

[Salzburg,] Friday, 9<sup>th</sup> Sept.,  
1785

Little Leopold<sup>2</sup> has been in perfect health since then: so much so, indeed, that Nannerl<sup>3</sup> said every day, I wish his Mamma could see him: [5] for the last three days now aphthous ulceration has made an appearance, causing him a fair amount of discomfort. But by all appearances, this too will be successfully overcome by Nandl's diligence and by me as the junior nursery servant. In the meantime the esteemed *Dr. Prex*<sup>4</sup> has visited us 3 times to see how we all are. Despite all the urging, I fended off the journey to Passau<sup>5</sup> in the finest manner, [10] because the child is more important to me. – Tomorrow Herr *Fiala*<sup>6</sup> will travel to Engelhartszell<sup>7</sup> by river, and from there to Count Taufkirchen's,<sup>8</sup> where he will stay some weeks, and then go on to Vienna via Linz. A week on Sunday, his wife will go to her parents in Munich with the children. [15] Yesterday he gave a *concert* in the room in the town hall, and took 100 florins, where some others, in the presence of the Prince,<sup>9</sup> who was not here this time, hardly made a profit of 30 or 40 florins, because everyone was most deeply moved by what has happened. His Excellency the wretchedly sick Royal High Steward<sup>10</sup> wept as *Fiala* called on him and gave him 2 ducats<sup>11</sup> because they could not go to the *concert*, and furthermore sent his valet with the price of the ticket on top of that. [20] I went with the Schiedenhofens<sup>12</sup> and all the Senior Equerry's<sup>13</sup> household. – The Archbishop graciously released *Fiala* from service with 300 florins money for the journey, when he should have

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<sup>1</sup> BD: Maria Anna Walburga Ignatia (“Nannerl”), née Mozart, (1751-1829). After her marriage in 1784 her name was Maria Anna von Berchtold zu Sonnenburg. In all letters to Nannerl after her marriage Leopold refers to her as “Frau Tochter” [madam daughter] and to his son-in-law as “Herr Sohn” [esteemed son].

<sup>2</sup> BD: girl (“child nurse”).

<sup>3</sup> BD: Nannerl's son Leopold (born in Salzburg on 27<sup>th</sup> July, 1785) had remained with Leopold since the birth; Nannerl returned to St. Gilgen at the beginning of September.

<sup>4</sup> BD: Maria Anna Pietschner (1732-1805), Leopold's servant girl (“child nurse”).

<sup>5</sup> BD: Dr. med. Johann Nepomuk Prex (1733-1809), Landschaftsphysicus [= “Physician to the Parliament of the Estates”]. The Mozarts encountered him in Paris in 1766. In 1778 he offered Wolfgang his “fine nag” if he should return to Salzburg.

<sup>6</sup> BD: Nothing is known of possible reasons for this journey.

<sup>7</sup> BD: Joseph Fiala (c. 1754-1816), oboist in Prague, Regensburg, Wallerstein, Munich, Vienna, Salzburg, St. Petersburg, Donaueschingen. Also composed. At this point he was leaving the Prince-Archbishop's service and going to Vienna.

<sup>8</sup> BD: The route was via the Salzach, the Inn and the Danube from Salzburg to Passau via Burghausen; it continued via Engelhartzell, later to Linz and Vienna.

<sup>9</sup> “Graf”. BD: “Gr: Taufkirchen”. BD: Probably Hans Wolf, Baron [Freiherr] von Tauffkirchen, Electoral Bavarian Chamberlain [kurbayrischer Kämmerer], Court Counsellor [Hofrat] and chief administrator [Pfleger] in Schärding.

<sup>10</sup> “sammt dem Fürsten”. BD: Hieronymus Joseph Franz de Paula, Count [Graf] Colloredo (1732-1812), Prince-Archbishop [Fürst-Erbischof] of Salzburg from 1772. Employer of Leopold and, for two periods, of Wolfgang. Cf. No. 0263/9. At one point he dismissed both Leopold and Wolfgang, although Leopold was later reinstated. Cf. No. 0328.

