you about. With greetings from your A Levy</p>
---	--

Letter #9, p. 3? (= p. 14 of File 980)

Letter to E. Meyer from uncle A. Levy dated December 24, 1861, right side of double-wide page

<p>in bedersch wegen deinem nach St. Helena zu gehen lassen wartn bis du die Vate [Watte] hast of [= Engl. "off"?] dem L StemBoe [steamboat] fom den Dery dan kanst du es lassen setlen mit ihm wen du die note hast du kanst vier Ceittan dafür geben lassen im fall lasse dich aber nicht ntzen fon dem heite wie schreibe mir balt antwort mit gruse fon dem A Levy</p>	<p>[Am thinking?] of going to St. Helena because of you. Let [it] wait until you have the cotton [?off] the L steamboat from the [dairy?]. Then you can it settled it with him. If you have the note you can arrange to give him four [..?..] for it. In that case, though, don't let yourself use anything from today [and?] write me an answer soon. Greetings from A Levy</p>
--	--

Letter #10 (= p. 15 of File 980)

Letter to Emanuel from A Levy dated January 27, 1862

Bayou Sara January
27 1862

Dear Emmel
heite by dem kan 11
schike ich dier 3 barrels
Sirrop ich habe noch 2
erhalten für 25 Cent pr
gellann [= Engl. "gallon"] auch wirt der
A Haber nach Clinton komn
wegen dem was du ihm
schültung bist: ich habe ihm
gesacht das du [butter?] hest
du kanst ihm geben
zu 16 cents half Bfunt [= Pfund]
sonns nichts als Gruse
fon dem A Levy
frahe [=frage] Im
Or hast du
den Draft erhalten fon
Im

Bayou Sara, January 27, 1862

Dear Emanuel,
Today, via boat/barge # 11,
I am sending you 3 barrels
of syrup. I have received 2 more
for 25 cents per
gallon. Also
A Haber will be coming to Clinton
because of what you
owe him. I have told him
that you have [butter?]
You can give it to him
for 16 cents per half-pound.
Otherwise nothing except greetings
from your A Levy
Ask him
or have you
received the [draft? or: wire?] from
him