

Vienna,¹ 21st *Julii*:
1773.

As we reached Vienna,² old Frau Fischer³ was just taking her evening meal, for they eat at 6 o'clock. Her daughter⁴ and son-in-law were at the spa in Baden [5] and did not come back home until Monday the 19th. They knew nothing about our arrival, for the letter had been written to her daughter and was still lying there unopened, as she had had no opportunity to send it on to her.

By the way, the old lady was astonishingly glad to see us, [10] and was only sorry that you two could not come with us. The old and the young lady commend themselves and join with both of us in wishing you 100000 happinesses on your name-day.⁵ We will drink to Your Very Best Health and Celebrate your Name-Day in the Landstrasse⁶ district. We have fine rooms at Herr Fischer's and everything we need, and our little *Mdss^{le}: Baberl* has found great good fortune, [15] for besides having the best of husbands, who, although a copper-smith, is a very fine and sensible man, he immediately made over to her his two houses and the concession for exercising his craft, and took her name in marriage, bought *pomegranates* and pearls for 600 florins, gave her many rings, and a fortnight after the wedding made his testament, [20] in which all his considerable wealth then comes to her. But one can conclude that his wealth is considerable since he wants to, and can, sell his business and live from his means. In short, both of them, mother and daughter, have a true father in this man. *Dr. Bernhard*⁷ lives in the house of his new wife; the previous one died. [25] On Sunday we dined at young Messmer's⁸ in the company of Herr von Heufeld.⁹ No-one recognised Wolfgang, for I always let him go in alone. You cannot imagine the joy they showed in the Landstrasse district and everywhere etc. when they saw us.

We found our little Fräulein Franzl¹⁰ in bed, she really is extremely emaciated, [30] and one more such illness and she is gone! Herr von *Bosch*¹¹ is employed in *Brno* at the War Chancellery.¹² *Md:^e von Mesmer's* mother¹³ is dead. She is the beneficiary of all the wealth, but

¹ BD: Four months after returning from the third Italian journey, Leopold and Wolfgang set off on the third journey to Vienna (14th July – 26th September, 1773); cf. No. 1212/333-334. The purpose of the journey is not quite clear. Archbishop Hieronymus, who had given permission for the journey, had obviously been informed of its purpose, cf. No. 0295/34-37. It is striking that Leopold seems not to have renewed contacts with the nobility, with many of whom they had become acquainted during the previous journey. Only an audience with the Empress is recorded.

² BD: Probably in the evening on 15th July, 1773.

³ BD: Maria Anna Barbara Fischer, widow of the Vienna court cook, Johann Fischer († 1759). Her daughter had the same name, having married the coppersmith Gottlieb Friedrich Fischer († 1793). Known to the Mozarts since 1768.

⁴ BD: The daughter, likewise Maria Anna Barbara (* 1743), of the first mentioned.

⁵ BD: Anna: 26th July.

⁶ BD: At the Mesmers', see below.

⁷ BD: Dr. Johann Baptist Anton von Bernhard (cf. No. 0036/20), who had cured Wolfgang in 1762.

⁸ BD: Joseph Conrad Mesmer (1735-1804), school director at St. Stephan's. A distant relative of Dr. Franz Anton Mesmer, cf. line 33.

⁹ BD: Franz Reinhard (von) Heufeld (1731-1795), known to the Mozarts since 1770. Imperial official and playwright. Theatre director. The title role in his version of *Hamlet* was played in 1773 by Joseph Lange, who later married Aloisia Weber, Mozart's sister-in-law. Cf. No. 0163/23, 24, 26.

¹⁰ BD: Franziska Oesterling, daughter of a captain from Baden, since 1772 a patient residing permanently with the Mesmers.

¹¹ BD: Franz de Paula von Bosch, son of Maria Anna Mesmer, Dr. Mesmer's wife, from her first marriage.

¹² "KriegsCanzley".

can neither sell houses nor get her hands on the *capital*. Everyone is still in good shape and in high spirits. Herr von Messmer,¹⁴ with whom¹⁵ we dined on Monday, played to us on the *harmonica*, [35] or the glass instrument used by *Miss Devis*,¹⁶ and very well! The instrument cost him around 50 *ducats*,¹⁷ for it is beautifully made. The garden is incomparable, with *prospects* and *statues*, *theatre*, bird-house, dovecot, and at the top a *belvedere*¹⁸ across to the Brater.¹⁹ We have already eaten there, on Saturday evening and Monday evening as well. They all commend themselves. Young Sepperl²⁰ still wants to contract a marriage [40] and is her same old wishy-washy self. The young ecclesiastical Mesmer²¹ has gone to a parish in Swabia. *Prof. Bauer*,²² *Jean's* wife the cook,²³ and the old man, as well as the sit-at-home are still all there, as is Frau von *Greiner*²⁴ etc. *Steigendesch*,²⁵ *Grill*,²⁶ von *Brean*²⁷ all commend themselves. I still haven't seen the latter's wife, but they say she is hideous. [45] *Brean's* sister finally married her old *Coridon*²⁸ a fortnight ago.

