

Vienna, 19<sup>th</sup> October, 1762

The previous post will have brought you my letter.<sup>3</sup> Today, in the morning, I was called to the Privy Paymaster.<sup>4</sup> He received me with the greatest courtesy. I was told that His Majesty<sup>5</sup> had enquired whether I could perhaps stay here some time yet. [5] I said that I lay myself most submissively at His Majesty's feet. The Paymaster then paid me 100 ducats<sup>6</sup> and added that His Majesty would soon call us again. I can look at it any way I will, but I already see that I will hardly come home before Advent, only before that I will certainly apply for an extension of leave,<sup>7</sup> [10] for I have to travel slowly, even if I could get away from here in a fortnight or 3 weeks, because of the children, so that they occasionally have a rest of a few days and do not become ill. I have paid the 100 Imperial Ducat coins, along with 20 further coins for Herr Peiser,<sup>8</sup> to your account. If I can do a deal for a good coach<sup>9</sup> at an honest price, [15] I am inclined to buy one in order to provide more comfort for my children. Today we were at the French Ambassador's.<sup>10</sup> Tomorrow we have an appointment from 4 to 6 o'clock with a Count Harrach,<sup>11</sup> but I do not know with which one. I will no doubt know from where the coach takes me, for we are collected everywhere by their lordships' coaches with a servant and conveyed home in the same way. [20] From 6 o'clock or 6:30, but until 9 o'clock, we have an agreement for a grand concert for 6 ducats,<sup>12</sup> which a certain wealthy man of the nobility is giving and at which the greatest *virtuosos* presently in Vienna will perform. Their lordships are engaging us 4, 5, 6 to 8 days in advance in order not to come too late, [25] as with Postmaster General Count Paar's<sup>13</sup> engaging us for the coming Monday. Now Woferl is taking a coach ride often enough, twice a day at least. Once we drove to a place at 2:30, we were there until quarter to four, from there Count Hardek<sup>14</sup> had us collected in his coach and driven at full gallop to a lady, [30] where we stayed until 5:30. From there, Count Kaunitz<sup>15</sup> had us collected, and we were with him until around 9 o'clock. I can hardly write, both pen and ink are miserable, and I have to steal time to write. I can send absolutely no news, for here they speak as little of war as if there were no war. I have never in my life heard and

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<sup>1</sup> BD: Original lost. Copyist C; NissenB.

<sup>2</sup> BD: Johann Lorenz Hagenauer (1712-1792), Salzburg merchant. Friend of the Mozarts and their landlord 1747-1773.

<sup>3</sup> BD: No. 0034.

<sup>4</sup> "geheimen Zahlmeister". BD: Johann Adam von Mayr (1712-1777).

<sup>5</sup> BD: Franz I, cf. No. 0034/82. In the usage of the day, however, this could also mean Empress Maria Theresia.

<sup>6</sup> BD: = 450 florins.

<sup>7</sup> BD: Cf. Nos. 0038 and 0035b.

<sup>8</sup> BD VII: Presumably Joseph Peisser, uncle of Franz Xaver Peisser (1724-1807); the business still carried his name after it was taken over by Franz Xaver Peisser, who was given the title "von Werthenau" in 1766, a banker and Vienna correspondent of the firm Hagenauer. After 1781 he occasionally conveyed post between Leopold and Wolfgang.

<sup>9</sup> BD: Leopold had bought one in Bratislava [Pressburg].

<sup>10</sup> BD: Florent-Louis-Marie, Comte de Châtelet-Lomont, ambassador in Vienna 1761-1766. Leopold Mozart gave him his word he would travel to Paris as soon as possible, cf. No. 0047/13-15.

<sup>11</sup> BD: This could be Ferdinand Bonaventura, Count [Graf] Harrach (cf. No. 0040/22-23), but could also be Ernst Guido, Count [Graf] Harrach, brother of the wife of Nikolaus Sebastian, Count [Graf] Lodron, in Salzburg, cf. No. 0152/38.

<sup>12</sup> BD: Cf. No. 0034/71.

