

*Mon très cher Père!**Vienne ce 13 de 9.^{bre} [1782]¹*

We find ourselves somewhat embarrassed; – I did not write to you last Saturday² anymore because I firmly believed I would leave on Monday³ – but on Sunday such a wretched thunderstorm broke on us that it was hardly possible to make one’s way by coach in the town. [5] – On Monday I still wanted to get away in the afternoon, but at the post-office they told me that they not only needed 4 or 5 hours for one *stage*, but that they could not even move forward at all and therefore had to turn back; – the post-coach with eight horses did not reach the first post-*stage*, but came back again. – [10] Then I wanted to get away tomorrow, but my wife got a severe headache today, and although she wishes to get away by any means necessary, I am nevertheless not prepared to take risks with her⁴ under these weather conditions. – I am therefore waiting for one more letter from you |: in the meantime, it will hopefully be better for travelling :|, and then it’s off right away. – For the pleasure of embracing you again, my dearest father, [15] counts for me above everything else. – The *pupils* can surely wait 3 or 4 weeks for me. – For Countesses *Zichi*⁵ and *Rombeck*⁶ have returned from the country, and have already sent for me – – and it is not likely that they will take another teacher in the meantime. – Because, then, I could not be so fortunate as to give you my congratulations in person, [20] I will do this, along with my wife and future grandson or granddaughter, in writing.

We wish you a long – happy life, health and – contentment – and whatever you wish for yourself.

We kiss your hands 1000 times and embrace our dear sister from the heart [25] and are, sir, eternally your

most obedient children
W: *Et C*: Mozart mp⁷

¹ “My very dear father! / Vienna, this 13th day of November, [1782]”.

² BD: 9th November, 1783.

³ BD: 11th November, 1783: intended departure for the long-awaited visit of Wolfgang and Constance to Salzburg.

⁴ BD: Because of her pregnancy, cf. line 21.

⁵ “gräfin”. BD: Wife of Karl, Count [Graf] Zichy von Vásonykö, chamberlain, court adviser. He appeared on Mozart’s subscription list of 1784. Cf. No. 0663/25.

⁶ BD: Marie Karoline, Countess [Gräfin] Thiennes de Rumbeke, cousin of Count [Graf] Johann Philipp Cobenzl and Mozart’s first pupil in Vienna. Cf. No. 0585/61, 134-135.

⁷ mp = “*manu propria*” = “in his/her own hand”.