

0086.¹ LEOPOLD MOZART TO LORENZ HAGENAUER,² SALZBURG

*à Monsieur / Monsieur Mozart at Mr. Cousin / Hare cutter in cecil
court / S:t Martin's lane / att / London.³*

Copia.

London, the 25th April, 1764

We have, praise God, happily crossed the Maxglan⁴ brook but it did not go without – s[alva] v[enia]⁵ – [5] serving up some of the f--d again, but I was worst affected. But in this case we were able to save the money for taking medicines against vomiting, and we are, thanks be to God, all well. Anyone who has too much money need only undertake a journey from *Paris* to *London*, and he will certainly have his purse lightened. We had the honour of paying 4 *louis d'or*⁶ in *Calais*, [10] although we did not even dine at home, but with the *Procrautor to the King and the Admiralty*,⁷ with whom we also left our coach. As soon as one reaches *Dover*, it gets even rawer, and, as one disembarks from the ship, one sees oneself surrounded by 30 to 40 men, all of whom are your obedient servants and wish to take the baggage from one's own servant by force in order to carry it to an inn, [15] and then one has to pay them whatever they demand. I had to pay 3 *louis d'or* for the crossing, for I had a ship of my own, for which one must pay 5 *louis d'or*. Accordingly, I took 4 other friends, who each paid me half a *louis d'or*, for there were 14 persons in the packet boat and, since there are only 10 to 12 beds in one ship, [20] it is very incommodious to remain among so many people who sometimes get astonishingly sea-sick. For being landed from the large ship via a smaller one in *Dover* one pays half a wreath-thaler⁸ per person. I therefore had to pay 6 small or 3 large wreath thalers, for I had 2 servants with me and consequently 7 post-horses as far as *Calais*, [25] with one of them riding. The second servant was an Italian by the name of *Porta*,⁹ who had already travelled this stretch 8 times, and all my friends in *Paris* advised me to take this man. It was in fact a very good move, for he brought order into everything and dealt with everything. [30] Now I seem to see nothing in *London* but *masquera*,¹⁰ and how do you think my wife and my little girl look in the English hats,¹¹ and the great Wolfgang in English clothes? My next letter will tell you more. We commend ourselves.

Mozart

¹ BD: Original lost. Schiedermair IV.

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

³ BD: Leopold's English.

⁴ BD: Then still a village near Salzburg. The "brook" is the English Channel.

⁵ BD: ≈ "with your permission, begging your pardon".

⁶ BD: Over 32 florins.

⁷ "Procureur du Roy et de l'admirauté". BD: Pierre Bernard Carpentier (1726-1800). Recommended to Leopold by Paris contacts. In No. 0098/185 Leopold refers to him as "friend". Cf. No. 0099/150.

⁸ BD: ≈ 1 florin 20 kreuzers.

⁹ BD: Porta: Leopold and Wolfgang met him again in Rome in 1770 (cf. No. 0184/62 ff.) and in Vienna (cf. No. 0288/46). The other servant was Jean Pierre Potivin, cf. No. 0082/38-39.

¹⁰ = "Masked figures".

¹¹ BD: Cf. No. 0063/91 ff., 97 ff.