

*Monsieur mon très cher Père!**Paris ce 31 juillet 1778<sup>2</sup>*

You will hopefully have received my last two letters<sup>3</sup> of the 11<sup>th</sup> and 18<sup>th</sup> |: I think :| safely – I have meanwhile received your two<sup>4</sup> of the 13<sup>th</sup> and 20<sup>th</sup> – the first forced tears of pain from me – [5] because I was reminded of the sad passing away of my dear, blessed mother – and everything came back vividly before my eyes; I will certainly not forget that as long as I live – you know that |: although I wished to :| I had never in my whole life seen anyone die – and the first time had to be with none other than my mother – it was also this moment about which I was most worried [10] – and I prayed fervently to God for strength – I was heard – I received it – Sad as your letter made me, I was completely beside myself for joy when I perceived that you took everything as it has to be taken – and I can therefore be free of worry concerning my best of all fathers and dearest sister. As soon as I had read your letter to the end, the first thing I did was to fall to my knees [15] and thank my dear God from the bottom of my heart for this act of grace. – Now I am completely at peace – for I know, as far as the two persons who are dearest to me in this world are concerned, that I have nothing to fear – which would be the greatest misfortune for me – and would quite certainly throw me into despondency; – [20] so take care, both of you, of your health, so valuable to me – I beg you – and grant to the one who flatters himself that he is now the dearest that you now have in the world the good fortune, pleasure and joy of being able to embrace you soon. – Your last letter brought me to tears – since it caused me to be utterly convinced for ever of your true, fatherly love and care – [25] I will strive with all that is in me to deserve your unceasing fatherly love – I thank you for the powder<sup>5</sup> with a most delicate kissing of your hand – and am convinced that you are glad that I am not obliged to make use of it; – during my blessed mother’s illness, it was close to being necessary on one occasion – but now, praise and thanks be to God, I am fit and fresh [30] – only I occasionally have certain bouts of melancholy – but I get out of these most easily with letters – which I write or receive: these raise my spirits again. But you can be quite sure that this never happens without a reason. You want to know how much I paid for your last letter which had the powder in it? – 45 *sous*;<sup>6</sup> – [35] You would like a short description of the illness and all details? – You shall have it; but I would ask that I might keep it somewhat brief and write only of the main things, since the matter is after all over and sadly can no longer be changed – and I must have space to write about things relevant to our situation. I must firstly say to you that [40] my blessed mother had to die – no doctor in the world would have been able to rescue her from it this time – for it was obviously God’s will; her time was now at an end – and God wanted to have her; you believe she was too late in having her blood let – that may be; she had put it off a little; yet I am more of the opinion of people here who tried to advise against letting blood [45] and would rather have persuaded her to take a *lavement*<sup>7</sup> – but she did not want that – and I did not dare to say anything because I do not understand these things and would therefore have been to blame if it did not take properly with her – if it had been my skin that was at risk, I would have consented to it immediately – for here it is very much in mode – [50] if someone is a little feverish, he takes a *lavement* – and the origin of my mother’s illness was nothing other than inner heat,

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<sup>1</sup> This letter contains passages in "family code"; these are marked with angle brackets < >.

<sup>2</sup> = “Monsieur, my very dear father!”/ “Paris, this 31<sup>st</sup> day of July, 1778.”

<sup>3</sup> BD: Nos. 0462; 0466. The “11<sup>th</sup>” is wrong, it should be “13<sup>th</sup>”.

<sup>4</sup> BD: Nos. 0464; 0467.

<sup>5</sup> BD: Wolfgang’s stock of this home remedy had been replenished by Leopold, cf. No. 0467/24-25.

<sup>6</sup> BD: ≈ 45 kreuzers (60 kreuzers = 1 florin).

