

I have received your letter this very moment.<sup>4</sup>

*Iterum Iterumque*<sup>5</sup>

*Te Deum Laudamus!*<sup>6</sup>

[5] **My daughter has successfully overcome the smallpox!**

Proof that the few scabs she had in her childhood were, as I had already imagined, not the real smallpox.<sup>7</sup> She had the scabs in such a fortunate way that you will notice nothing on her, although with Wolfgang a little.<sup>8</sup> The 2 letters of the 11<sup>th</sup> and 13<sup>th</sup> November reached me both at once. [10] I can readily believe that you were all somewhat anxious after not seeing any letters for so long.<sup>9</sup> You know, of course, that this usually means something: I do not wish to cause my good friends any worry and anxiety, I want to carry the burden all on my own. It will happen soon enough that one will have to fill up the letters to one's friends with sad stories: may God continue to preserve us from that! [15]

You see that we did not travel in vain! If we were forced, to a certain extent, to share in the great sorrows of the Viennese court,<sup>10</sup> our God of love and most special kindness – although for us undeservedly – has granted us his divine protection in truly another way [20] and has accordingly given us an incomparably better compensation for what was lost. The most vexing thing for us is that it is Christmas and not Easter that is coming. And although we are in some measure provided for regarding a winter journey, I can nevertheless work out that I will spend around 100 florins to make sure my family is properly covered for the journey. Winter is winter, precisely that! [25] We will not reach Vienna before 1768, for we will stay in Brunn<sup>11</sup> some 10 days at the least. Enough! One can never say what one will do. You know well how often the heavenly auditor crosses out lines in our calculations.

Now I have to tell you diverse other things. I wanted to write to you before leaving Vienna, [30] for example, that Herr Hayden,<sup>12</sup> Herr Leitgeb<sup>13</sup> and Herr Franz Drasil<sup>14</sup> visited

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

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

<sup>3</sup> Ollmütz.

<sup>4</sup> BD: Cf. also line 9. Nos. 0121a; 0121b (lost) .

<sup>5</sup> Again and yet again.

<sup>6</sup> We praise you, oh God!

<sup>7</sup> BD: Cf. No. 0118/6, 9.

<sup>8</sup> BD: Cf. No. 0121/131-132.

<sup>9</sup> BD: Approximately three weeks.

<sup>10</sup> BD: The death of Archduchess [Erzherzogin] Maria Josepha, cf. Nos. 0118, 0120.

<sup>11</sup> BD: On the return journey the Mozart family stayed in Brno 24<sup>th</sup> December, 1767 – 9<sup>th</sup> January, 1768.

<sup>12</sup> BD: Johann Michael Haydn (1737-1806), brother of Joseph. Employed at court in Salzburg from 1763. During his Vienna years, Mozart frequently asked for music by Michael Haydn to be sent from Salzburg so that he could perform it at van Swieten's. Michael Haydn is known to have spoken very positively about *The Abduction from the Seraglio* after its Salzburg performance. On a personal level relationships were difficult, possibly because of his inclination to drink.

<sup>13</sup> BD: Joseph (incorrectly Ignaz) Leutgeb (Leitgeb) (1732-1811), horn player, one of the few people mentioned throughout the almost 30 years of correspondence (1763-1791). The large number of works written for him by Mozart (KV 371, KV 412 + 514 (386b), 407 (386c), 417, 447, 495) speak for his musical abilities. Mozart made contact with him in 1781, shortly after arriving in Vienna. Leutgeb lived in a large house outside town; Mozart stayed there occasionally when his wife was taking spa treatment in Baden in 1791. In 1773 his wife borrowed a sum from Leopold Mozart (cf. No. 0293/31-32; No. 0297/30); this was still outstanding in 1782 (cf. No. 0673/56 ff.).

