

À Madame / Madame Marie Anne / Mozart / à / Salzburg

Vienna, 8th *Sept.*, 1773.

On Monday,¹ towards midday, *Dr. Niderl*² arrived here; on Sunday evening, together with *Md^e.* and *Msr. Vauggen*³ and Herr von Edelbach,⁴ we went to the little tollhouse [5] to meet him in vain. We called on him on Monday, straight after eating, and yesterday. Under these circumstances, it is almost as great a misfortune that she hears nothing as it is with his grievous illness. Yesterday a veritably firm decision was made to operate on him tomorrow, Thursday. There is a multitude of *medici* who attend him, [10] and everyone that smells of *surgery*, *medicine* and pharmacies will gather. May God, specifically with his special grace, also be among them, otherwise all human help will be fruitless. Although the stone is not large, it is pointed, consequently extremely painful.

I am most indebted to the people of Salzburg for being so concerned about my return.⁵ [15] This means that I will have greater pleasure returning to Salzburg, and will then immediately go walking the whole night in the illuminated or enlightened town, so that the lights do not burn in vain. At least I will find the keyhole in the door faster because, as I suspect, there will fortunately be a lantern on the corner, depending on how they are distributed. [20]

God willing, I will leave towards the end of the coming week.⁶ But since I have often travelled this route and was never in *Mariazell*, it could happen that I go to *Mariazell*⁷ and then home via St. Wolfgang,⁸ in order to lead our *Wolfgangerl* on the pilgrimage path of the *holy saint* after whom he was named, [25] which he had never been on, and to show him St. Gilgen,⁹ the famous birthplace of his mother. But whether it happens thus or otherwise, it will be elucidated in my future letters. Either way, God willing, we will accordingly arrive in the week in which the 24th and 25th *September* are on the calendar.

[30] That my money that I had with me has all gone to the D – –¹⁰: that can easily be imagined, and soon the news will reach Herr Hagenauer¹¹ that I took out the little matter of 20 ducats¹² from

¹ BD: 6th September, 1773.

² BD: Dr. Franz Joseph Niderl von Aichegg, Physician to the Parliament of the Estates [Landschafts-Physikus] in Salzburg, whose death in Vienna in 1773 after an operation is described in Nos. 0295/3, 0296/3 ff.

³ BD: Probably the physician Dr. Xaver Fauken named in No. 0248/6-7. Cf. No. 0293/34.

⁴ BD: Benedikt Schlossgängl von Edlenbach (* 1744 or 1748), son of the court counsellor and professor Franz Joseph Schlossgängl von Edlenbach; married to Marie von Ployer.

⁵ BD: Ironic reply to information the last letter from his wife. (No. 0294a, lost.) From 1772, the number of streetlights in Salzburg was increased, linked to a lantern tax. In February, 1774, there were 180 lanterns, costing 15 florins 16 kreuzers per year.

⁶ BD: 18th September, 1773; they actually left one week later.

⁷ BD: The most frequently visited pilgrimage centre in Austria, in the administrative area Bruck an der Mur.

⁸ BD: On the lake Sankt-Wolfgang-See. Famous carved altar by Michael Pacher (c. 1435-1498).

⁹ BD: At the western end of the Sankt-Wolfgang-See. Wolfgang's mother was born there as Maria Anna Pertl, daughter of the administrator [Pfleghkommissär]. Leopold and Wolfgang changed the route, however, travelling Vienna-St. Pölten-Linz-Salzburg.

¹⁰ BD: "Devil".

¹¹ BD: Johann Lorenz Hagenauer (1712-1792), Salzburg merchant. Friend of the Mozarts and their landlord 1747-1773.

¹² BD: 90 florins.