<sup>7</sup> = “enema”.

at least so they think; I cannot say precisely how much blood they let from her because here they do not let it by the ounce but by the dish – with her they took no less than 2 full dishes; the surgeon said that it was most necessary – [55] but because it was so appallingly hot that day, he did not dare to take more; for some days she was fine; but then the diarrhoea began – no-one made much of it for here generally all foreigners who drink a lot of water suffer laxation, and that is true too; I also had it in the first days, but since I stopped taking pure water and instead [60] always mixed a little wine with it I have felt nothing more; but because I cannot go without drinking simple water, I purge it with ice and drink it *en glace*;<sup>8</sup> of that I always drink 2 properly full glasses before I go to sleep –

Now to continue: on the 19<sup>th</sup> she complained of a headache – and there I saw her staying in bed the whole day for the first time [65] – and on the day before, the 18<sup>th</sup>, she was up for the last time. On the 20<sup>th</sup> she complained of shivering – and then of fever, so I gave her an *antispasmodic* powder;<sup>9</sup> during this time I always want to send for a doctor – but she never wanted one; and when I urged her strongly, she said to me that she had no trust in a French *medicus* [70] – so I looked around for a German – I could not go out, of course – I therefore had a painful wait for *M.<sup>sr</sup> Heina*,<sup>10</sup> who called on us unfailingly every day – only this time he did not show up for 2 days – He finally came, and because the doctor was hindered the following day, we could not have him. He therefore did not come until the 24<sup>th</sup> – [75] the day before, when I so wished he could have come, I was in great anxiety – for she suddenly lost her hearing – the doctor |: a German aged 70-something :| gave her rhubarb *en poudre*<sup>11</sup> made up with wine – I cannot understand that – otherwise they say that wine warms – but when I said this, everyone shouted at me – Ah, upon my soul, what are you saying? [80] wine does not warm – it only strengthens; water warms – and meanwhile the poor patient was longing for fresh water – how gladly would I have satisfied her – Best of fathers, you cannot imagine what I have been through – there was nothing else for it, in God’s name, I had to leave her to the hands of the *medicus* – all that I could do with a good conscience [85] was to pray unceasingly to God, that he should order all things as was best for her – I went around as if I completely out of my head – I would have had time in plenty for composing, but – I was not capable of writing one note; on the 25<sup>th</sup> doctor did not turn up – on the 26<sup>th</sup> he visited her again; imagine yourself in my place when he said to me [90] so unexpectedly – – “I fear she will not last through the night – and she could be gone in a moment on the chamber pot if she takes a bad turn – so see to it that she can confess”. At that I therefore went to the end of the *Chaussée d’Antin*,<sup>12</sup> out beyond the gate, to look for Heina because I knew he was at a concert for a certain count<sup>13</sup> [95] – he said to me that he would bring a German cleric the next day. On the way back I called for a moment in passing on *Grimm*<sup>14</sup> and *Mad.<sup>me</sup> d’Epinay*<sup>15</sup> – they were not happy that I had not

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<sup>8</sup> = “with ice”.

<sup>9</sup> BD: Another stock item in the Mozart home-remedy range. Cf. No. 0081/25.

<sup>10</sup> BD: Probably Franz Joseph (François-Joseph) Haina (1720-1780), born near Prague, husband of the music publisher Gertrude Haina, nee Brockmüller: they were the first publishers of KV 179 (189a); 180 (173c); 254; 309 (284b); 310 (300d); 311 (284c); 354 (299a), cf. No. 617/66-68. Horn player to Baron Bagge, later trumpeter in royal service. Friend of Mozart in Paris in 1778, especially during the last days of his mother’s life. Cf. No. 0084/18.

<sup>11</sup> = “in powder form”.

<sup>12</sup> BD: Where Grimm had his house, shared with Madame d’Epinay; Mozart was currently staying there.

<sup>13</sup> “bei einem gewissen grafen”.

<sup>14</sup> BD: Friedrich Melchior von Grimm (1723-1807), 1748 private secretary to the Saxon Count [Graf] Friese, with whom he moved to Paris, where he was in contact with the Encyclopaedists. Various publications, one of which, in 1763, mentioned the Mozart children. He was living with the Marquise d’Epinay mentioned here. His relationship with Mozart broke down in 1778 during the latter’s stay in Paris.

