

*À Monsieur / Monsieur Wolfgang Amade Mozart / Maître de Musique / à /
Strasbourg*¹

Salzburg, 1st Octob., 1778

I am not at all happy with *Msr. Grimm*² for managing your departure from Paris so astonishingly. [5] I received his letter³ of the 11th on 29th Sept., in which he informed me that you would leave on 26th *September par les Carosses de Strasbourg*,⁴ just when I had sent you a reply⁵ which would not reach you until 3 Octb. He says you will be travelling for 10 days, reaching *Strasbourg* on the 5th or 6th of October; – [10] when I could not know if my letter⁶ of the 17th *Sept.* might possibly reach you before the day of your departure,⁷ namely before the 26th, yes, perhaps only on this day itself: enclosed in it, moreover, is the address of Herr Johann Georg Scherz⁸ in *Strasb.*, where you present yourself for the necessary help and for the necessary money as far as Augsp.,⁹ I was therefore very concerned [15] and had to make sure of writing to you at once with today's post so that you are provided for and are not left to take the incidental costs on yourself and drain your resources unnecessarily. Fortunately, *Msr. Grimm* wrote¹⁰ to me that he had directed you to the Frank Brothers¹¹ there. Now, since they are also the correspondents there for the Salzburg trading house of Sigmund Hafner,¹² and since they are furthermore one of the most reputable houses in Strasbourg, [20] I could thus do nothing better for your security than to write¹³ at once to those esteemed Frank Brothers and enclose your letter so that you can call on Herr Johan Georg Scherz regarding the letter of recommendation and credit which they received from the Hafners a long time ago. I have thus, I believe, prevented any disorder occurring. [25] In the letter which I wrote to you on 24th Sept. and which will no longer reach you in Paris if you have left on the 26th but which will probably be sent on to you and for which you must leave a forwarding address if you leave Strasbourg earlier, for example, to be delivered c/o Herr Franz Aloysius Mozart,¹⁴ book-binder in Augsp., [30] or else at the monastery at Holy Cross,¹⁵ although the first address, at my brother's, seems

¹ = "To Monsieur Wolfgang Amade Mozart, music director in Strasbourg".

² BD: Friedrich Melchior von Grimm (1723-1807), 1748 private secretary to the Saxon Count [Graf] Friese, with whom he moved to Paris, where he was in contact with the Encyclopaedists. Various publications, one of which, in 1763, mentioned the Mozart children. He was living with the Marquise d'Épinay just mentioned. His relationship with Mozart broke down in 1778 during the latter's stay in Paris. After his mother's death, Mozart moved into accommodation in the house shared by Grimm and Madame d'Épinay. Cf. lines 97; No. 0462/40.

³ BD: No. 0488, lost.

⁴ = "with the Strasbourg coaches".

⁵ BD: No. 0491.

⁶ BD: No. 0490.

⁷ BD: Wolfgang's departure on the 26th is known only from Leopold's letters (Nos. 0493/11, 26; 0505/9; 0509/65); Wolfgang does not mention the date in the correspondence.

⁸ BD: Johann Georg Scherz, Strasbourg correspondent for the Salzburg mercantile firm Haffner, cf. No. 0490/56-57, 68, 70.

⁹ = Augsburg. Home of Wolfgang's uncle, aunt and cousin ("Bäsele"). Wolfgang had stopped there on his journey Salzburg – Paris.

¹⁰ BD: No. 0488, lost.

¹¹ BD: Cf. No. 0493/18-19. The Frank brothers were agents for the Salzburg mercantile firm Haffner.

¹² BD: Sigmund Haffner the Elder (1699-1772), succeeded by Sigmund the Younger (1756-1787). Serenade and symphony KV 250 and 385 were written for the Haffner family.

¹³ BD: No. 0492, lost.

¹⁴ BD: Leopold's brother Franz Alois Mozart (1727-1791), bookbinder in Augsburg; cf. No. 0006/7.

