

&  
Department of Medical  
Genetics

April 7, 1957

Professor Kenneth V. Thimann  
Biological Laboratories  
Harvard University  
Cambridge 38, Mass.


Dear Kenneth:

Esther and I have been giving very serious thought to the proposals which Harvard has made during the last several weeks.

As you know, our affairs for the next year or two are quite involved, not merely by the distraction of other tempting possibilities, but even more by the responsibilities attached to the new department of Medical Genetics here. I would not be able to make a considered decision a propos Harvard for at least another 18-24 months. Without being able to give you any foreknowledge of that decision, I feel that I should withdraw from your consideration now. However, Harvard is too estimable for me not to hope that you will keep me in mind if another occasion arises in the due course of time.

I had expected to hear something from them, but I have been quite overwhelmed by warmth and number of urgings from my friends at Cambridge, I trust you will convey my sincere appreciation for their cordiality, and to Dean Bundy for his generous remarks.

Yours sincerely,

  
Joshua Lederberg  
Professor of Medical Genetics