<sup>15</sup> BD: Louise-Florence-Pétronille Tardieu d’Esclavelles, Marquise d’Epinay (1726-1783), divorced since 1749. Hostess to of such figures as J.J. Rousseau, Grimm (see above; she had a liaison with him 1755-1778), Diderot. Visited Voltaire. Author and collaborator in Grimm’s *Correspondance littéraire*.

said anything to them before, they would have sent their doctor immediately – but I had not told them anything because my mother did not want a Frenchman – [100] but now I was driven to my extremities – – they said that they would send their doctor that very evening. When I got home I said to my mother that I had met Herr Heina with a German cleric who had heard much about me and was keen to hear me playing – and they would come to visit me the next day; [105] that was just what she wished and because I, although I am no doctor, considered that she was improved, said nothing more about it – I can already see that I cannot possibly keep this short – I like to write everything in detail and I also believe that you prefer it that way – therefore |: because I still have more urgent things to write about :| I will continue my story in the next letter. [110] Meanwhile you know from my last letter where I am,<sup>16</sup> and that all my things and those of my blessed mother are in order. Having touched on this point, I will certainly explain how this went – *Heyna* and I did everything. I will send, at a suitable opportunity and taking every care, the clothes, underclothes, jewellery and, in brief, everything that was hers to Salzburg; all this I will arrange with [115] Herr Geschwendtner.<sup>17</sup> Now to our business: – <sup>18</sup>yet I must first tell you that you need have no worries at all about what I wrote to you in my letter of the 3<sup>rd</sup>, requesting the favour of not being asked to reveal my thoughts until the time is ripe – I repeat this request; but I cannot tell you yet because [120] the time is indeed not yet ripe – and by doing that I would pull down more than I build up – For your ease of mind: it concerns only me, your circumstances would as a result be neither worse nor better – and until I see you in better circumstances – I would not even dream of it – but if at some point we are living together happily and contentedly |: which is my only aspiration :| [125] in some place – when this happy time finally comes – God let it be soon! – then the time is ripe – and then it depends only on you; so do not trouble yourself over it now – and rest assured that, in all matters where I know that your happiness and contentment are also involved, I will always put my entire trust in you – in my own best of all fathers and truest friend; [130] – and will tell you everything in detail – if this has occasionally not happened in the past – it is not my fault alone. *M.<sup>sr</sup> Grimm* recently said to me, What then should I write to your father? – Which card, then, are you going to play? – Are you staying here or are you going to Mannheim? – I really could not contain my laughter. [135] – What, then, should I do in Mannheim now? – If I had never been in Paris – but as it is, now I am here and must apply all my resources to making my way here – Indeed, he said, I hardly believe that you will be able to accomplish your business here – Why? – I see such a host of miserable blunderers who make their way here, and should I not be able to do it with my talent? – [140] I assure you that I very much enjoy being in Mannheim – very much wish to be in service there – but with honour and reputation – I must be sure of the matter, otherwise I will not take a single step. Indeed, said he, I am afraid you are not active<sup>19</sup> enough here – you do not run around enough – Indeed, said I, that is the most difficult thing for me here – by the way, because of my mother’s long illness, I was not able to go anywhere [145] – and 2 of the young ladies<sup>20</sup> studying with me are in the *campagne*<sup>21</sup> – and the third |: the daughter<sup>22</sup> of the *Duc de Guignes*<sup>23</sup> :| is engaged to be married<sup>24</sup> – and will

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<sup>16</sup> After his mother’s death, he moved into accommodation in the house shared by Grimm and Madame d’Epinay. Cf. lines 97; No. 0462/40.

<sup>17</sup> BD: Karl Gallus Gschwendtner (1751-1818), younger brother of Franz Xaver Geschwendtner (cf. No. 0102/144-145). He dealt in iron in Salzburg, but was often away on business (cf. No. 0467/35-36).

<sup>18</sup> BD: Wolfgang had already given veiled hints of marriage plans, cf. Nos. 0458/80 ff.; 0467/41 ff.

<sup>19</sup> BD: Leopold quotes words to this effect from a letter from Grimm in No. 0476/14.

<sup>20</sup> BD: Unidentified.

<sup>21</sup> = “country”.

