

0932. LEOPOLD MOZART TO HIS DAUGHTER,¹ ST. GILGEN

À Madame / Madame de Sonnenbourg / à / St. Gilgen

Munich, [14th] February,² 1786

I set off on Saturday morning at 6 o'clock, and got into Wasserburg at 7 o'clock, although, besides the constant wind, [5] it was at one moment drizzling, the next snowing, the next raining: – It was a question of hearing Mass, therefore I could not leave Wasserburg so quickly on Sunday, and as a result, since the roads were indescribably bad, did not arrive in Munich until 3 o'clock. By the way, I travelled quite comfortably in a closed *chaise*, in good health and spirits! There was indescribable joy on my arrival. [10] I saw the *opera*³ on Monday. Gredl⁴ sang and acted quite outstandingly – but *Le brun*⁵ was not entirely well and had to leave out 2 *arias*. *Bologna*⁶ sang according to his old method and, I am sorry to say, – they have already had enough of him here, because there is always something wrong with him and because one always hears the same thing, he cannot do anything at all. [15] Since *Armida*⁷ will not be given again and he has nothing to do in the *Fiera di Venezia*, he will go to Vienna and then back to Italy again. Today there was music at Herr von Hofstetten's,⁸ those present included the old and the young *Barons Rechberg*,⁹ Count *La Rose*¹⁰ etc. etc., who all join with *Md:me Durst*¹¹ in commending themselves to you. – I did not find *Md:me Tavernier*¹² at home: she was at home: [20] they now live in the *Dufraisnes'* house¹³ next to the post office on the Rindermarkt.¹⁴ Nandl¹⁵ has written telling me that Leopoldl¹⁶ is fit and well, and that Herr von *D'Yppold*¹⁷ has visited Leopoldl every day since I left; I begged him to look by

¹ BD: Maria Anna Walburga Ignatia (“Nannerl”), née Mozart, (1751-1829). After her marriage in 1784 her name was Maria Anna von Berchtold zu Sonnenburg. In all letters to Nannerl after her marriage Leopold refers to her as “Frau Tochter” [madam daughter] and to his son-in-law as “Herr Sohn” [esteemed son].

² BD: As hinted at in Nos. 0924/6 ff., 0929/97 and 0931/28, Leopold is now visiting Munich. The date in BD III, the 15th (Wednesday), is, according to BD VI, p. 275, untenable, since Leopold would not have spoken of “Tuesday” in line 30, but of “yesterday”.

³ BD: *La Fiera di Venezia* by Antonio Salieri.

⁴ BD: Maria Margarethe (“Gretl”), daughter of Munich theatre director Theobald Marchand, had board, lodging and teaching in keyboard, violin and composition in the Mozarts' home for about two years to September, 1784. Her composing continued. Keyboard sonatas from 1785 and 86 are known of, but lost. Three sonatas for keyboard and violin were published in 1800.

⁵ BD: The singer Franziska Dorothea Lebrun, née Danzi (1756-1791), wife of Ludwig August Lebrun (1752-1790), oboist first of all at court in Mannheim and then in Munich.

⁶ BD: Michelangelo Bologna, castrato, active in the court music in Salzburg 1782-84. Began a love affair with Regina (“Regerl”) Weyrother, left for Munich in September, 1784.

⁷ BD: *Armida abbandonata* by Alessio Prati, cf. No. 0909/60.

⁸ BD: Known to the Mozarts since at least 1777, cf. No. 0333/52. BD: VIII, p. 93: Probably Johann Baptist Theodor von Hofstetten, who represented Bavaria in Salzburg in 1803. For a short time, his private secretary was Joseph August Röckel, who was the first Florestan in Beethoven's *Fidelio* in 1806.

⁹ BD: Maximilian Emanuel von Rechberg (1736-1819), father of Aloys. Aloys, Freiherr (later Graf) von Rechberg (1766-1849), once a pupil in the Virgilianum, an academy of chivalry.

¹⁰ “graf La Rose”. BD: Joseph Ferdinand Maria, Imperial Count [Reichsgraf] Salern (1718-1805), husband of Mozart's patroness.

¹¹ BD: Nannerl stayed with her during her visit to Munich for the première of Mozart's *La finta giardiniera*.

¹² BD: Probably the couple with whom the “Bäsele”, Mozart's cousin from Augsburg, stayed in Munich.

¹³ BD: Court Councillor Franz Dufraisne, who was also responsible for organising Nannerl's accommodation on her trip to Munich.

¹⁴ = “Cattle Market”.

¹⁵ BD: Maria Anna Pietschner (1732-1805), Leopold's servant girl (“child nurse”).

¹⁶ BD: Nannerl's son Leopold (born in Salzburg on 27th July, 1785) was to remain with Leopold from his birth until his grandfather's death in May, 1787; Nannerl returned to St. Gilgen at the beginning of September, 1785.

¹⁷ BD: Franz Armand d'Ippold (c. 1730-1790), Imperial and Royal Captain, supervisor of page training in Salzburg. He added the “de” (in the Viennese style) himself. Sometime suitor of Nannerl.

only occasionally, and he is doing so assiduously. To my pleasure, I must tell you that Heinrich¹⁸ must have been *practising* with astonishing application, [25] you will be astounded when you hear him play the *Fantasy and Sonata*¹⁹ by your brother which I sent to you, and which he has too, and the *sonatas by Clementi*. He played the *fortepiano* so outstandingly at Herr von Hofstetten's that my heart laughed.

[30] On Tuesday I was invited to Brochard's.²⁰ There were 12 of us. Myself, 4 Marchands, Lang²¹ and his wife; Pipo and spouse; and Herr Dufraisne. We were *treated* to splendid fare at midday, then a walk, – then we played cards, – then *supper*.

I will bring *sonatas* by Gredl²² with me. [35] Everywhere they are asking how you are? – Whether you are keeping well and happy? and they all send their compliments to you both. Now I must close, it is midnight and I must send the letter to the post office by early tomorrow morning, since the post leaves during the forenoon. All the Marchands embrace you both, and I kiss you from the heart, send my greetings to the children, and am eternally your sincere father [40]

Mozart mp²³

¹⁸ BD: Heinrich Marchand, son of the Munich theatre director Theobald Marchand, who had board, lodging and teaching in keyboard, violin and composition in Leopold's home for three years.

¹⁹ BD: KV 457, KV 475.

²⁰ BD: Marchand's wife was born a Brochard.

²¹ BD VIII, p. 123: The horn player Martin Lang, an acquaintance of the Mozart family, married the actress Marianne Boudet (1756-1835) in 1782.

²² BD: See line 10. Keyboard sonatas from 1785 and 86 are known of, but lost. Three sonatas for keyboard and violin were published in 1800.

²³ mp = *manu propria* = in his own hand.