

Mannheim, 23rd Octbr., 1790.

Dearest, most treasured little wife of my heart! –

Tomorrow we are going to Schwetzingen to see the garden² – In the evening *Figaro* will be performed here for the first time – in two days we drive off. [5] It is precisely because of *Figaro* that I am still here – for all those involved adjured me to stay here until now and help them with the rehearsal, which is also precisely the reason why I cannot write as much this time as usual, because now it is just time for the main musical rehearsal – indeed, the first act at least will already be over – I hope you have received my letter of the 17th from Mainz safely [10] – I played for the Elector³ the day before my departure,⁴ but received a scanty 15 carolins⁵ – just *incaminire*⁶ that it works out with *H.*⁷ – Now I firmly hope to embrace you in a fortnight, thus about 6 or 7 days after you receive this letter – yet you will still get letters from me from Augsburg, Munich and Linz,⁸ [15] – but you cannot write to me anymore, although if you write immediately after receiving this, I can still receive it in Linz. Try. – Now I wish you well, dearest little wife! I kiss you 1000 times and am

eternally and unchangeably

your faithful spouse

Mozart.

[20]

¹ BD: Original unknown. Edition Nottebohm.

² BD: Mozart had seen the famous palace gardens in summer, 1763.

³ “beym Churfürsten”. BD: Friedrich Karl Joseph, Freiherr von Erthal (1719-1802), last Elector and Archbishop of Mainz.

⁴ BD: Mozart left Mainz on 20th October, 1790.

⁵ BD: A coin introduced by Elector Karl Albert (1726-1745) and popular in southern Germany. 1 carolin = 11 florins, 15 carolins = 165 florins.

⁶ BD: = “insist, persist”.

⁷ BD: Franz Anton Hoffmeister (1754-1812), composer and publisher, Mozart’s main publisher during his lifetime. Currently involved in procuring a loan for Mozart, cf. No. 1135/28 ff.

⁸ BD: There is no known letter to Constanze from Linz.