<sup>22</sup> BD: The daughter († 1780) of the Duke of Guines took composition lessons from Mozart. Cf. No. 0449/57, 61 ff. Played the harp. Mozart composed the *sinfonia concertante* KV 199 (297c) for father and daughter.

no longer continue |: which does not do any great damage to my honour |: I lose nothing with her, for everyone here pays the same the *Duc* pays me. Just imagine, the *Duc de Guines*, [150] to whom I have to go every day and have to stay for 2 hours – let me give 24 lessons |: when people always pay after the 12<sup>th</sup> |: went into the *campagne* – came back after 10 days without sending a message to me – if I had not been so pert as to enquire myself, I would still not know that they are back – and finally the housekeeper took out a purse and said to me, [155] Forgive me for only paying you for 12 lessons at the moment, for I do not have enough money – that is noble! and counted out 3 *louis d’or*<sup>25</sup> to me – and added – I hope you will be content – if not, please tell me – |: so *Msr. le Duc* had no honour about his person – and thought, this is a young man and furthermore a stupid German – [160] as all Frenchmen say about Germans – so he will even be quite happy with it – but the stupid German was not happy with it – but did not accept it – he just wanted to pay me one lesson for 2 lessons – and this out of *égard*<sup>26</sup> because he had already received a *concerto* for flute and harp<sup>27</sup> from me four months ago which he has not yet paid me for – so I am only waiting until the wedding is over, [165] then I will go to the housekeeper and ask for my money. What vexes me most here is that the stupid French think I am still seven years old – because they saw me at that age – this is quite true. *Mad: d’Epinai* said to me in all earnestness that people here therefore treat me as a beginner – except the people employed in music – they think differently; [170] otherwise it is simply the masses who decide. After this discourse<sup>28</sup> with *Grimm* I called on Count Sückingen<sup>29</sup> the next day – he was entirely of my opinion – namely that I should remain patient, wait till *Raff*<sup>30</sup> gets here – he will do everything for me – everything he can – but if this does not work – Count Sückingen [175] himself has applied for a post to be created for me in Mainz<sup>31</sup> – these, therefore, are my prospects; – I will now do my best to make my way here with pupils, and to make as much money as possible – I am now doing it in the sweet hope that a change will soon take place, for I cannot hide it from you but must confess that I will be glad when I am released from here, [180] for it is no light matter giving lessons here – one must pretty much exhaust oneself with it; and if one does not give many, one does not make much money; you should not think that it is laziness – No! – But because it is entirely contrary to my genius,<sup>32</sup> contrary to my manner of living – you know that I am, so to speak, immersed in music – that I am involved with it the whole day long – [185] that I like to speculate – practise – consider – Now, I am kept from this manner of life here – I will of course have some free hours, but I will need these few hours more for rest than for work – As for the *opera*,<sup>33</sup> I have already spoken about it in my previous letter. I cannot do otherwise, I must either write a grand *opera* or none at all; [190] if I write a little *opera*, I earn little |: for everything is according to tariffs here |: If it then has the misfortune of not pleasing the

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<sup>23</sup> BD: Adrien-Louis Bonnières de Souastre, Comte de Guines (1735-1806). Deutsch Bild No. 306. French representative in Berlin in 1769 and in London 1770-1776. In 1778 governor of the county of Artois. Pierre Vachon dedicated his Op. VII (six string quartets) to Guines. Flautist. Very influential.

<sup>24</sup> BD: With a trousseau provided by the king, she married a certain Msr. de Chartus (later Duc de Castries) in summer 1778, but died in childbirth in 1780.

<sup>25</sup> BD: ≈ 33 florins.

<sup>26</sup> = “respect” (here ironic).

<sup>27</sup> BD: KV 299 (297a).

<sup>28</sup> BD: i.e. lines 132 ff.

<sup>29</sup> “graf Sückingen”. BD: Karl Heinrich Joseph, Count [Graf] Sickingen zu Sickingen, Palatine Ambassador (1777-1791) and patron of music in Paris. Cf. Nos. 0439/14; 0462/117-118.

<sup>30</sup> BD: Anton Raaff (1714-1797), son of a shepherd, originally intended for the priesthood, appeared as a singer in Bonn, Vienna, Paris, Lisbon, Madrid and Naples before a longer period of service in Mannheim and Munich. Cf. No. 0120/54.