On Tuesday we dined – – – where? – – at *Sgr. Porta's*.²⁹ He invited one of the Herr Mayrs³⁰ as well to introduce us to a good friend who is seen as the ultimate by the Mayr household, and this afternoon we were likewise received with joy and courtesy at Herr von Mayr's. I must finish, [50] for there is still time to write a couple of lines to young Herr von Andretter³¹ and to send off the beginning of the music for the final event of the academic year.³²

¹³ BD: Regina von Eulenschenk, mother of Maria Anna Mesmer, Dr. Mesmer's wife.

¹⁴ BD: Dr. Franz Anton Mesmer (1734-1815), the famous "magnetizer" and healer. A brief memorial to his methods is found in the first finale of *Così fan tutti*. Sang (tenor) and played numerous instruments (violoncello, harpsichord, glass harmonica).

¹⁵ BD: In the Rauchfangkehrergasse, where a performance of *Bastien und Bastienne* KV 50 (46b) reportedly took place in autumn, 1768.

¹⁶ Leopold uses the English "Miss". DB: Marianne Davies, glass harmonica virtuoso, met the Mozarts in London and again in Milan in 1771, cf. No. 0246/25 ff.

¹⁷ BD: ≈ 225 florins.

¹⁸ = beautiful view.

¹⁹ BD: The Prater, a recreational area on the edge of Vienna opened to the public by Emperor Joseph II in 1766.

²⁰ BD: Josephine Stesskam, another permanent member of the Mesmer household.

²¹ BD: Johann Baptist Mesmer (1743-1801), the younger brother of Dr. Franz Anton Mesmer, parish priest in Stahringen, Baden, 1773-1799.

²² BD: Professor Wilhelm Bauer, teacher of arithmetic at the model school and soon the successor to Joseph Mesmer at Saint Stephan's.

²³ BD: Not identified.

²⁴ BD: Charlotte von Greiner (1739-1815), wife of actual court counsellor [wirklicher Hofrat] Franz Sales von Greiner and mother of the author Karoline Pichler. Franz appeared on Mozart's subscription list for 1784, cf. No. 0780/3.

²⁵ BD: Konrad Steigentesch (1744-1779, from Konstanz and thus the same area as Mesmer. Broke off medical studies, became an actor and appeared together with Joseph Lange, Mozart's future brother-in-law, in 1774.

²⁶ BD: Probably Michael Grill, official at the War Ministry.

²⁷ BD VII: Franz de Paula Prean von Zallhausen, likewise an official in the War Ministry.

²⁸ BD: "Corydon" was a shepherd in Virgil's poetry, later a general name for lover.

²⁹ BD: Formerly a servant with the Mozarts, went to London with them (cf. No. 0086/25 ff.) and met them as an "adventurer" in Rome, cf. No. 0184/64.

³⁰ BD: Just possibly the Royal Paymaster [Hofzahlmeister] Johann Adam von Mayr (1712-1777), since the Mozarts were in contact with his son Albert Michael in Milan, cf. No. 0257/13, 15. On the other hand, the diction at this point contradicts this idea.

³¹ BD: Judas Thaddäus von Antretter (Andretter), * 1753, son of Royal War Adviser [Hofkriegsrat] Johann Ernst von Antretter, († 1792). Judas Thaddäus grammar school, probably studied, and finally became prompter at the theatre in Salzburg. In 1797/98 he edited the *Salzburger Theater-Taschenbuch* [Salzburg theatre handbook].

³² "Final Musik". BD: KV 185 (167a), including March KV 189 (167b). Both autographs, bound together, were marked on the cover as "Serenata" by Leopold. Such works were usually played to the Archbishop and to their

Our compliments to all good friends etc. We kiss you both many 10 000 000 times and I am as
always your Mzt mp³³

professors by students after their final examinations. This work was performed at the beginning of August, 1773,
under the direction of Joseph Nikolaus Meissner (cf. No. 0053/99), cf. No. 0289/44-45.

³³ mp = manu propria = in his own hand.