Herr Peisser.¹³ But that does not mean anything other than that I needed money and not a *doctor*. In due time, I will tell the whole world the reason¹⁴ why I have to stay here so long, [35] and everyone will find it is well-founded. I have communicated the relevant reason to His High Princely Grace,¹⁵ and this is still the reason at this very moment. – You two will remember that Herr von Edlbach took a certain young Herr von Brühlmeyr,¹⁶ from Germany,¹⁷ out to Herr von Schiedenhofen's¹⁸ for air-gun shooting, and you both played *tresette*.¹⁹ [40] His esteemed father²⁰ will bring you the fan and 12 pieces of ribbon, or has already handed them in, including 2 summer ribbons. If I ought to buy some more, write to me as swiftly as the wind etc. = = = I will make every effort to give the valet of Count *Salm*,²¹ the cathedral canon, 2 pairs of shoes to take with him, if it is possible; he leaves on Friday, the day after tomorrow.

MOZART'S POSTSCRIPT:

[45] Wolfgangerl has no time to write, for he has nothing to do.²² He paces around the room like a dog with fleas.

Concerto
per violino obbligato
è stromenti
[50] *del sig: giuseppe Misliwecek*²³
detto il boemo
*= Basso =*²⁴

P.S. This is what the thing I am writing on looks like.

LEOPOLD MOZART'S POSTSCRIPT:

We both commend ourselves to all good friends, within and outside the house, [55] and kiss you both many 10 000 000 times, till death as always your
Mzt mp²⁵

¹³ BD: Franz Xaver Peisser, banker in Vienna, correspondent of the Salzburg firm Hagenauer and known to the Mozarts since 1762. Cf. No. 0035/13. He arranged money transfers between Vienna and Salzburg.

¹⁴ BD: The precise reason is not known.

¹⁵ "S": Hochf: Gden:". BD: Hieronymus Joseph Franz de Paula, Count [Graf] Colloredo (1732-1812) became Prince Archbishop [Fürsterzbischof] in Salzburg in 1772. The employer of Leopold and Wolfgang. Cf. No. 0269/9.

¹⁶ BD: Probably Anton Nepomuk von Prielmayr (* 1758), son of the Royal Storehouse Administrator [Hofkastner], Sigmund Ferdinand Anton Corbinian von Prielmayr, in Landshut, Bavaria. Cf. No. 0305/30.

¹⁷ Leopold uses the word "Reich", roughly corresponding to the borders of modern Germany.

¹⁸ BD: Johann Baptist Joseph Joachim Ferdinand von Schiedenhofen made a successful career in the state administration of Salzburg. Married Anna Daubrawa von Daubrawiack in 1778. The Schiedenhofens were in frequent contact with the Mozarts, offering mother and daughter accommodation in Schloss Triebenbach while Leopold and Wolfgang were travelling.

¹⁹ BD: popular card game of the time.

²⁰ BD: Sigmund Ferdinand Anton Corbinian von Prielmayr, in Landshut, Bavaria. Cf. line 38.

²¹ BD: Franz Xaver, Count [Graf] Salm-Reifferscheid (1749-1822), cathedral canon in Salzburg, Cologne, Strasbourg and Olmütz, from 1783-1822 Prince-Bishop of Gurk, Imperial Prince [Reichsfürst].

²² BD: Wolfgang speaks about himself in the third person, imitating his father's comments.

²³ BD: Joseph Mysliveček (1737-1781), composer. He met the Mozarts in 1770 in Bologna, where he was working on an opera (cf. No. 0171/39); Mozart visited him in hospital in Munich in 1777 on his way to Paris.

²⁴ *Concerto / for violino obbligato / and instruments / by Sig: Joseph Mysliveček / known as The Bohemian / Bass*

²⁵ mp = manu propria = in his own hand.

With the removal of the Jesuit *Fathers* there will some complications before everything is back in order again. They say the Court preachers in question etc. should stay, but that they should go their way as secular priests. I will bring the *Bull*²⁶ in print with me. The millions which they receive from the Jesuits [60] will whet a few other people's appetite for appropriating religious income.

²⁶ BD: Cf. No. 0294/9.