

Man[n]heim, 31st
Octobris, 1777

My dearest husband, yesterday, the 30th, both of us reached here¹ safe and sound at 6 o'clock in the evening, thanks be to God. Last Sunday, the 26th, [5] we left Augspurg,² stopped in Donauwerth³ at midday, in the afternoon to Nördlingen, from there drove, until as late as 7 o'clock, to Hohen Altheim⁴, where Prince von Wallerstein⁵ is staying, and stopped at a miserable inn. We would have left again the next day, but that I had developed a severe catarrh, [10] so we have been held up 2 nights and one day. Herr Berwein⁶ was with us most of the time. The Prince von Wallerstein is much to be pitied, since he is in a state of the greatest melancholy. He cannot see anyone without beginning to weep. Wolfgang spoke to him, he is so distracted that he asked him about one matter 4 to 5 times. He does not listen to music and is always with his child, [15] so we left for Nördlingen at half past 6 in the morning on Tuesday the 28th, on St. Simon and St. Jude's Day. Because Captain Becke⁷ gave us the marching route, an abominable road to Ellwangen and going afterwards via Schwäbisch Hall and Heillbrung⁸ to Heidelberg and Mannheim, and the postmaster in Ellwangen strongly advised against it [20] and said that none of the travellers take that route except on horse, we went from Ellwangen to Aller, Schwäbischgmünd, Schorndorff, Constatt, Endzweiungen, Knüdlingen, Bruchsal, Wagheusel, Schwetzingen, Mannheim,⁹ and it is only 1 ½ post stages further. Now Wolfgang is calling on the young Herr Danner.¹⁰ He is already married and younger by a year than my son. [25] The old Herr Danner is not here, but is coming back from his country estate on Monday. In the meantime, his son is taking Wolfgang to Monsieur Räff¹¹ and Kanewich.¹² Yesterday, when we had hardly driven a few shots¹³ from Bruchsal, we met on the road Herr von Schmid,¹⁴

¹ BD: The route between Augsburg and Mannheim described by Maria Anna Mozart is generally the same as the route taken by the Mozart family in 1763 on their grand journey: Augsburg – Donauwörth – Hohenaltheim – Nördlingen – Ellwangen – Aalen – Schwäbisch Gmünd – Schorndorf – Cannstatt – Enzvaehingen – Knittlingen – Bruchsal – Waghäusel – Schwetzingen – Mannheim.

² Augsburg, where Leopold was born and where his brother still lived.

³ Donauwörth.

⁴ Hohenaltheim.

⁵ "fürst von Wallerstein". BD: Kraft Ernst, Count [Graf] Öttingen-Wallerstein (1748-1802), met Mozart in Rome in 1770 and sent numerous reports of Mozart's play in Rome to his widowed mother. In 1777, Mozart visited Kraft Ernst and his mother in Hohenaltheim, but he was still deep in mourning for his wife. Kraft Ernst developed a passion for the music of Joseph Haydn, with whom he exchanged correspondence.

⁶ BD: The oboist Marcus Berwein, an old acquaintance of the Mozarts. Was a member of the court music in Wallerstein 1776-1781, but fled because of debts and took instruments with him.

⁷ BD: Notger Ignaz Franz von Beecke (1733-1803), keyboard player, later superintendent of music in Wallerstein, cf. No. 0111/33-34. The first publication of his compositions was in Paris. He took part in a keyboard "competition" with Mozart in Munich in winter 1774/75, cf. No. 0312/22. He was also a captain in the dragoons at Wallerstein.

⁸ BD: Heilbronn.

⁹ BD: Aalen, Schwäbisch Gmünd, Schorndorf, Cannstatt, Vaihingen on the Enz, Knittlingen, Bruchsal, Wagheusel, Schwetzingen, Mannheim.

¹⁰ BD: Christian Franz: son of Johann Georg Danner (1722-1803), court musician (violinist), who had been known to the Mozarts since 1763.