<sup>31</sup> Mainz: like Mannheim, in the Rhine Palatinate. BD: Cf. plans outlined in No. 0469/189 ff.

<sup>32</sup> BD: Cf. similar phrasing in No. 0450/220.

<sup>33</sup> BD: There had long been talk of a commission for an opera, cf. No. 0458/89 ff.

stupid French, my goose is cooked – I will be given nothing more to write – will benefit little from it – and my honour has suffered damage – but if I write a grand *opera* the payment is better – I am in my metier, [195] which brings me joy – have better hopes of receiving applause – because one has greater opportunity in a large work to do honour to oneself – I assure you that if I am given a big *opera* is to write, I am not at all anxious – the language<sup>34</sup> was created by the devil, that is true – and I completely understand all the difficulties that all composers have faced – [200] but despite that I feel I am capable of overcoming these difficulties as well as anyone else – *o contraire*,<sup>35</sup> when I frequently imagine to myself that it will work out with my *opera*, I feel nothing but fire in my body and a trembling in my hands and feet from the longing to teach the French how to know – esteem and fear the Germans more and more. Why, then, are grand operas never given to a Frenchman? [205] Why, then, must it be foreigners? – In this case, the most unbearable thing for me would be the singers – Now, I am prepared – I am not going to start bartering – but if I am challenged, I will be know how to defend myself – but if it goes off without a duel I will be happier – for I do not like scuffling with dwarfs. [210] God grant that a change may come soon! – Meanwhile there shall be no lack of diligence, effort and work on my part; for the winter, when everyone comes back here from the country, I have my hopes<sup>36</sup> – in the meantime may life go very well for you indeed – and love me always – my heart laughs within me when I think of the happy day when I shall have the pleasure of seeing you again [215] and embracing you with my whole heart. *Adieu*. I kiss your hands 100000 times, and give my sister a brotherly embrace, and am, sir, your most obedient son,  
Wolfgang Amadè Mozart

Only a hotchpotch from here on!

You informed<sup>37</sup> me that Count Seau<sup>38</sup> has been confirmed as superintendent for both Munich and Mannheim [220] – and this seemed so unbelievable for me that I still would not have believed it unless I had been convinced of it by a letter from Mannheim –

Two days ago<sup>39</sup> my dear friend Weber<sup>40</sup> wrote to me – among other things saying that news was published straight away on the day after the return of the Elector<sup>41</sup> [225] that the Elector would set up his residence in Munich, a message which hit all of Mannheim like a thunderbolt and which completely extinguished, so to speak, the joy which the inhabitants had manifested the day before with general illuminations. – This was also announced to the entire body of court musicians with the additional clause that everyone was free to follow the court to Munich [230] or indeed to stay in Mannheim and retain the same *solarium*<sup>42</sup> – and each must hand in his decision, written and sealed, to the superintendent within 4 days. Weber, who is, as you know, in the sorriest of circumstances, handed in the following: “In

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<sup>34</sup> BD: The difficulty of the setting the French language was also mentioned in No. 0462/149-150.

<sup>35</sup> = “on the contrary”.

<sup>36</sup> BD: Yet, in No. 0469/186, he admits to Fridolin Weber that he wants to leave Paris as soon as possible.

<sup>37</sup> BD: Cf. No. 0464/96-97.

<sup>38</sup> “graf Seau”. BD: Josef Anton, Count [Graf] Seeau († 1799), from 1753 supervisor of the Palace Theatre [Residenztheater] in Munich. One of his relatives, Ferdinand, Count [Graf] Seeau, († 1768) was Senior Stable Master [Oberstallmeister] in Salzburg.

<sup>39</sup> BD: The date of receipt of the letter. (No. 0465, lost.)

<sup>40</sup> BD: Franz Fridolin Weber (1733-1779): Initially a high administrative official [Amtmann], then employed at the court in Mannheim as a bass, prompter and music copyist. Moved to Munich with the court in 1778, then to Vienna when his daughter Aloisia was engaged there as a singer in 1779. He died shortly afterwards on 23<sup>rd</sup> October, 1779. Cf. No. 0405/29.

