

1311. MARIA ANNA,¹ IMPERIAL BARONESS² VON BERCHTOLD ZU SONNENBURG, TO
BREITKOPF & HÄRTEL,³ LEIPZIG

à Monsieur / Monsieur Breitkopf / et Haertel / à / Leipzig

Most nobly born!

Most highly estimable sir!

St. Gilgen, 14th 7ber,⁴

1800.

Your last letter, which you were so kind as to send to me on the 26th August, [5] reached me on the 13th of this month, and from it I saw that you have already dispatched 5 copies of the Haidn Creation⁵ to me, addressed to the Mairischen Buchhandlung.⁶ Yet, since I have so far received from the bookseller neither the *Requem*⁷ so kindly sent to me nor the 5 copies, I have already made enquiries there, but they claim to know nothing of having received such a thing. [10] I am thus left in very great fear that these packets may have been lost entirely. Here follows my answer to your two letters of the 15th June and 1st August.⁸

The reason you are receiving this answer of mine so late was my mistake of enclosing this letter in the packet in which I wished to send you the score of the *opera* [15] *La Finta giardiniera*. But when I sent this off to the bookseller's for fast delivery, then they did not accept it from me, the messenger therefore took this packet to the post office and obtained a confirmation of receipt. But a fortnight later, when I was thinking that this packet was already well under way, the messenger brought it back to me again and remarked that the post-coach cannot leave Salzburg because of a blocked post-route. [20] Thus, to my greatest consternation, I realised for the first time how wrong I had been in not handing in the letter separately at the post, since it was so very necessary to you regarding the safe receipt of your letters and enclosure. I therefore ask you not to take a grave view of this mistake and indeed to inform me as soon as possible [25] how I should in future send you the *opera* and the other packets. I shall immediately make a note of the 12 ducats⁹ and the sum owed for the *copies* sent so as to present an account in [due]¹⁰ time.

I remain, with the greatest respect,

[30]

Most nobly born sir,

your most devoted

M: A:, Imperial Baroness von Berchtold
zu Sonnenburg mpra¹¹

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.

² "Reichsfreiin".

³ BD: Founded as "Breitkopf" in 1719. On 1st November, 1795, Christoph Gottlob Breitkopf concluded a contract of partnership with Gottfried Christoph Härtel (1763-1827). This was followed in 1796 by a secret contract of sale in which the entire Breitkopf business was made over to Gottfried Christoph Härtel. The latter was also declared universal heir by Breitkopf shortly before his death in 1800.

⁴ = September.

⁵ BD: Haydn had sent the score to B & H on 12th June, 1799. Cf. Nos. 1305/5-8; 1313/7, 10-13.

⁶ BD: A bookseller in Salzburg.

⁷ "Requiem" intended.

⁸ BD: Nos. 1299b and 1303a, both lost.

⁹ BD: Cf. No. 1308/3-5.

¹⁰ BD: Word left unfinished at end of line.

¹¹ Manu propria = in her own hand.