

[Salzburg, presented on 7th August, 1778]

Most Worthy, Distinguished and Nobly Born, Most Learned
Gentlemen of the High Princely, Most Praiseworthy Court Council in Salzburg
By Elevated and Proper Decree, My Lords
[5] Court Council President, Court Chancellor, Director
And my other Lords of the Court Council!³

The unexpected, very sad death of my blessed wife in Paris brought with it the necessity of the customary moratorium on her estate imposed by the high authorities, which has been duly enacted. Now, however, since my blessed wife did not have the least means at all when we joined in matrimony, [10] there was no thought of accruing the same in future on such a low salary and she had taken the items of clothing and the little she had besides with her so that not the least thing was left behind, I accordingly most obediently beseech Your Worships, Distinguished and Noble-Born Graces, both Counts and Barons,⁴ [15] to have the moratorium lifted, at the same time graciously sparing me, since not the least estate is extant, the costs otherwise incurred in the process. In this regard, if anyone should have a justified demand to make, I furthermore declare that I shall pay – herewith moreover commending myself most obediently to Your Provident High Graces,⁵
Your Most Worthy Graces, both Counts and Barons,

Your most submissively obedient
Leopold Mozart
High Princely Deputy Music Director⁶

¹ BD: Original last mentioned in auction catalogue Albert Cohn, March, 1894. Schiedemair IV.

² “Hofrat”.

³ “Hochwürdig, Hoch und Wohlgebohrne, Hochgelehrte / des Hochfürstl: Hochlöbl: Hofraths in Salzburg / Hoch und Wohlverordnete Herrn, Herrn / Hofraths President, Hof Canzler, Direktor / und andere Herrn Hofräthe”.

⁴ “Euer Hochwürden, Hoch und Wohlgebohrn Hochgräfl auch Freyh: Gnaden und Gnaden”.

⁵ “zu fürwehrenden Hohen Gnaden”.

⁶ “Hochfürstl: Vicekapellmeister”.