<sup>41</sup> “Churfürst”. BD: Karl Theodor (1724-1799). Studied in Leyden and Leuven. From 1742 Elector [Kurfürst] of the Palatinate, where he encouraged the arts in Mannheim, and from 30<sup>th</sup> December, 1777, Elector of Bavaria. Cf. No. 0363/30.

<sup>42</sup> BD: Correctly: “Salarium” (= salary).

my disrupted circumstances I am not capable, much as I might wish to, of following his most gracious lordship<sup>43</sup> to Munich.” Before this happened, there was a grand concert at court, and there the poor Weber girl<sup>44</sup> was made to feel the weapons of her enemies; – she did not sing this time – it is not known who is behind this – afterwards, however, there was an concert at Herr von Gemmingen’s<sup>45</sup> – Count Seau was also there: she sang 2 arias<sup>46</sup> of mine – and had the good fortune [240] of being well received despite the Italian gr-v-llers. These *infami cuioni*<sup>47</sup> are still spreading the word that her singing is wilting completely – Cannabich,<sup>48</sup> however, when the arias were finished, said her: *Mademoiselle*, “I wish that you would wilt even more in this manner; tomorrow I shall write to Herr Mozart and praise it greatly to him.” Now, the main point is simply that if the [245] war had not yet really broken out, the court would have moved to Munich – Count Seau, who wants to have the Weber girl at any price, would have employed all means so that she could go with them – and consequently there would have been hope of the family being placed in better circumstances – Now, however, complete silence has fallen again regarding the journey to Munich – and these poor people [250] could be left waiting a long time – and their debts are becoming weightier every day. – If only I could help them! – Dearest father! – I commend them to you with my whole heart – if only they had 1000 florins for some years to enjoy in the meantime! –

Now something about the war!<sup>49</sup> – Yes, what? – since what I wrote to you about in my last letter<sup>50</sup> [255] I have heard nothing except that the King in Prussia<sup>51</sup> had to retreat for 7 hours – they even say that General Wunsch<sup>52</sup> was captured along with 15000 men – but I believe none of it – although <I would wish it wholeheartedly> if only <the Prussians took a real beating>! – I cannot say that here in this house;

[260]

Adieu

My compliments to all *Salzbourg*, especially to Herr Bullinger,<sup>53</sup> and to the entire Most Worthy Company of Marksmen<sup>54</sup> –

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<sup>43</sup> “gnädigster herrschaft”.

<sup>44</sup> BD: Aloisia Weber (c. 1760-1839 [not 1830, see BD VIII]), came to Mannheim with the family in about 1765. She was 17 when Mozart met first her and already singing at court (cf. No. 0469/56). Object of Mozart’s romantic interest. The family moved to Munich in 1778 with many of the other court musicians; Aloisia was employed there at the “German Theatre” [“zum deutschen Theater”]. In September, 1779, she was given a leading position at the German Opera in Vienna [Deutsche Oper]. Cf. No. 0405/30.

<sup>45</sup> BD: Otto, Baron [Freiherr] von Gemmingen-Hornberg (1755-1836), diplomat and man of letters in Mannheim. Author of the melodrama *Semiramis*, partially set by Mozart in 1771 (KV Anh. 11 /311e). Later, in Vienna, he was “master of the stool” at Mozart’s admission to the lodge “Zur Wohltätigkeit” [“At the sign of Charity”] in 1784.

<sup>46</sup> BD: Likely works are KV 294 and KV 272

<sup>47</sup> (Dialect form of *infami coglioni*) = “Infamous testicles”. BD: Unidentified.

<sup>48</sup> BD: (Johann) Christian (Innocenz Bonaventura) Cannabich (1731-1798). Joined the Mannheim court music at the age of 13. Became sole music director to the Elector in Munich. The Cannabich family became particular friends of Mozart’s in Mannheim in 1777/78. Cf. No. 0057/13. In 1777 Mozart dedicated the clavier sonata in C KV 309 (284b) to his daughter.

<sup>49</sup> BD: Cf. No. 0401/41. When Karl Theodor (cf. line 224) succeeded the childless Maximilian III Joseph of Bavaria in December, 1777, the War of the Bavarian Succession, which involves Bavaria, Austria and Prussia and ended on 13<sup>th</sup> May, 1779, broke out.

