

Vienna, 6th Aug., 1768

I would never have imagined that I would still be Vienna on the feast-day of Saint Lawrence.³ I did not have the least doubt that I would have the pleasure of being able to congratulate you in person on your name-day. [5] But you are a witness yourself of how often *homo proponit, Deus disponit*⁴ has proved true in my case. My last letter⁵ gave you a detailed explanation of why, and with what vexation, I have to continue to stay on here. And I would be tired of such events if I had not known from experience that many a matter often took a completely different turn than I could ever have hoped. [10] And how sometimes divine Providence had apparently used force to drive me forwards or hold me back! Enough! Our wish from the most sincere hearts |: which you know :| is for constant good health for you and all who belong to you. May the Most High keep you and your whole household from all misfortune and allow, [15] today or tomorrow, as God wills, us to see each other together again in a blessed eternity, even if it were only in a heavenly gatekeeper's lodge; we would certainly not cause any expense to succeeding generations of Christians by our canonisation. I have noted with the greatest pleasure⁶ that the eminent Prince, His Grace of Eichstätt,⁷ has left fine presents behind him in Salzburg. [20] A sign that his stay there was a pleasure. I wish for more of these events. I cannot report anything from here, except that, several days ago, almost all of *Eysenstatt*⁸ was reduced to ashes by an accident. It will no doubt be reported at length in the newspapers. In Poland the developments are very heated:⁹ as long as it does not bring further consequences in its wake. [25] There are reasons to fear that. But at the same time everyone is in splendid fettle. Keep well, sir, we all commend ourselves. From Herr *Peysser*¹⁰ I again received 20 #¹¹ today. We are, praise God, well. By the way, do you know that *inoculation* against smallpox is having great success? At Medling,¹² near Schönbrunn, the Empress has placed a house for children at the disposal of the English *inoculator*. [30]

It applies to poor children, of whom each, or rather their parents, receives a ducat on entry. — —

Over 40 have already been inoculated. The Emperor and the Empress¹³ come to the house almost daily, and are entirely occupied with it. [35] Almost all the esteemed *medici* here, on the other hand, are almost furious over it. Is that any surprise? It was simply a certain illness and a certain cure, which, whether it worked or not, usually earned a lot. Praise God! Our inoculator was the best.¹⁴

¹ BD: Original lost. Copyist A; NissenB.

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

³ BD: 10th August, Hagenauer's name-day.

⁴ Man proposes, God disposes.

⁵ BD: No. 0135.

⁶ BD: From No. 0135a (lost).

⁷ "Tit: Fürst: Gnaden von Eychstatt". BD: Cf. No. 0134/22. Prince-Bishop Raimund Anton Stras(s)oldo of Eichstätt (1718-1781), surely related to the Joseph Friedrich Adam, Count [Graf] Stras(s)oldo (* 1738) mentioned in No. 0895/39-40.

⁸ BD: Eisenstadt. Joseph Haydn also lost his house to the flames.

⁹ BD: Dispute between nationalist and pro-Russian parties. When Russia intervened, the nationalists appealed to Turkey for help, resulting in the Russian-Turkish Wars (1768-1774).

¹⁰ BD: Franz Xaver Peisser, banker in Vienna, correspondent of the Salzburg firm Hagenauer and known to the Mozarts since 1762.

¹¹ BD: 20 ducats.

¹² BD: Meidling, on the south-east side of Vienna. At the request of Maria Theresia, King George III of England sent a Dutch (!) physician, who inoculated the Emperor's brothers Ferdinand and Maximilian Franz.

¹³ "Kayser... Kayserin". BD: Joseph II and Maria Theresia.

¹⁴ BD: I.e. the illness itself, which could not return a second time.