Dearest friend and brother!³

[Vienna, second half of July, 1789]

Since the time that you performed such a great act of friendship, I have been living in <u>affliction</u>, so much so that I not only could no longer go out, but was not even able to write because of all my sadness. —

[5] At the moment she is more peaceful; and if it were not for the <u>bedsores</u>, which make her situation burdensome, he would be able to sleep; – only they are afraid that the bone could be affected; – – astonishingly, she submits to her fate and awaits improvement or death with true philosophic equanimity; I write this with tears in my eyes. – [10] If you can, best of friends, visit us; and if you <u>can</u>, sir, support me with your advice and practical help in <u>that</u> certain matter.⁴

Mozart.

¹ BD: Original unknown. Edition Nottebohm. This text appears before No. 1105 in DME.

² BD: Johann Michael Puchberg (1741-1822), 1768-1777 in charge of a factory and wholesale business for finished and semi-finished silk layers, velvet, ribbons, cloth and gloves. He resumed this activity in 1785 in association with his brother. The landlord of the premises on the Hoher Markt in Vienna was Franz, Count [Graf] Walsegg-Stuppach, who commissioned the *Requiem* from Mozart in 1791. Member of various Masonic lodges from 1773 onwards. It was probably in Masonic circles that he met Mozart. He was also in contact with Joseph Haydn, who wrote to him in January, 1792, in connection with Mozart's death. He represented Constanze for a time regarding Mozart's estate. Mozart dedicated to him the string trio divertimento in E^b KV 563 (cf. No. 1094/23; No.1121/11) and perhaps also the piano trio in E KV 542 (cf. notes on No. 1077/50 and No. 1083/18). Puchberg died in poverty in 1822.

³ Masonic greeting: "Brother [in the Order]".

⁴ BD: Cf. No. 1105/37, permanent employment at court.