

0991. LEOPOLD MOZART TO HIS DAUGHTER,¹ ST. GILGEN

A Madame / Madame de Sonnenbourg / à / St. Gilgen

Along with soap and a little pomade cloth.

Salzb., 17th Octob., 1786

Leopold² is well. Nandl,³ who commends herself, has just had her blood let. – So I went straight to the esteemed *Magister*⁴ and confirmed the arrangement; but I was also given the impression in advance that the boys will not take their places until All Saints' Day;⁵ [5] it would consequently not be worth the trouble of heating the room for one boy and giving him board since there are only 14 days until the end of this month anyway. – As far as the mattress is concerned, there are certainly mattresses there, but occasionally a boy has brought his own mattress; the 2 *Lospichels*,⁶ for example, who were there for 7 years, had their own mattresses. [10] That is up to them, and can furthermore be changed afterwards. So my esteemed son⁷ could bring him into town on *St. Simon and St. Jude's Day*,⁸ or on *St. Carolus' Day*;⁹ for if he comes in too soon, he will only be bored; – but if the others are already there, he will immediately fit into the pattern with the others. In short! I have confirmed the arrangement, [15] and believe that my esteemed son will find it very profitable for Wolfgang.¹⁰

They say that the Archbishop¹¹ is going to Tittmoning¹² tomorrow; we must wait and see if it is true, and if it is, I would travel to Michaelbayrn¹³ with Heinrich¹⁴ for perhaps a few days, but hardly before Saturday. The stag still has all of this on its horns.¹⁵ Since we have to go by Lauffen, [20] we shall probably have to visit the esteemed Dean¹⁶ and along with that Lenerl's¹⁷ mother, and then also the esteemed municipal judge and Fellacher.¹⁸

I will give the woman¹⁹ the soap to take. And the pomade pot, if she can take it.

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) was to remain with Leopold from his birth until his grandfather's death in May, 1787; Nannerl returned to St. Gilgen at the beginning of September, 1785.

³ BD: Maria Anna Pietschner (1732-1805), Leopold's servant girl ("child nurse").

⁴ BD: Cf. No. 0990/14 ff. (Arrangements for the education of Nannerl's stepson Wolfgang.)

⁵ BD: 1st November.

⁶ BD: Presumably the two sons of Joseph Joachim Lospichl (1733-1800), lawyer and eventually court councillor [Hofrat].

⁷ BD: Leopold's customary form of address to his son-in-law.

⁸ BD: 28th October.

⁹ BD: 4th November (St. Charles Borromeo).

¹⁰ Cf. note on line 4.

¹¹ 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.

¹² BD: A small town about 40 km north-west of Salzburg.

¹³ BD: Michaelbeuern, about 28 km north of Salzburg.

¹⁴ 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.

¹⁵ BD: A phrase often used by Leopold meaning everything is still undecided.

¹⁶ BD: Karl Hilber, dean of the collegiate foundation Mariä Himmelfahrt [The Ascension of Mary] in Laufen.

¹⁷ BD: Magdalena, nursery maid at the Berchtolds.

¹⁸ BD: Sebastian Franz Fellacher († 1813, aged 74), applied for the position of court organist in Salzburg in 1778 (cf. No. 0403/60-61).

¹⁹ BD: From letter No. 0808 (14th Sept., 1784) onwards, the "glasträgerin" ["glass-carrier woman"] is Leopold's regular messenger to St. Gilgen, where Archbishop Thun established a glassworks in 1701.

Nothing new has happened at all, [25] except that all the cowls²⁰ and staves belonging to the brotherhoods really have been forbidden, and they not only have the cretins and fools, with and without beard, straight and bent, dirty and besmirched going with the brotherhoods in their disgusting natural dirt and begging clothes, but even have one of these dirty beggar churls in his natural gala finery carrying the *crucifix* etc. etc. – the esteemed Prelate of St. Peter's²¹ is going to have cloaks made for those carrying the cross etc. etc. [30]

Now the woman is coming. Heinrich commends himself, I kiss you both from the heart, send greetings to the children and am your sincere father

Mozart mp²²

Tresel²³ and Nandl kiss your hands.
[35] and Leopoldl kisses all of you.

Count St. Julien,²⁴ who was a Boy,²⁵ gained his *doctorate*, went to Vienna, died of pneumonia there on the 4th day after his arrival. Pity! He was an outstanding court *gentleman*!²⁶

²⁰ BD: The Archbishop sought to reduce the brotherhoods' paraphernalia. The cowls, which had sometimes been used to disguise persons substituting for genuine members, were sold for the benefit of the poor.

²¹ BD: Dominikus Hagenauer, abbot of the large Benedictine foundation in the centre of Salzburg.

²² mp = *manu propria* = in his own hand.

²³ BD: Therese Pänckl, servant in the Mozart household in Salzburg for many years.

²⁴ "Gr: St: Julien". BD: Count [Graf] St. Julien, senior boy at the page school.

²⁵ BD: One of the "Edelknaben" ["Noble Boys"] learning the skills of a page in Salzburg.

²⁶ "Cavalier".