<sup>14</sup> BD: Born in Bohemia, played horn and cello. Mentioned in the Salzburg *Hofkalender* 1746-1777.

us, as did Herr Küssel<sup>15</sup>. I did take any more time at that point to inform you that we in return visited Herr Haydn and these worthy gentlemen, and saw little Miss Teresa,<sup>16</sup> Herr Haydn's sweetheart. She was staying with her father, [35] who has a hosiery factory and is a judge in a suburb and is an upright, handsome man. The children are like the father. One son is a cleric, another is in Imperial office, and one relieves the father in his daily tasks. I saw 3 daughters: the eldest is the maiden Teresa, an orderly person, of medium height, ample, white in complexion [40] and has the most beautiful teeth you could see. As far as I could observe, she understands the business of the house thoroughly and everything goes through her hands, since the mother looks after the hosiery sales in the cellar. She is exceptionally polite, friendly and, in a certain respectable way, good-humoured. In short, she pleased all of us very much. [45] Whether she is indeed Herr Haydn's chosen one I do not know. It is by all appearances true, at least, and it is what people say. Might you perhaps be thinking that I am in love with her? Within a hair's breadth! I would certainly advise Herr Haydn not to bring her to Salzburg. I am his proper brother-in-law, even though I will soon be 50 years old: he will of course need someone to speak with the woman in his place [50] so that she doesn't forget how to talk, and I have the right disposition for doing this with a woman, unless she is simple, in which case I am as taciturn as Herr Haydn. That says it all!

Now to something serious! Your esteemed son<sup>17</sup> ambushed me with sincere congratulations on my name-day<sup>18</sup> in his name and yours, yes, [55] in the name of all of you and including various others. As a punishment, he should in my place most humbly thank himself and everyone until such time as I have the honour and pleasure to pass on my thanks in person.<sup>19</sup>

Please let Herr Hirschberger<sup>20</sup> know that I am sorry that I am not in Vienna to take care of his business. [60] If it can wait until I get there, it will be the first thing that I take care of. But it would be wise to write to this man in the meantime and, if it is true that he has not received a reply even after 2 letters, it would be not a bad idea to send this letter to Herr Peisser<sup>21</sup> and ask him to have the letter delivered in such a way [65] that the man in question cannot deny receiving the letter.

I cannot give you any special news from here. They are holding church services here throughout all Moravia because of the worms and mice which have been seen in such numbers in the last one or two months [70] and which are eating up all the crops in the fields and the barns. On top of this, there is also a livestock epidemic in some areas towards, and in, Silesia itself. As far as the first is concerned, they hope that the vermin will perish when the cold comes. Here in Olmütz, I initially saw nothing but ecclesiastics and soldiers. Now some students are also to be seen and, [75] since the Prince<sup>22</sup> is due to arrive here today from Cremsir,<sup>23</sup> one will of course see some more people because of his admittedly small retinue. For so far I have seen Olmütz as nothing more than a place with hardly any population. I have mostly been a prisoner up till now, and my walk was mostly on the Hradisch Way and around the fortifications, [80] which I inspected as closely as one is allowed to and on which they are working uninterruptedly. The music in the cathedral is poor, yes, very poor! Actors are here,

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<sup>15</sup> BD: Küffel, cf. No. 0109/113.

<sup>16</sup> "Jungfer Tresel". BD: Nothing more known about her. On 17<sup>th</sup> August, 1768, Haydn married Maria Magdalena Lipp (1745-1828), daughter of the court organist Franz Ignaz Lipp.

<sup>17</sup> BD: No. 0121c (lost), probably from Ignaz Joseph, cf. No. 0045/21.

<sup>18</sup> BD: 15<sup>th</sup> November.

<sup>19</sup> BD: Remains mysterious without the letter.

<sup>20</sup> BD: Not identified.

<sup>21</sup> BD: Franz Xaver Peisser, banker in Vienna, correspondent of the Salzburg firm Hagenauer and known to the Mozarts since 1762. Cf. No. 0035/13. He arranged money transfers between Vienna and Salzburg.

<sup>22</sup> "Fürst". BD: The Bishop of Olmütz, Maximilian, Count [Graf] Hamilton.

