

0006.¹ LEOPOLD MOZART² TO JOHANN JAKOB LOTTER,³ AUGSBURG

Herr / Herr Johann Jakob Lotter / Book Printer and Dealer / in / in Munich / at the
cattle- / market.⁴ / AugsPurg / beside the Little White / Horse⁵

Monsieur mon tres cher amy

[Salzburg, the 21st July, 1755]

[5] Taking such a good opportunity as this, when Frau Hagenauer⁶ is setting off for Augsburg, I must tell you how you should help me to carry out a trick. All my siblings⁷ have now married; and each received 300 florins from my mother from the account of their future inheritance.⁸ Now it could perhaps happen that in the course of time the situation may look very bad for me, [10] since I have not yet received anything. It therefore occurred to me that I now have the finest opportunity to get hold of around 300 florins too. I have therefore got in contact with my mother – but particularly Herr von Rheling⁹ as the custodian – and told a story that I absolutely must have 300 florins for printing my book, so that I might by this military stratagem get hold of these 300 florins; [15] otherwise, the devil might take them today or tomorrow. Now, suppose someone comes to you and enquires: then you must always say that you do not know what it will come to, but it could well come to 300 florins, because you do not yet have the whole manuscript. This is what I wanted to say to you. By the way, you could yet end up with quite a quantity of manuscript; [20] I would have dispatched some at this good opportunity, if you had not of late written to me that I should not send any more until you asked for it. I also thought you will now be in Munich, and also perhaps do not yet have the paper, for black paper¹⁰ would certainly be too cheerless for me. If, let us suppose, it does not even amount to 20 sheets, [25] it will then simply be easier to sell, only it will, I think, certainly amount to that, especially when I go on to consider preface, dedication etc. Farewell, I am

as always your

Leop Mozart

[30] Salzbg., 21st July, 1755

Please forgive my tidy – pardon me – pigswill handwriting; I am rushing so fast that my fingers are nearly falling off.

¹ BD: Last mention of original was in 1893.

² BD: Leopold Mozart (1719-1787), born in Augsburg as son of a bookbinder. Started studies in law and philosophy in Salzburg, but neglected these and became a professional musician. Married Maria Anna Pertl in 1747. Only two of their seven children survived infancy. From 1763 until his death, he was *Vizekapellmeister* [deputy director of music] at the Prince-Archbishop's court in Salzburg.

³ BD: Johann Jakob Lotter (the Younger, 1726-1804), son of the eponymous founder of the firm (c. 1683-1738), printer and bookseller in Augsburg. Under his management, the business grew, especially the music side. He printed Leopold Mozart's *Versuch einer gründlichen Violinschule* (1756), of which there were three impressions. He also printed Leopold's collection of keyboard music *Der Morgen und der Abend...* (1759), containing works by Leopold, Eberlin and Eberl.

⁴ BD: "*Rindmarkt*"; venue for the annual fair in Munich at which Lotter offered his publications.

⁵ BD: "*Nebst dem weissen Rössl*" in the Maximilianstrasse in Augsburg.

⁶ BD: Maria Theresia Hagenauer, wife of the Salzburg merchant Johann Lorenz Hagenauer, sometime landlord to the Mozart family.

⁷ BD: Leopold's brothers were Joseph Ignaz (*1725) and Franz Alois (*1728), and his sisters Maria Eleonora (*1729) and Maria Theresia Franziska (*1734).

⁸ BD: "my mother": Anna Maria, née Sulzer (1696-1766), second wife of Johann Georg Mozart (1679-1736).

⁹ BD: "von Rheling": cf. No. 0001/6. Not the Rheling based in Salzburg.

¹⁰ "*schwarzes Papier*". Black-edged paper?