¹¹ BD: Anton Raaff (1714-1797), son of a shepherd, originally intended for the priesthood, appeared as a singer in Bonn, Vienna, Paris, Lisbon, Madrid and Naples before a longer period of service in Mannheim and Munich.

¹² BD: Christian Cannabich (1731-1798), director of the instrumental music at court in Mannheim, and then director of the court music in Munich.

¹³ BD: As far as a flintlock could shoot.

who was travelling from Speür¹⁵ to Bruchsal. He recognised us, and Wolfgang him. [30] He alighted at once and shouted Halt, came to our coach, spoke to us and was exceptionally glad to see us. At the same time, he regretted that he is no longer in Manheim. He also suggested we should take lodgings at the inn known as The Palatine Court,¹⁶ where he always stays. So we are here and not at The Prince Friedrich.¹⁷ There it is much more expensive. [35] If we see that we have to stay here longer, we will go into a private apartment,¹⁸ for living in the inns is too expensive. Otherwise, I hope that you and Nannerl are in good health. What, then, is my little Pimpes¹⁹ doing? I have not heard anything about her for a long time. I am heartily sorry about the sudden death of the Senior Equerry's wife.²⁰ Now Fräulein Tonerl's²¹ mouth will surely be watering. Wolfgang is writing today to your esteemed brother-in-law²² in Augspurg so that he can send on the letters to us, for we said to him that he should keep them until we send him the address, so he will hardly be able to write to you today, for now he is at the ~~opera~~ oratorio²³ rehearsal, and the post leaves at 6 o'clock and now it is half past 4, [45] so please make do with nothing better than my modest self.

MOZART'S POSTSCRIPT:

Please make do²⁴ with my mediocre self as well. Today, I was at Msr. Canabich's²⁵ with Herr Danner. He was exceptionally courteous. I played something to him on his *piano forte* |: which is very good:|. We went to the rehearsal together. [50] I thought I could not suppress the laughter when I was presented to the people. Some, who knew me *per renomé*,²⁶ were very courteous and full of respect. Some, however, who know nothing more about me, stared at me with wide eyes, but also certainly mockingly. They simply think that because I am small and young, there can be nothing at all great about me.²⁷ But they will soon find out. [55] Tomorrow, Herr Canabich himself will take me to Count Savioli,²⁸ supervisor of the music. The best thing is that the Elector's name-day²⁹ is just coming up. The oratorio which they are rehearsing is by Händl.³⁰ But I did not stay, for before that there was a rehearsal of a Psalm and Magnificat³¹ by Vogler,³² the deputy music director

¹⁴ BD: Perhaps Johann Michael Schmid (cf. No. 0020/33), who directed music at court in Mainz 1756-1787 and whom the Mozarts had met in Mainz in 1763.

¹⁵ BD: Speyer.

¹⁶ "in Pfälzischen hof". BD: Customs-house, post-stage and inn. Mozart and his mother stayed here 30th Oct. – 12th December, 1777.

¹⁷ "Prinz-fridrich". BD: The Mozart family stayed here in 1763.

¹⁸ BD: Cf. No. 0390/4 ff.

¹⁹ BD: The dog at home in Salzburg, cf. No. 0291/37.

²⁰ "oberpreitherin". BD: Cf. No. 0354/5, 7, 8. Wife of Senior Equerry [Oberbereiter] Weyrother.

²¹ BD: Cf. No. 0355/120. BD: "Thonerl": Maria Anna Constantia Barisani (1754-1778), the daughter of the Prince-Archbishop's personal physician, Dr. Silvester Barisani. She married the widower Weyrother in April, 1778, but died the same year (cf. No. 0509/72 ff.).

²² BD: Leopold's brother Franz Alois Mozart (1727-1791), bookbinder in Augsburg; cf. No. 0006/7.

²³ BD: Mozart corrects "opera" to "oratorio" (cf. facsimile on DME website). The rehearsal was for Handel's *Messiah*, directed by Vogler, cf. line 59. It is not known whether Mozart attended the performance.

²⁴ Mozart writes (deliberately?) "verlieb zu nehmen" instead of "vorlieb zu nehmen", suggesting "enamoured".

