

0013. LEOPOLD MOZART<sup>1</sup> TO JOHANN JAKOB LOTTER,<sup>2</sup> AUGSBURG

*Monsieur mon tres cher amy*

Salzbg., 24<sup>th</sup> Novb., 1755

I received your letter of comfort<sup>3</sup> after you had tested my patience once again for a fortnight. If you also do what you write |: although, without insulting friendship, I must always believe otherwise :|, it is very fitting that you are going to keep your word precisely, [5] for the musical examples take up the most time. Here are *oboe* and *bassoon* for the Peasants' Music.<sup>4</sup> And here is a further request: that you should not let a copy out of your hands, for I wish to have them all in my hands beforehand. Yes, I have to do it this way, for the Archbishop<sup>5</sup> already knows about it, and now I am truly only half master over it, [10] at least as it appears at present, and you can firmly believe, without letting an entirely misplaced avalanche<sup>6</sup> loose on me, that this will not be the last thing that I give you to print, for, speaking to you most confidentially, a letter was send to me from a distant place,<sup>7</sup> a letter in which I was informed that my violin school is awaited most expectantly, and that they are most graciously thinking of making me, very soon, a member [15] – – do not be shocked! – – or – – do not laugh – – of the Corresponding Society of Musical Sciences.<sup>8</sup> Low and behold! This is splendid! But do not on any account spread any of this school gossip, for it may be only hot air.<sup>9</sup> I have never even had a thought of this in all my days; I can say that as an honest man. [20] Commend me to your good and most honest wife, and go ahead with your good intention and your diligence, for leaving anything to the end is dangerous. I am, incidentally, in haste

Your

Most obedient servant.

Leopold Mozart

[25]

During my stay with you,<sup>10</sup> an important cantor<sup>11</sup> |: or whoever he is :| requested that he might negotiate with me for some *concertos* for traverse flute.<sup>12</sup> He is the one who collected and selected the tones of the sleigh-bells. Here I want to give you the beginning of the first *Allegro* in each *concerto*. [30] Could it be that he already has some of this in his hands?

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<sup>1</sup> BD: No. 0013a.

<sup>2</sup> BD: Johann Jakob Lotter (the Younger, 1726-1804), son of the eponymous founder of the firm (c. 1683-1738), printer and bookseller in Augsburg. Under his management, the business grew, especially the music side. He printed Leopold Mozart's *Versuch einer gründlichen Violinschule* (1756), of which there were three impressions. He also printed Leopold's collection of keyboard music *Der Morgen und der Abend...* (1759), containing works by Leopold, Eberlin and Eberl.

<sup>3</sup> BD: No. 0012a.

<sup>4</sup> BD: Cf. No. 0012/38-40.

<sup>5</sup> BD: Siegmund Christoph von Schrattenbach (1698-1771), became Prince-Archbishop of Salzburg in 1753 following long association with the cathedral.

<sup>6</sup> BD: Cf. No. 0010/18.

<sup>7</sup> BD: Leipzig.

<sup>8</sup> BD: Formed in 1738 by Lorenz Mizler (cf. No. 0012/9).

<sup>9</sup> BD: Leopold was not in fact received as a member.

<sup>10</sup> BD: He stayed in Augsburg end September/beginning October.

<sup>11</sup> BD: Gottfried Zinner († 1777), flautist, cantor in the protestant church St. Ulrich; cf. Nos. 0015/29; 0017/2; 0020/13.

<sup>12</sup> BD: The concertos with the following incipits are lost.



*à 2 Violini, Viola e Basso*



*à 2 Violini, Viola e Basso*



*à 2 Violini, Viola e Basso*



*à 2 Violini, Viola e Basso*



*à 2 Violini, Viola, 2 Corni [35]  
e Basso*

N.B. the horns have solos from time to time.

Thus begins the Violin *N<sup>mo</sup>*. He need only write me the beginning of whichever of these concertos he wants. [40] I can also send him no. 4 *à tre*, namely, *à fluto trav., violino e violoncello*; if he wants to know how it begins, I will write it out for him at the next opportunity.

Please deliver the enclosure.<sup>13</sup>

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<sup>13</sup> BD: No. 0013a: letter to Leopold's mother, cf. No. 0014/2-3.