

Herr / Herr Johann Lorenz Hagenauer / famous merchant / in / Salzburg[Vienna, 29th December, 1762]

*Homo proponit, Deus disponit.*³ I was envisaging leaving Pressburg⁴ [5] on the 20th and departing from Vienna on the 26th in order to arrive in Salzburg on New Year's Eve. But on the 19th I had unusual toothache, I say an unusual toothache for me, for it was along the whole row of my undamaged and otherwise healthy upper front teeth. All through the night my whole face swelled up and the [10] following day I looked like the real Passau⁵ Blockhead, so much so that Lieutenant Winkler (the brother of the royal timpanist⁶), when he wanted to visit us, did not recognise me when he came into the room and thought he had lost his way. In these sad circumstances I had to comfort myself with the fact that we had been brought to a stop by the unusual cold snap anyway, for the [15] flying bridge⁷ was torn off its mountings, and it was only possible to get the post across the Danube with small ships, exposed to danger [...]⁸ with small ships, I say; the *postillion* then had to continue on a farmer's horse. After this, I had to wait until news came that the Mark or March⁹ (a stretch of water of no great size) had frozen across. [20] I thus took leave of Pressburg at half past 8 in the morning on Christmas Eve and arrived at our lodgings¹⁰ in Vienna at half past 8 at night by a quite special route. We did not travel particularly comfortably that day because the road, although frozen solid, was indescribably rough and full of deep hollows and bumps, for the Hungarians do not make up their roads. [25] If I had not had to buy a coach in Pressburg, one with very good suspension, we would certainly have brought a few less ribs home with us. I had to buy the coach, even if I had other wishes, so that we might arrive in Vienna in good health. For in Pressburg there was not a single 4-seat enclosed coach to be found among all the long-distance coaches. This coach belonged to a town coachman, [30] but the town coachmen are not allowed to travel across country,¹¹ except with 2 horses and only for so many hours.

Hardly had we arrived in Vienna when our landlady told me that Countess Kynstky,¹² wife of Leopold, had apparently sent to ask daily if we have arrived? – I called on her on Holy Christmas Day and she said she had been waiting for us in anguish [35] and had postponed a banquet which she wanted to give for Field Marshal Daun,¹³ who wished to meet us. She therefore gave the banquet on Monday.¹⁴ Now I am definitely leaving here on

¹ BD: Original lost. Schiederemair IV.

² BD: Johann Lorenz Hagenauer (1712-1792), Salzburg merchant. Friend of the Mozarts and their landlord 1747-1773.

³ Man proposes, God disposes.

⁴ BD: = Bratislava.

⁵ Text corrected after BD V.

⁶ BD: Anton Winkler, who also played violin. BD V quotes from the "*Nachricht von dem gegenwärtigen Zustande der Musik...1757*" : "No trumpeter or timpanist is accepted into the Prince's service unless he plays the violin well: they are accordingly given orders by the director for each week so that they all appear for court music with full forces, where they have to play second violin or viola".

⁷ BD VII: Probably either a drawbridge or rotating bridge.

⁸ BD: Thus in Schiederemair's reading.

⁹ BD: River Morava.

¹⁰ BD: Cf. No. 0034/18, 20, 32.

¹¹ BD: A ruling of this kind for Vienna dates from 1726 and was intended to protect the official post monopoly.

¹² BD: Maria Theresia, Countess [Gräfin] Kinsky (1715-1778), married Privy Councillor [Geheimer Rat] Leopold Ferdinand, Imperial Count [Reichsgraf] Kinsky (1713-1760) in 1734.

¹³ BD: Leopold Joseph, Count [Graf] Daun (1705-1766), from 1754 field marshal. His hesitant leadership prevented him from profiting from some victories during the Seven Year's War.

¹⁴ BD: 27 December 1763.

Friday¹⁵ morning, and will arrive (with God's help) in Linz¹⁶ before¹⁷ Sunday, and on the Eve of the Three Wise Men¹⁸, the 5th Jan., 1763, I hope to stand with you there in your room. At night, needless to say! [40] Otherwise you might think at the crack of dawn, which then would of course not seem so strange to you, since you are already accustomed to getting up early for *Rorate*.¹⁹ Now you will surely add the following to the heap of favours you have already done for me: namely, to pass on in my name to our gracious Father Confessor²⁰ the most express and humble wishes for the best of health and happiness in the New Year [45] and to ask His Person²¹ for a continued dispensation of his graciousness. I would have written myself if I had not firmly decided against bothering him so extremely often with letters from me in quick succession. Please pass on, moreover, my New Year's wishes to *Madame von Robini*²² and *Fräulein Josepha*²³ etc. *in optima forma*,²⁴ then to all our sincere friends, [50] and consequently to yourself, your good wife and your whole house; furthermore ask Herr Reiffenstuehl²⁵ on my behalf, with my compliments etc., to allow me to put my coach in his house for a few days until such time, indeed, as I can find a place²⁶ to keep it. In the meantime I hope that we shall all see [55] each other in good health on the 5th, and I am burning with longing to tell you, sir, a multitude of things and to be able to say that I am unchangeably

Your sincere friend

Mozart

[My wife and]*²⁷ children commend themselves.

[60] [If you]* would have the room heated a little for a few days, [...] * very little at all is needed in the stove at the front,

ON THE ENVELOPE:

Here it has been astonishingly cold for some days, and just today it is quite extraordinarily cold. Her Majesty the Empress²⁸ has now lost a princess again, namely Princess Johanna,²⁹ 13 years of age. [60] She also repeatedly led my Wolferl by the hand in her rooms when we were with her.

¹⁵ BD: 31 December 1763.

¹⁶ BD: Linz on the Danube.

¹⁷ BD: Text corrected after BD V.

¹⁸ = "Epiphany".

¹⁹ BD: Early morning masses during Advent.

²⁰ BD: Ferdinand Joseph Mayr (1733-1792), confessor to the Archbishop until his death in 1771. Leopold had been trying to gain his support in applying for the post of deputy director of music [Vizekapellmeister] in Salzburg.

²¹ "Hochdensenben".

²² BD: Wife of factory owner Georg Joseph Robinig von Rottenfeld (1710-1760). Georg was a member of the air-rifle club and they were frequent guests at the Mozarts. Mozart probably wrote the Divertimento KV 334 (320b) to mark his son's completion of studies in 1780.

²³ BD: Robinig's daughter Maria Josepha (1743-1767), in protracted poor health.

²⁴ = "in the best manner".

²⁵ BD: Presumably Johann Christian Reifentuel (* 1745), spice merchant on the Rathausplatz.

²⁶ BD: A place was probably found for the coach at Dr. Niderl's, cf. No. 0049/21.

²⁷ BD: *Paper damaged; text made up by Ludwig Schiedmair.

²⁸ "kayserin". BD: Maria Theresia (1717-1780), Empress 1740-1780.

²⁹ "Prinzesin". BD: Archduchess [Erzherzögin] Johanna Gabriele (1750-1762). Cf. No. 0120/27-29. The episode with Wolfgang and the Empress mentioned here probably took place at Schönbrunn either on 13 or 21 October 1762.