

Senge

Halle. Saxony.

Oct. 8. 1882

Handwritten signature or initials

My dear Father,

I have had a hard  
time of it today (Sunday) to pass  
the time. Nothing particular to see or  
do. I got here yesterday & have to  
wait till tomorrow to go to see  
some brass-cold mines & works  
not far off which are not in  
operation today. Yesterday afternoon  
I saw one brass-cold work not-  
far from here, & also the salt  
evaporating works, which were formerly  
government but are now in private  
hands. The workmen (at the  
Salt works) form a peculiar class,  
& according to the guide book are

supposed to be descended from the  
 Wends who formerly inhabited this  
 district. I have however, no idea  
 what the "Wends" were. This is quite  
 a busy place with modern appearance  
 a few old churches, towers & ruins of  
 fortifications standing here & there.  
 In fact all the part of Silesia is  
 quite civilized-like, with quite  
 a network of rail ways, & numerous  
 tele-grams, iron coal works,  
 salt works, beet root sugar factories  
 or. Brown coal is the universal  
 fuel here & all the industries of  
 the country depend on it. Few days  
 ago at Stassfurt I woundered  
 all through one of the most extensive  
 salt mines. The thickness of the  
 salt is immense, strictly so, for the  
 bore was got to the bottom of it yet.

All the less soluble substances  
 which result in the sea are collected  
 at the top of the deposit. The potash  
 salts being in reality the most  
 valuable of the products of the mine.  
 Thus below the salt & carbonate  
 which less than it are Carnallite,  
 Kainite, polyhalite, & borate,  
 the latter in little nodules. The  
 most curious thing about the mine is  
 that it is perfectly dry & dusty,  
 & even the hygroscopic substances  
 are as hard & dry as can be.  
 When in Europe the other day  
 I called on Prof. Credner to  
 whom Dr Hunt had given me  
 a card, He gave me quite a lot of

information. I hope to see you  
again when I go back to Lapland  
in a couple of days on my  
way to Druden. Prof. is much  
interested in Glacial matters of Soloy or.  
Says he is quite converted now to the  
idea of a great glacier cover from  
Scandinavia in a direct line & finds  
near Lapland specimens of all the rocks  
on this line & v. v. the. Says the  
process of correction was a long &  
difficult one & cut him away  
sleepless nights, much as though he  
had been a few centuries to  
Christianity. Weather is unaccountably  
fine at present but cool &  
Auroral.

Yours truly

Wm. Brewster

George