

1360. MARIA ANNA,¹ IMPERIAL BARONESS² VON BERCHTOLD ZU SONNENBURG, TO
BREITKOPF & HÄRTEL,³ LEIPZIG

A / Monsieur / Monsieur Breitkopf et Härtel / à / Leipzig

Most nobly born!

Salzburg, 6th April,

Most highly estimable sir!

1803.

It was exceptionally gratifying to me to discover from your much appreciated communication⁴ of 7th February [5] that you have safely received the musical items I sent you.

I am now indeed in great perplexity. When I told the esteemed music director⁵ that he should give me the mass by my brother whose theme I sent you,⁶ he brought it to me already copied out, [10] demanded 8 florins 9 kreuzers copying charges, and said he had had it sent to him from Vienna and had had to pay a *douceur*⁷ von 2 ducats⁸ for it apart from the copying charges. Although he did give it to me for the 8 fl. 9 kr. copying charges, I thought I should give him, if you agree, the 2 ducats *douceur*, but I ask you to write to me at once saying whether you concur. [15] I can obtain for you the Joseph Haiden masses you lack, written out correctly and indeed in score, but since it is very troublesome to lay such things out in score, the copyist is asking for 12 kr. per sheet. I hope that will not be too expensive for you, but if it is to be done, you must be so good as to write to me at once.

[20] The 6 *sonatas*⁹ whose themes you sent me, and which are said to be by my brother, are unknown to me, but since I cannot hear the complete *sonatas*, I also cannot judge whether they are by my brother or not. Alas! How many pieces are coming out now under my brother's name. [25] I regret with all my soul that when my father died, the old scores and other *compositions* which my father had been keeping, and which I sent to my [brother]¹⁰ in Vienna, were not returned to me; they would then have been kept safely and now we could make such good use of them.

If you could send me the themes of the various *clavier* pieces that you still [lack],¹¹ perhaps I could obtain th[em] for you.

I still have not received the volumes you sent; as soon as I receive them, I will deliver them to Herr Metzger,¹² and collect and note down the payment for them.

[35] In expectation of a prompt reply, I remain, with true respect,

Most noble sir,
your most devoted

M: A: Berchtold zu Sonnenburg

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 BD: No. 1357a, lost.

⁵ BD: Luigi Gatti, cf. No. 336/7, 16.

⁶ BD: Cf. Nos. 1354/30 ff.; 1355/12-16; 1357/22-24; 1355/15.

⁷ = "sweetness", gratuity, bribe.

⁸ = 9 florins.

⁹ BD: KV 55-60 (Anh. 209c-h; KV⁶: Anh. C 23.01-06). Cf. No. 1236/2. Despite doubts about their authenticity expressed by Constance and Nannerl, they were published among the complete works in 1804.

¹⁰ BD: A word is needed here. "Brother"?

¹¹ BD: Seal damage, word missing. "Lack"?

¹² BD: Cf. No. 1355/20.