²⁵ Cannabich, cf. line 27.

²⁶ = "by reputation".

²⁷ BD: Cf. No. 0570/23-24 (Elector [Kurfürst] Karl Theodor's conversation with Mozart).

²⁸ "Graf Savioli". BD: Louis Aurel, Count [Graf] Savioli († 1788), supervisor of music at court. Mozart was presented to him by music director Holzbauer on 4th November, 1777 (cf. No. 0363/28-29).

²⁹ BD: Karl Theodor (1724-1799), Elector [Kurfürst] of the Palatinate, where he encouraged the arts in Mannheim, and from 30th December, 1777, Elector of Bavaria. Name-day: 4th November.

³⁰ Handel.

³¹ BD: Possibly the Magnificat in C for soloists, choir and orchestra.

here, and that lasted nothing less than an hour. Now I must finish, [60] for I still have to write to my little cousin.³³ I kiss Papa's hands and I embrace my sisterly darling briefly and properly, just as it comes.

✠ Joannes Chrisostomus ♡ Sigismundus
Wolfgang Gottlieb Mozart.

[65] # Today is my name-day! ♡ This is the name with which I was confirmed!

✠ The 27th January is my birthday!

Our compliments to all acquaintances, especially to Count Leopold Arco,³⁴ Herr [70] Bullinger,³⁵ Mad:^{selle} Chatherl³⁶ and the entire shitting³⁷ company.

MOZART'S POSTSCRIPT TO ROSALIE JOLY:³⁸

*À Mad^{selle} Rosalie Joli.*³⁹

A thousand thanks, dear Sallerl, sweet and gracious,
I drink to honour you a cup capacious
Of coffee, tea, then lemonade-like drink,
[75] In which we let a stick of pomade sink;
Oh woe, it's just struck six, and, as a rule,
Who won't believe it is – he is – a fool.

The continuation follows with the next post.

[Literally:

I say a thousand thanks to you, my dearest Sallerl,
and drink to your honour a whole bowl
of coffee and then also tea and lemonade,
[75] and dunk a little stick of pomade
and also – – the pain, the pain, it's just striking six,
and whoever does not believe it is – he is – a clown.
The continuation follows with the next post.]

³² BD: Georg Joseph Vogler (1749-1814). After studying law and theology he became a court chaplain in Mannheim. He was sent to study in Italy for two years, returning to become spiritual adviser and deputy music director. Also active as teacher and theorist. Mozart usually spoke disparagingly of him.

³³ BD: Mozart's cousin Maria Anna Thekla Mozart (1758-1841), known in Mozart's letters as his "Bäsle" ["little cousin"].

³⁴ BD: Leopold Ferdinand III, Count [Graf] Arco (1764-1832), son of Senior Chamberlain [Oberstkämmerer] Leopold Julius Felix, Count [Graf] Arco: one of the younger court gentlemen. Probably a pupil of Leopold Mozart. Cf. Nos. 0347/203; 0337/111.

³⁵ BD: Abbé Franz Joseph Johann Nepomuk Bullinger (1744-1810), Jesuit, private tutor, friend of the Mozart family in Salzburg, where he seems to have arrived between 1774 and 1776. House tutor to Count [Graf] Leopold Ferdinand Arco, later to Count [Graf] Sigmund ("Sigerl") Lodron. Mozart called him "his best of all friends" (cf. No. 0459/1).

³⁶ BD: "Katherl, Katerl, Catherl", Katharina Gilowsky (1750-1802), daughter of Wenzel Andreas Gilowsky, court surgeon, member of the airgun club of earlier years, frequenter of the Mozart family home. Sometime governess to the children of Leopold Andreas, Count [Graf] Plaz.

³⁷ BD: Mozart (deliberately?) writes "scheis" ("shite") instead of "schiess" ("shoot"), referring to the airgun club in which the Mozarts were members, cf. No. 0330/5.

³⁸ BD: A reply to No. 0354/109 ff.

³⁹ 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 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 [konfektmeister] Mathias Joly.