

0892. LEOPOLD MOZART TO HIS DAUGHTER,¹ ST. GILGEN

À Madame / Madame de Sonnenbourg / à / St: Gilgen.
and 7 sonatas in the little box

Salzb., 27th Octob.,
1785

[5] Little Leopold² is well, praise God!

Now, quite simply, the esteemed *Legal Officer*³ to the Cathedral Chapter is in hot water. Not one of his entire household is to be seen; I believe quite firmly that he has responded to the summons; it is very quiet, – not a word is being said; – however the matter may stand at the moment, the Court Council and everyone are keeping – the strictest silence [10] because it concerns a Court Councillor in person and because of the friendship between *Dowrowaik* and Eys.⁴ Some say the interrogation is still going on; – others maintain that he is even in prison, which I do not however believe: I have still not had an opportunity to get at the truth, and I do not wish to ask outright. It seems to me, to get to the bottom of it, [15] it is all pointing towards the Bishop in Chiemsee as the *causa movens*⁵ or mainspring that preceded everything. After Hutterer's⁶ interrogation a letter was sent to him, but he answered that they should hear him at a court of the Holy Roman Empire,⁷ otherwise he is not answerable to anyone. That is how it goes! Esteemed *Dr.* Hutterer came to Salzburg from the mountains, had a good head, pursued his *jurisprudence* assiduously, [20] completed a *practical* period in the town hall, finished his doctorate, became an *advocate*, is clever, understands his craft; – but where is his knowledge of the world? – – where is the worldly finesse? – – where is the intellect that penetrates into the consequences and the ability to see ahead? – – the main thing, with these fine points, is missing. The esteemed *Legal Officer* to the Cathedral Chapter sat on his own dung heap, – studied, was already a born Court Councillor, [25] and then *Legal Officer*, did not invent gunpowder, but believed he was safe thoughtlessly letting off his shots among the cannons of the Cathedral Chapter, because he sat behind the heating during his *practical* period under old Count von Diechtrichstein⁸ in Vienna, except for the *theatre, opera* and walks. – Now the watchword is: Face up to your responsibilities. [30] If he had any sense, power of reflection and knowledge of the world, he would have seen in advance that he is not in a safe position behind the chapter walls, all the more so because he ought to have remembered that the Archbishop had summoned him before the opening of the *process*, demanded an account from him concerning certain cases of incitement, gave him an astonishing dressing down and threatened him with imprisonment in the fortress. I feel sorry for his good wife, [35] for now she is surely sitting at home

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. 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].

² BD: Nannerl's son Leopold (born in Salzburg on 27th July, 1785) had remained with Leopold since the birth; Nannerl returned to St. Gilgen at the beginning of September.

³ “Capitl Syndicus”.

⁴ BD: Johann Baptist Anton Daubrawa von Daubrawaick (1731-1810), Court Councillor [Hofrat], Chapter Legal Adviser [Kapitelsyndikus]. Daubrawa's wife was born Pauernfeind von Eyss.

⁵ “*Prime mover*”.

⁶ BD: Dr. jur. Johann Hutter, Imperial and university notary, advocate to the Archbishop, the consistory and the court council. His arrest seems to have followed on his representation of the Salzburg farmers in their campaign against higher taxes.

⁷ “Röm: Reich”.

⁸ BD: Probably Johann Baptist, Count [Graf] (later Prince/Fürst) Dietrichstein (1728-1808), Imperial and Royal Senior Stablemaster [k. k. Oberststallmeister]. The Mozarts had known him since 1767, and Leopold asked him to recommend Wolfgang for a post in Vienna.

completely alone without any company. No-one dares to call there, – because they will immediately under suspicion etc. –