<sup>23</sup> Kremsier, one of the palaces of the Bishops of Olmütz.

such as those that played in the Oxenstall in Salzburg. The *parterre noble* costs 10 kreuzers:<sup>24</sup> that's a good one! The second seats cost 7 kreuzers, and the 3<sup>rd</sup> 3 kreuzers. But you should not imagine it is aimed only at the riff-raff. [85] Not at all! I was there, and cathedral canons, generals etc., besides my Highness, graced the *parterre noble*. And there they even wear a very serious expression because of their 10 kreuzers and look on the 7 kreuzer seats with a contemptuous expression until the buffoon<sup>25</sup> |: who is the best person and the principal :| finally utters an authentic, unveiled, unambiguous, coarse mouthful [90] and moves the philosophical faces to a pleasant smile. I have no space left and there is hardly enough left for us all to commend ourselves and for me to say I am, sir, yours as always.

*P.S.* Please have a Holy Mass read in Loreto at the Holy Child.<sup>26</sup>

[95] *P.S.* Today I received a letter from Herr Küffel<sup>27</sup> with the ancient date the 2<sup>nd</sup> November on it. As I can see from the address on it, it went from Vienna to Herr Paul von Kofler,<sup>28</sup> from Vienna to Brno, and was left lying somewhere there, and only then came here to Herr von Pamesperg<sup>29</sup> zu Kettenburg. I would ask, with my compliments, that the enclosed be borne to the said Herr Küffel. [100]

It is open so that he can read and then seal it himself. And I beg you to say to him that he should write to Herr Zisterl<sup>30</sup> anyway, since he no doubt sees that I can do nothing because I am not in Vienna. But I doubt if this person will give up his engagements in Vienna in order to undertake a journey of this kind. [105] Herr Küffel must enclose this leaf in his letter or make an envelope.

Wolfgang was full of joy because of the letter in verse from Miss Sallerl.<sup>31</sup> The Count was with us in the room just at the moment when the letter arrived, and he had the honour to be the first to read it out loud. [110] I thought I would be sending you one unexpected and most satisfactory piece of news, and now you have the second one. I hope you will of course inform His High Princely Grace<sup>32</sup> via our titled Father Confessor, or already have done so, of our circumstances. I had enough to think about! It is impossible to think of everything, otherwise I would have written to His High Princely Grace myself.

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<sup>24</sup> 60 kreuzers = 1 florin.

<sup>25</sup> "Hannswurst". BD: Hannswurst: Stock figure in German theatre, in No. 0956/83 equated by Leopold with "Pagliaccio". Typically employing coarse and improvised lines.

<sup>26</sup> BD: Cf. Numerous similar requests concerning these pilgrimage centres near Salzburg in Nos. 0103/143 ff.; 0036/47-48; 0032/39 and elsewhere.

<sup>27</sup> BD: Küffel, cf. line 31.

<sup>28</sup> BD: Not identified.

<sup>29</sup> BD: Possibly Karl Pammesberg, citizen of the town, officer in the town guard, given special dispensation by Maria Theresia to wear his medal on a gold chain.

<sup>30</sup> BD: Probably the violinist Joseph Zistler.

<sup>31</sup> "Jungfer Sallerl". BD: Maria Anna Rosalia Walburga Joly [Joli] (1723-1788), usually referred to in the correspondence as "Sallerl", was for many years a friend of the Mozart family, especially of Nannerl and Wolfgang, with whom she exchanged humorous poems (cf. Nos. 0391/75 ff.; 0394/64 ff.). She was the daughter of the Salzburg Royal Confectioner Mathias Joly and his spouse Maria Anna Therese de Butelli (referred to as "the old madame Joly" in No. 0109/88); she was an aunt of the physician Dr. Johann Prex, whom Mozart met in Paris in 1766 (cf. Nos. 0109/89; 0110/4). She was certainly related to the chaplain Leopold Joly who married Leopold and Maria Anna Pertl in 1741. She worked as a chambermaid for Georg Anton Felix, Count [Graf] Arco (cf. No. 0157/24 f.); one of the daughters of this Count Arco was married to the Bavarian ambassador in Paris and Rosalia was thus able to arrange accommodation for the Mozarts in Paris (see lines 42-43).

<sup>32</sup> "S: Hochfürstlichen Gnaden". BD: Siegmund Christoph, Prince-Archbishop in Salzburg, Leopold's employer.