<sup>11</sup> “Obersthofmeister”. BD: Franz Lactanz, Count [Graf] Firmian (1712-1786), member of a very extensive and influential Tyrolean family (cf. BD V, p. 8), occupied various positions at court, ultimately that of Royal High Steward [Obersthofmeister].

<sup>12</sup> BD: = 9 florins.

<sup>13</sup> BD: Johann Baptist Joseph Joachim Ferdinand von Schiedenhofen made a successful career in the state administration of Salzburg. Married Anna Daubrawa von Daubrawiack in 1778. The Schiedenhofens were in frequent contact with the Mozarts, offering mother and daughter accommodation in Schloss Triebenbach during the travels of Leopold and Wolfgang.

<sup>14</sup> “Oberbereuter”. BD: Gottlieb von Weyrother Esquire [Edler] (1731-1816), active in the Salzburg riding school and in charge of the court stables.

given him at least a year's salary of 500 florins. This affair is causing an astonishing stir throughout the court; and we shall yet see the consequences.

[25] The messenger has just this moment arrived. – This afternoon little Leopoldl is very agitated because of the mouth ulcers, will not sleep, when he otherwise sleeps for 3 or 4 hours: his mouth and tongue are completely white, he will therefore feel pain until the thing comes off: the best thing is for him to vomit frequently, thus getting rid of the mucous. I am very happy to keep the child. [30] You know me, the way I think, and both of you know what kind of heart I have. It always seemed impossible to me that 6 children should be able to get along together when one is child of 6 weeks, and *Carl*<sup>14</sup> has reached an age where one must not only take care that he does not fall and make a hole in his head, does not break an arm or leg etc., but also that he does not become self-willed, malevolent and thus ill-mannered, [35] so that afterwards one can hardly correct him anymore. And that would be irresponsible and regrettable! As you are both aware, I know what youthfulness means, I have studied children and young people.

Now I have just come from the 3 Counts von Thun,<sup>15</sup> who had great praise for your receiving them in such a courteous and friendly way. [40] The Bohemian Thun<sup>16</sup> felt unspeakable joy in making my acquaintance and they spoke about 100 things with each other, about his parents<sup>17</sup> and his brothers. They all requested me to pass on *compliments* to you both.

It was with the greatest pleasure that I gathered that you are in good health and that all of you are well. Count Leopold Arko<sup>18</sup> set off for Passau early last Tuesday with only his servant. [45] As far as the wild game is concerned, it will not be unpleasant for me, – but if the heat continues as in recent days, it could go putrid while being brought here, for it has been astonishingly hot, and today again! and N.B. The Ember Days start on Wednesday, yet, no! that is not true, – it is wrong in the calendar. [50] The Ember Days are not until the 21<sup>st</sup>, on St. Matthew's Day, as I find it in the *Directorio*.<sup>19</sup>

Today was the first time that I was not in the *theatre*: 1<sup>st</sup> because I was busy with arrangements with the shipman for *Fiala's* departure etc. etc.; 2<sup>nd</sup> because I was staying at home more because of the child; 3<sup>rd</sup>. Because I called on the esteemed Counts Thun. 4<sup>th</sup> because I had this letter to write and 5<sup>th</sup> because I already know the Pilgrims<sup>20</sup> by heart, [55] and N.B. Herr Mayr<sup>21</sup> plays the earnest main role. – The first *operetta* was not much to talk about. The play, The Girl and the Guardian,<sup>22</sup> is one of the most outstanding pieces, – so much so that I afterwards took the trouble to get hold of it to read it as well. – So far the plays have always involved a lot of people. Herr Payrl and his wife<sup>23</sup> live in the *Alberti* house next

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<sup>14</sup> BD: Nannerl's youngest stepson, currently aged 4.