It is a fortnight now since *Rensi's daughter-in-law*,⁹ currently administrator of Ebersperg, and her cousin, the daughter of Herr von Styrer¹⁰ of Lintz arrived here. The former is the daughter of the deceased administrator of Ebersperg,¹¹ and therefore the *nieçe* of Frau von *Barisani*;¹² [40] her father's duties were transferred to her, and she married the son of the old Frau von *Rensi* |: the former lover of the Frau von *Andretter*¹³ of blessed memory :|; in due time he inherited over 40000 florins from his mother, and she is now leaving Salzburg and going to her son with all her goods and chattels, with the old female companion and the little dog, along with a great deal of silver etc. etc.; her gratuity of 100 florins has been granted to her for a further year. [45]. – the latter, the daughter of Herr von Steyrer in Lintz, stays with her parents in Lintz, is only 28 years old, has already been a widow for 8 years,¹⁴ only had her husband for 3 days because he had to go to Straubing as a war *commissioner*,¹⁵ fell from his horse, became ill, and died on the 15th day after the wedding. – [50] Last Monday, at 7 o'clock in the evening, the *ball* was arranged for these guests in the Melkhof,¹⁶ – at half past 5 I helped Frau von Schidenhofen¹⁷ get dressed, – everyone connected with the *Barisanis* etc., naturally enough, was present. For Count Überacker Sepperl,¹⁸ however, it was sad. He danced with Countess *Lizow*,¹⁹ collided with the corner of a marble *fireplace* while turning or *tugging*, dislocated his shoulder, [55] and the Countess lay on the floor, yet unharmed. He was taken back to his home in the town immediately, and they sent for Hartman the *surgeon*²⁰ etc. etc. – the dance went on, by the way, Überacker is already well again.

That certain clergyman Herr *Carl*,²¹ a 83-year-old man who *cures* ears, [60] had 50 florins worth of bread, in loaves, distributed to the poor at the town hall during the few weeks that he lay ill, and in his testament he handed over to the city council the 3000 florins which he had deposited with the Parliament of the Estates, in order to create 3 scholarships from the annual *interest*, to be made available to three poor sons of the citizenry during the first 6 years at school; the precise wording is *N.B. that he is handing it over to the city council and not to the consistory*. [65] A *Sardinian* Colonel, the esteemed Count *Canal*,²² was here. He played 2

⁹ BD: Daughter-in-law of the Salzburg court painter Andreas Rensi. Her mother, Maria Josepha Julie, nee Agliardi (* 1737), was married to Administrator [Pfleger] Steuer in Ebelsberg near Linz, a friend of Mozart's. After his death, the daughter took over his duties and married the son of the widowed Frau Rensi.

¹⁰ BD: This Herr Steuer was the brother of the already mentioned administrator of Ebelsberg.

¹¹ "Pass: Pflegers von Ebersperg".

¹² BD: Wife of Dr. Silvester Barisani (1719-1810), personal physician to the Prince-Archbishop of Salzburg, member of an extensive Salzburg family. She was the sister of the Maria Josepha Julie mentioned above.

¹³ BD: Maria Anna Elisabeth von Antretter, née Baumgartner, wife of Johann Ernst von Antretter Esquire [Edler], Imperial Knight [Reichsritter], farmer and Chancellor of the Parliament of the Estates [Landschaftskanzler], Royal War Adviser [Hofkriegsrat].

¹⁴ BD: Actually seven years.

¹⁵ "KriegsCommissarius". BD: Lower Bavaria was occupied in 1778 (cf. No. 0401/41).

¹⁶ BD: A summer residence built by the Court Chancellor, Franz Felix von Molk, in Riedenburger, a suburb of Salzburg.

¹⁷ BD: Maria Anna Klara Daubrawa von Daubrawiack married Johann Baptist Joseph Joachim Ferdinand von Schiedenhofen (1747-1812) in 1778. He made a successful career in the state administration of Salzburg. Married in 1778. Schiedenhofen and his sister were in frequent contact with the Mozarts, offering mother and daughter accommodation in Schloss Triebenbach during the travels of Leopold and Wolfgang..

¹⁸ "gr.". BD: Wolf Joseph Ludwig, Count [Graf] Überacker (Uiberacker) (1743-1819 – cf. BD VIII, p. 110), went from page to Court Councillor and Court Chamber Adviser; member of the airgun club.

¹⁹ "Gräfin". BD: Countess [Gräfin] Lütow, a niece of Salzburg Archbishop Hieronymus and wife of the commandant of the fortress in Salzburg.

²⁰ BD: Felix Hartmann of the St. Johannis-Spital.

²¹ BD: Johann Blasius Carl (* 1702), a priest living from votive offerings in the St. Johannis-Spital.

²² "Graf". BD: Presumably a relative of the Count [Graf] named in No. 1122/12, 40.

concertos at court on the hunting horn, very beautifully. He had a beautiful tone, and the *semitones* pure and correct.

The Archbishop is now in Lauffen.²³ On Monday Countess Schönborn²⁴ set off; on Tuesday he went down with Count Guntacker and his wife.²⁵

[70] I have not yet had any answer from Schmid the organ builder. – Herr Schultz has been given the order to do the tuning at court because he has a salary of 100 florins as a tenor anyway and seldom has to sing. Just imagine what kind of face the man will have made.