<sup>50</sup> BD: Cf. No. 0466/172 ff.

<sup>51</sup> “der könig in Preussen”. BD: Frederick II (“the Great”) (1712-1786), r. 1740-1786.

<sup>52</sup> BD: Jakob von Wunsch, a Prussian general.

<sup>53</sup> BD: Abbé Franz Joseph Johann Nepomuk Bullinger (1744-1810), Jesuit, private tutor, friend of the Mozart family in Salzburg, where he seems to have arrived between 1774 and 1776. House tutor to Count [Graf] Leopold Ferdinand Arco, later to Count [Graf] Sigmund (“Sigerl”) Lodron. Amateur viola player. Mozart called him “his best of all friends” (cf. Nos. 0331/5; 0459/1).

POSTSCRIPT TO HIS SISTER:

*Ma Très chere soeur!*<sup>55</sup>

I hope you will be pleased with the little *præludio*<sup>56</sup> – [265] it may not be as you requested it, namely for transitions from one key to the next – and to be able to stop wherever one wants – but I had too little time for such a *præludio* – for something like that needs more writing out – as soon as I have time, I will be at your service with it – I will take the opportunity, when I send the things home anyway, to include this new *præludio*,<sup>57</sup> [270] along with the concertos by Schrötter,<sup>58</sup> Hüllmandel's sonatas,<sup>59</sup> the violin school,<sup>60</sup> and some other sonatas<sup>61</sup> by myself. *Adieu*, farewell – I do not want to waken memories – – surrender yourself to the will of God, place your trust in it – remember that you have a brother who loves you with his whole heart and will always provide for your well-being and happiness – *Adieu*, love me, [275] I kiss you most tenderly and am eternally your sincere, true brother,

Wolfgang Mozart

My compliments everywhere – especially to *Cornett Andretter*<sup>62</sup> if he is still in *Salzbourg* – in *Salzbourg* it is at least better than in Bohemia,<sup>63</sup> there at any rate one's head is safe –

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<sup>54</sup> BD: The shooting of airguns at humorously decorated targets was practised in the apartments of the members of the “marksmen's company” or club. A member would donate the first prize and pay for all food and drinks consumed during the meeting. Cf. No. 0330/5.

<sup>55</sup> = “My very dear sister”.

<sup>56</sup> BD: KV 395 (300g), which Mozart sent to his sister on her name-day (26<sup>th</sup> July) on 20<sup>th</sup> July, 1778. Cf. No. 0466/159 ff.

<sup>57</sup> BD: i.e. one which progresses “from one key to another”. This appears to be the one announced in No. 1403/119-120, which is lost.

<sup>58</sup> BD: Cf. No. 0458/100. Johann Samuel Schröter (1752-1788). The concertos were probably *6 concertos for the harpsichord pianoforte* with accompanying parts for two violins and bass, opus 3, published in Paris around 1775. Mozart wrote cadenzas to 3 of his concertos: KV 624-626a Anh. [= KV<sup>6</sup>: II] D, F, G, H.

<sup>59</sup> BD: Cf. No. 0458/101. Nicolas-Joseph Hüllmandel (1751-1823). Nephew of Jean-Joseph Rodolphe, cf. No. 0449/101. Settled in Paris in 1776, published various sonatas for keyboard and violin and for keyboard alone, dedicated to the Duc de Guines (cf. No. 0440/13).

<sup>60</sup> BD: The French version of Leopold Mozart's *Versuch einer gründlichen Violinschule* (1756). Wolfgang had mentioned seeing it in a Paris music shop. Already promised several times, cf. Nos. 0451/71 ff.; 0452/176 ff.; 0466/170.

<sup>61</sup> BD: Cf. No. 0466/170. KV 330 (300h), 331 (300i) and 332 (300k). First published by Artaria in 1784.

<sup>62</sup> BD: Kajetan von Antretter (1758-1814), son of the Chancellor of the Parliament of the Estates [Landschaftskanzler] and Royal War Adviser [Hofkriegsrat] Johann Ernst von Antretter. Cf. No. 0403/16 f.

<sup>63</sup> BD: Conditions described in No. 0457/113 ff.