<sup>15</sup> "3 Grafen v Thun". BD: Petrus Vigilius (1724-1800), Bishop of Trent; Philipp Joseph Michael (1739-1811), Cathedral Canon in Passau and Trent; Sigmund Ernst, Imperial and Royal sub-lieutenant [k.k. Unterleutnant] in the Migazzi Regiment.

<sup>16</sup> BD: Probably Wenzel Joseph (1737-1796), Imperial and Royal Lieutenant Field Marshall [k.k. Feldmarschal-Lieutenant], one of the younger brothers of Count [Graf] Franz Joseph Thun.

<sup>17</sup> BD: Johann Joseph Anton, Count [Graf] Thun (1711-1788), Freemason, husband of Mozart's patroness, Marie Wilhelmina, Gräfin Thun-Hohenstein (1747-1800). It was there that Mozart lodged with his wife returning from Salzburg in 1783 and Mozart wrote the Linz Symphony KV 425.

<sup>18</sup> "graf Leopold Arko". BD: Leopold Ferdinand II, Count [Graf] Arco, son of Leopold Julius Felix, Count [Graf] Arco: one of the younger court gentlemen.

<sup>19</sup> BD: "*Direktorium*" was the name given to the *Hochfürstlich Salzburger Hofkalender* ["High Princely Salzburg Court Calendar"].

<sup>20</sup> BD: *Les Pèlerins de Mecque* by Gluck.

<sup>21</sup> BD: Mayer and his wife were members of the Waizhofer ensemble until 1790.

<sup>22</sup> BD: *Die Mündel*, play in five acts by August Wilhelm Iffland, not performed in Vienna until 1787.

<sup>23</sup> BD: Johann Nepomuk Peierl (1761-1800), singer and actor, married the singer Else Berner (\* 1766) in 1782. Subsequent engagements included Salzburg and Munich. Mozart wrote two humorous canons referring to him: "*Difficile lectu mihi Mars*" KV 559 and "*O du eselhafter Peierl*" KV 559a.

to my bedroom: [60] I therefore always have music rehearsals either from behind or in front. Nandl commends herself to both of you, and asks you, madame daughter, to rest completely assured that she will apply herself to looking after the child with all diligence. – and she really does so, too: regarding her I could certainly have travelled to Passau, only I did not want to, precisely because the child was not yet entirely well. [65] I and little Leopold heartedly kiss the master of the house and yourself, and Nandl's constant wish is simply that you could see and kiss him. You write something about money: but nothing was to be found in either the letter or the little box. I am only writing this so that you know whether it was forgotten or has gone astray. I kiss all the children. Please give my greetings to Lenerl.<sup>24</sup> [70] Once little Leopold is completely well again, it may well be that I will visit you both: meanwhile stay healthy, all of you, I am eternally your

sincere father Mozart mp<sup>25</sup>

Please have my greetings read out to the deputy administrator's wife,<sup>26</sup> and she or her husband are the people who best know which people come to Salzburg frequently. [75] One could say to these people they should always call on me and enquire so that I can give you some news about little Leopold's well-being more often or can even show the people the Prince of *Asturias*.<sup>27</sup> But these good people must be told that they do not need to pay any money for the show and also that they will not be loaded with anything to carry out to you, for otherwise they might shy away from coming.

[80] *Hieronimus Lodron* |: *vulgó*<sup>28</sup> *Lodron Mommerl* :|<sup>29</sup> arrived on Thursday. This morning the Archbishop already had him out taking part in the hunt.<sup>30</sup> –

Nandl commends itself to Fräulein Nannerl<sup>31</sup> in particular. I have not seen Huebernannerl<sup>32</sup> again since then; nor *Gilowsky Catherl*.<sup>33</sup>

[85] *Gatti* has twice asked me to pass on his compliments, as have *Frau Zezi*,<sup>34</sup> the Schiedenhofens,<sup>35</sup> Frau von *Hermes*<sup>36</sup> and the *Barisanis*<sup>37</sup> etc.