The 28th

[75] Little Leopoldl is well, praise God. The messenger²⁶ has come, I have received the money: – but where is the shoe as a pattern for Katharin?²⁷ – – the fine days have fairly led me out walking: always from 2 to 5 o'clock, and on Tuesday I even turned up suddenly out in Plain at 3 o'clock, visited *Father Vital*, but found the *Superior* and the reverend *Prior* of St. Peter's together with a further 6 from St. Peter's. [80] So I stayed with them and drove back into town with them at half past 5.

Egedacher's wife²⁸ has still not received a gratuity because Herr von Luidl²⁹ will not give a *recommendation* until he knows to the last groschen³⁰ what the estate is worth. – One no longer needs to hide one's wealth because of the tax but, as you see, [85] because of the gratuity. Court Councillor *Gilowsky*³¹ was at home as *garde-dame*³² with the 2 *Robini* Fräuleins³³ and the wife of the Senior Stablemaster,³⁴ and it was there that the meeting and the arrangements for Fräulein *Louise's* wedding³⁵ really took place. There is nothing more that can be done: the Fräuleins are still in the house, I do not know when they are coming back.

[90] My thanks for the fish; if you have no more, you should on no account send me any more. – The bread went up in price here as soon as they saw snow falling again. – I have received the planks from the *Robini's* house servant. –

The pressure obviously comes from your blood, so you must do everything possible to see that it takes a good course. [95] Drinking large quantities of camomile tea is a common and good remedy, and exercise; and if the weather is really unfavourable, you must try to take

²³ BD: Laufen, a small town north-west of Salzburg.

²⁴ "Gräfin". BD: Maria Theresia, Countess [Gräfin] Schönborn, née Colloredo, sister of the Archbishop of Salzburg.

²⁵ BD: Franz de Paula Gundacker I, Count [Graf] Colloredo (1731-1807), eldest brother of the Archbishop, Imperial Court Counsellor [Reichshofrat] and (from 1788) Prince [Fürst], Imperial Vice-Chancellor [Reichsvizekanzler]. "Her" = his wife.

²⁶ BD: There was no post-coach to St. Gilgen. Leopold therefore sent his letters and packages to Nannerl by a messenger, a carter who came to Salzburg once a week. The "glass-carrier woman" also provided a service on this route.

²⁷ BD: Johann Kathrein, a Salzburg shoemaker.

²⁸ BD: The widow of Johann Joseph Egedacher († 14th June, 1785), the Royal Organ Builder and therefore also responsible for tuning and maintenance of the keyboard instruments.

²⁹ BD: Rochus Sebastian von Luidl, Knight [Ritter], Actual Privy Councillor, Court Chamber Director, member of the Parliament of the Estates in all Austrian territories.

³⁰ A generic term for a small coin.

³¹ "Hofrath". BD: Joseph Anton Ernst von Gilowsky, Court Councillor [Hofrat], engineer, founder member of the Masonic lodge "Zur Fürsicht", a frequent traveller to Munich for matters relating to salt. Cousin of "Katherl". (cf. also Salzburg.com).

³² "Guard for the ladies".

³³ BD: Maria Aloisia Viktoria (1757-1786), known as Louise, and Maria Elisabeth (1749-1792), known as Lisel, daughters of the factory owner Georg Joseph Robinig von Rottenfeld (1710-1760).

³⁴ "Gestüttmeisterin". BD: Wife of the Senior Equerry [Oberbereiter] Gottlieb von Weyrother, Esquire [Edler] (1731-1816), active in the Salzburg riding school and in charge of the court stables. Widower since 23rd October, 1777.

³⁵ BD: An error on Leopold's part? He mentioned the wedding of Louise von Robinig in No. 0838/77.

as much exercise as possible at home. If you want to come here to me, I will have the wood-burning stove lit in the big room. – Heinrich³⁶ would indeed have been taken on here if he had not been my pupil, [100] only it is too painful to praise one of my *pupils*, – and yet it happens so often that he³⁷ must be doing this in his heart. – It had already gone so far that he wanted to take him if he could have him for only a couple of hundred guildens:³⁸ I was prepared to accept 300 florins. There’s the rub! and I am saying nothing more at all about it: as it stands, he has no violinist and has lost 2 in Norman³⁹ und *Fiala*.⁴⁰ [105] – Let us wait and see. – The chances for Gretl⁴¹ or some other singer are not worth thinking about. – Just wait a little while until our ships come in from America, and then we will to employ an *orchestra* of our own. – I truly have still not had a letter from your brother, but from *Artaria*,⁴² and I wrote to your brother 4 days ago enclosing the letter to *Artaria*, [110] and today I wrote to him again. Regarding Gretl’s *sonatas*⁴³ I have not heard a word; I will write to *Toricella*⁴⁴ myself, also concerning the keyboard reduction of the Abduction.