<sup>13</sup> BD: Wenzel Johann Joseph, Count [Graf] Paar, later Prince [Fürst], (1719-1792), postmaster to the Hereditary Lands; along with his son Wenzel, chamberlain and president of the Viennese Lodge "Zur gekrönten Hoffnung" ["At the Sign of Hope Crowned"] (cf. No. 0921), he appears on Mozart's subscription list for 1784 (cf. No. 0780/18, 37).

<sup>14</sup> BD: Johann Franz, Count [Graf] Hardegg, later valet to Archduke [Erzherzog] Maximilian Franz.

<sup>15</sup> BD: Wenzel Anton, Count [Graf] (from 1764 Prince [Fürst]) Kaunitz-Rietberg (1711-1794), diplomat, from 1753 State Chancellor [Staatskanzler].

known so little news as in the 4 to 5 weeks I have been away from Salzburg. [35] From you I would rather hear news, at least I hope you might be able to report something to me. Is His High Princely Grace<sup>16</sup> already home again? – – I hope that His Serene Person<sup>17</sup> will be in good health. Is His Excellency Titled Count Spauer<sup>18</sup> in Salzburg? I believe, yes, – – I wrote to him from Linz. [40] How is His High Worthiness and Grace the Father Confessor?<sup>19</sup> – – I request that, as opportune, I may be commended most obediently to the same. Your lady wife, along with all your dear ones, will hopefully be in the best of health; I commend myself to her. Do you know who saw our Estlinger?<sup>20</sup> – the inn-keeper at Hellbrunn: he spoke to him for some time. [45] But, above all, do you know where I am staying? I am staying in the Fierberggassl not far from the high bridge in the Carpenter’s House, on the first floor. The room is 1000 paces long and 1 pace wide. – You laugh? – for us it is no laughing matter at all when we tread on each others’ corns. There is even less laughing every night, because if the boy cannot throw me, or the girl my wife, out of the miserable bed, [50] they do at least break a couple of our ribs with their feet. Each of our beds measures 4 and ½ of my hand spans. And this astonishing palace is furthermore divided into 2 parts by a partition, with one of these grand beds placed in each of them. Patience! We are in Vienna. My wife would so very much like to have her thick cloth cape with fur here, but we are afraid it would cost too much by post-coach, [55] and it might be ruined on the way. It is in the chest in the little chamber. But, since I am thinking of having a new fur one made for her in Salzburg for the festivities and letting her keep the cloth one for ordinary wear, it will be better to get something for her here, as one can get anything of one’s choice here. Do you want to know how Woferl’s suit<sup>21</sup> looks? [60] – It is one of those with the finest lilac-coloured cloth, the waistcoat in mohair of the same colour, the coat and camisole bordered with wide, double gold braid. They were made for Prince Maximilian;<sup>22</sup> Nannerl’s clothes were a princess’s court dress. They are of embroidered white taffeta with all kinds of embellishments. It is a pity they could not make anything more than a ball gown out of it, [65] but a bodice is also included. The page is full, the time is up. My compliments to the whole of Salzburg and I am.

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<sup>16</sup> “Se. Hochstl: Gnaden”. BD: Archbishop Siegmund Christoph; cf. No. 0013/9. He had probably been at his autumn residence in Lauffen.

<sup>17</sup> “Höchstieselben”.

<sup>18</sup> “Titl: Se: Excell: Graf Spauer”. BD: Ignaz Joseph, Count [Graf] Spaur, (1727-1779) was cathedral canon in Salzburg from 1755 to 1776, from 1778 to 1779 Bishop of Brixen/Bressanone. Cf. No. 0033.

<sup>19</sup> “Ihro Hochwürden und Gnaden”. BD: Ferdinand Joseph Mayr (1733-1792), confessor to the Archbishop until his death in 1771.

<sup>20</sup> BD: Joseph Richard Estlinger, bassoonist and copyist, occasional “factotum” to the Mozarts.

<sup>21</sup> BD: Portrait of 1763 (by Pietro Antonio Lorenzoni?), see Deutsch Bild No. 1.

<sup>22</sup> BD: Archduke [Erzherzog] Maximilian Franz (1756-1801), one of “the two youngest Archdukes” mentioned in No. 0034/88.