*Monica*<sup>38</sup> and Trese<sup>39</sup> commend themselves.

<sup>24</sup> BD: Nannerl's serving girl Lena, later often called Lenerl.

<sup>25</sup> mp = *manu propria* = in his own hand.

<sup>26</sup> BD: The wife of the *Amtmann*, von Berchtold's second in command, in the administrative area St. Gilgen.

<sup>27</sup> BD: Cf. No. 0875/8.

<sup>28</sup> = "In common parlance".

<sup>29</sup> BD: Hieronymus Maria ("Momolo") (1766-1823), married to Maria Caecilia, née Komtesse Orsini-Rosenberg (1766-1841). A member of the influential Lodron family.

<sup>30</sup> BD: The Archbishop was a passionate huntsman.

<sup>31</sup> "Freyle Nanerl" = Fräule Nannerl = Little Lady Nannerl. BD: Nannerl's step daughter, Anna Margarete (also known as Marianne), at this time 13 years old. Received keyboard teaching from Nannerl and was later godmother to Nannerl's daughters Johanna and Marie Babette, who both died young.

<sup>32</sup> BD: (Maria) Anna Huber, daughter of a Salzburg ballmaster and theatre attendant.

<sup>33</sup> BD: "Katherl", Katharina Gilowsky (1750-1802), daughter of Wenzel Andreas Gilowsky, court surgeon, member of the airgun club, frequenter of the Mozart family home. Sometime governess to the children of Leopold Andreas, Count [Graf] Plaz.

<sup>34</sup> BD: Maria Anna Zezi, née Polis, married the merchant Johann Bernhard Zezi in 1764.

<sup>35</sup> BD: Johann Baptist Joseph Joachim Ferdinand von Schiedenhofen made a successful career in the state administration of Salzburg. Married Anna Daubrawa von Daubrawiack in 1778. The Schiedenhofens were in frequent contact with the Mozarts, offering mother and daughter accommodation in Schloss Triebenbach during the travels of Leopold and Wolfgang.

<sup>36</sup> BD: The wife of either Hofrat Joachim Vital Virgil Hermes von Fürstenhof (1737-1793), or Johann Joseph Hermann Hermes von Fürstenhof (1723-1809), captain in the grenadiers; his wife = Anna Helena (+1795).

<sup>37</sup> BD: Dr. Silvester Barisani (1719-1810), personal physician to the Prince-Archbishop of Salzburg, member of an extensive Salzburg family.

<sup>38</sup> BD: Leopold's daily household help.

<sup>39</sup> BD: Therese Pänckl, servant in the Mozart household in Salzburg for many years.

*Monica* comes every morning, and in the evening I let her go home to sleep, at the moment we do not need her during the night.

[90] Now to come to the hosiery at last: none of us had a clue where it could be: I took everything out and searched it through! You are the only one who could have plundered it.

*à proposito*.<sup>40</sup> I sent for the hired coachman. I had to be astonished at the fellow's audacity! But even more at the fact that my esteemed son<sup>41</sup> paid him. I would have said to him that if my father-in-law has made an agreement with his master, he will surely pay his master, – we shall yet settle the matter between ourselves, – and you could have told me about this in the letter, adding that you had given him 1 florin 12 kreuzers on the way into town. – How, then, could you believe for a moment that I would have been able to exchange even a word with him about payment, let alone make an agreement? [100] – I did not of course have any grounds to doubt that the fellow knew what he should receive anyway, since he had already driven you into town; what business of mine was the payment? – not a word was spoken except about the time of departure. With your kind permission!: you were too hasty with the payment.

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<sup>40</sup> Strictly “To this purpose”; here rather “By the way”.

<sup>41</sup> BD: Leopold's customary form of address to his son-in-law.