I go to the *theatre* perhaps once, occasionally twice, a week, I need the money more urgently now that I am completely without *pupils*. [115] The administrator’s Sepperl⁴⁵ never came back again, in future he will only come 3 times a week, and then sometimes stay away when the weather is bad. At New Year it will be 2 years that his father has gone without paying anything, and he called on me a week ago, and according to the account he had kept of the lessons, the whole time only amounted to 47 florins 12 kreuzers. – [120] He claims to have written in his diary from the 9th *Decemb.*, 1783 to 24th January, 1785:

<u>180 lessons at 12 kr.</u>	36 f
<u>From 24th May to 30th Sept.:</u> 56 l.:	11 f 12
	47 f 12.

That, then, is the whole jumble. [125] It just paid for a half-year’s house rent of 45 florins. You will immediately notice that many lessons were not written down, while beyond that I always had the boy for one and a half hours, and mostly for 2. –

Now, as I write this morning, the 29th, we see that little Leopoldl, who is otherwise well, is today showing all the signs of so-called purples, [130] for I saw the little spots on his face, – and now they are on his body too. I hope that he stays safe and peaceful doing this, that it will have no unpleasant consequences, for with children there is always something. Nandl⁴⁶ and Tresel⁴⁷ commend themselves. I kiss my esteemed son⁴⁸ and yourself from the heart, send greetings to the children and am as always your sincere

³⁶ BD: Heinrich Marchand, son of the theatre director Theobald Marchand, who had board, lodging and teaching in keyboard, violin and composition in the Mozarts’ home for three years until 1774.

³⁷ BD: The Archbishop. 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.

³⁸ 1 gulden effectively = 1 florin.

³⁹ BD: Violinist who left Salzburg for Vienna; mentioned in No. 0803/20-21.

⁴⁰ BD: Joseph Fiala (c. 1754-1816), oboist in Prague, Regensburg, Wallerstein, Munich, Vienna, Salzburg, St. Petersburg, Donaueschingen. Also composed. Cf. Nos. 0485/67; 0529/7. Fiala likewise went to Vienna.

⁴¹ BD: Heinrich Marchand’s sister Maria Margarethe (“Gretl”) joined her brother in Salzburg and studied with Leopold for two years until 1784.

⁴² BD: Probably concerning the publication of the sonatas KV 330 (300h), 331 (300i) and 332 (300k). Cf. Nos. 0888-0891 (lost).

⁴³ BD: It is known that she wrote some sonatas in 1785, but they are untraceable

⁴⁴ BD: A publisher in Vienna.

⁴⁵ BD: Joseph Wölf(f)l (1773-1812), a pupil at the cathedral music school (Kapellhaus) 1783-1786, son of Johann Paul Wölf(f)l, administrator of the St.-Johannes-Spital [“St John’s Hospital”] close to Salzburg.

⁴⁶ BD: Maria Anna Pietschner (1732-1805), Leopold’s servant girl (“child nurse”).

⁴⁷ BD: Therese Pänckl, servant in the Mozart household in Salzburg for many years.

[135]

father Mozart mp⁴⁹

Yesterday, after the play, someone shouted to me from the street, since the house was already locked and I was just sitting having my meal. When I went to the window, it was *Major Dücker*⁵⁰ and Cathedral Canon Count Wallstein,⁵¹ who had come from Lauffen⁵² and had been *charged* by the Archbishop with asking me whether I had perhaps received an answer from the organ builder Schmid. [140] I answered that no answer can possibly have come yet. Count Wallstein is driving back there today and then going to Augspurg.

⁴⁸ Leopold's customary form of address to his son-in-law

⁴⁹ mp = *manu propria* = in his own hand.

⁵⁰ BD: Ferdinand Dück(h)er, Baron [Freiherr] von Haslau (1740-1814), from 1778 in charge of the Salzburg police, Royal War Adviser [Hofkriegsrat].

⁵¹ "gr: Wallstein". BD: Johann Friedrich, Count [Graf] Waldstein (1756-1812), cathedral canon in Constance and Augsburg, later Prince-Bishop in Seckau. Nephew of the Georg Christian, Count [Graf] Waldstein mentioned in No. 0780/44 and of the Countess [Gräfin] Kuenburg mentioned in No. 868/37.

⁵² Cf. line 68.