



Letter from Georg Bredig to Max Bredig, May 15, 1937

Bredig, Georg. "Letter from Georg Bredig to Max Bredig, May 15, 1937," May 15, 1937. Papers of Georg and Max Bredig, Box 1, Folder 22. Science History Institute. Philadelphia. <https://digital.sciencehistory.org/works/z9hmm83>.

Courtesy of the Science History Institute, prepared June 15, 2025 14:50 UTC

Translated by Jocelyn R. McDaniel

English Translation

Image 1

Karlsruhe, 15 May 1937

Mx 23.

Dear Max,

Many thanks for your letters from the 2nd and 8th of May and for representing our family at dear Aunt Kaethe's funeral. I hope she didn't suffer too much when she passed away. Moreover, death was probably a redemption of many things. She was an unusually selfless and tirelessly active woman. Fate had been hard on her over the past 25 years. Gustav appears not to have received the news and an entry visa in time. Aunt Vally is probably back in Königsberg. Was she very upset? The difficult journey was impossible for me to make.

I am glad that you could enjoy a few nice days of nature in Himmelpfort. I hope the trip went well for you, and that you can also relax over the Pentecost holidays. Would Himmelpfort be interesting for me and Marianne to visit? We previously applied for Swiss visas, which won't likely be available before July or August. It has yet to be determined where we will go then.

Where would you suggest?

The new bans on doctoral degrees for Jews, Mr. Heinkel's remarks about Beethoven to the Cultural Association, and the questionnaire from the German Chemical Society, which you probably also received, have upset me again.

Image 2

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2.

I was initially tempted to return my German doctoral degree and to leave the German Chemical Society and the Bunsen Society. It would probably hurt others, so I didn't follow through with this. Many need doctoral titles for their subsistence, as well as the reports from the German Chemical Society and the Journal of Electrochemistry (Zeitung für Elektrochemie) for their scientific work.

Many thanks for your passport photo, which doesn't look very good, although it looks a little better when enlarged, and for the two Dutch stamps. A few days ago, Pfeiffer was here and visited me. He told me that Stiasny, the colloidal and tannery chemist from Darmstadt who has a rich Swedish wife, is doing well in Sweden. Should I ask him for advice on your part? However, his field is very different than yours. I am returning the letter from Lutten-Urban to you.

It would be terrific if you could travel to Holland over the Pentecost holidays. If possible and if it doesn't take up too much time, visit our friend C. in Utrecht. You must make sure beforehand that he is home. You have a credit of 717 Reichsmarks in my account. However, because you received 2,800 Reichsmarks from me in advance and I am a little short on cash, I will hold on to the 717 Reichsmarks except for an emergency or further discussion. How is your savings account? The bookbinder has not yet brought the 7 volumes of my "Opera Omnia" bound in 6 volumes. Will you have space for it (ca. 40 x 28 x 21 cm)? Write again soon how you are doing.

Warm regards (also from Marianne and Mrs. C),
Your Father