¹⁵ Monastery in Augsburg where Wolfgang spent a good deal of time on his last visit to the town.

safer to me, and these addresses must be left not only with the esteemed Frank Bros. but also with Herr Scherz: – In this last letter of mine, then, I told you, among other things, that your idea of travelling to Mannheim has to be dropped anyway because *Mdss.^{le} Weber*¹⁶ [35] will long since have reached Munich, or will already be there by the time you read this, not only because of the opera *Rosamund*¹⁷ to be performed in Munich on 4th November,¹⁸ but also because Count Seeau¹⁹ has engaged her at the German Theatre²⁰ for 600 florins and the Weber family,²¹ with the father's 400 florins, has 1000 florins a year. [40] It would not be at all to my liking if you vexed me by multiplying my debts by a foolish journey, yes, it would be the silliest prank, since you will come to Munich so late anyway after a stop in Augsp. at Holy Cross that everyone from Mannheim will have reached there a long time ago. I gather that an Italian *opera* will be performed in Munich during *Carnival*, [45] it being *Alceste*²² |: probably by *Gluk*²³ :|; I do not know if that is true, *Becke*²⁴ has not yet written anything to me about it. – Now I come to your journey. I do not in fact know whether the post-coach goes to Augsp. via Donauöschingen or via Stuttgart.²⁵ *Msr. Grim* sends his letters via Stuttgart and Herr Bullinger²⁶ says the same, and is quite certain. [50] Since I very much doubt whether you would earn anything from Prince von Fürstenberg²⁷ in Donauöschingen, since his budget has been restricted and he is in under compulsory administration,²⁸ you could of course go to Stuttgart via Rastat, Baden Durlach²⁹ or Carlsruhe. All the places I have just mentioned belong, as far as I know or believe, to only

¹⁶ BD: Aloisia Weber (c. 1760-1839) was 17 when Mozart met first her. She was already singing at court in Mannheim. She became a focus of Mozart's romantic aspirations. The family moved to Munich in 1778. In 1779 she was given a leading position at the German Opera in Vienna [Deutsche Oper]. Cf. No. 0405/30.

¹⁷ BD: The opera *Rosemunde* by Anton Schweitzer (1735-1787), text by Christoph Martin Wieland (1733-1795), but the première, in Mannheim, was delayed until 20th January, 1780, following the death of the Bavarian Elector Maximilian III Joseph. Cf. Nos. 0377/62; 0385/55.

¹⁸ BD: Name-day of the Elector (Karl = Charles), cf. No. 0478/259-260, where plans for an opera on this day are described.

¹⁹ "graf Seeau". BD: Josef Anton, Count [Graf] Seeau († 1799), from 1753 supervisor of the Palace Theatre [Residenztheater] in Munich. One of his relatives, Ferdinand, Count [Graf] Seeau, († 1768) was Senior Stable Master [Oberstallmeister] in Salzburg.

²⁰ "zum deutschen Theater".

²¹ BD: Family of Franz Fridolin Weber (1733-1779): after two years studying law, became a high administrative official [Amtmann in Zell zu Wiesental und Stetten]. Married Maria Caecilia Stamm (1727-1793), daughter of Otto Stamm, secretary to the Palatine government; they had 5 daughters and 1 surviving son. Forced to leave his position in 1763, was then employed at the court in Mannheim as a bass, prompter and music copyist. His daughter Aloisia was a particularly gifted singer and became a focus for Mozart's romantic aspirations.

²² BD: It was in fact a different *Alceste*, one by Schweitzer. Anton Schweitzer (1735-1787), composer. Mozart met him in Mannheim, cf. Nos. 0074/15; 0907/51.

²³ BD: Christoph Willibald Gluck (1714-1787).

²⁴ BD: Johann Baptist Becké (1743-1817), flautist in the court music in Munich, kept the Mozarts informed about developments there. Played in the music for the Archduke mentioned in note on No. 0333/6.

²⁵ = Donaueschingen, Stuttgart. BD: The post-coach actually travelled Rastatt – Karlsruhe – Stuttgart – Ulm. A route from Switzerland went Zurich – Winterthur – Schaffhausen – Donaueschingen – Messkirch – Ulm – Augsburg.

²⁶ 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. Amateur viola player. Mozart called him "his best of all friends" (cf. Nos. 0331/5; 0459/1).

²⁷ "Fürst von Fürstenberg". BD: Resident in Donaueschingen. On Wolfgang's possible plans there cf. No. 0491/112-113.

²⁸ BD: The privy councillor Bernhard von Fortenbach had been entrusted with reducing the financial burden on the principality.

²⁹ BD: In 1527 the Margravate [Markgrafschaft] of Baden was divided into an upper and lower Margravate (Baden-Baden, residence in Rastatt, and Baden-Durlach, residence in Karlsruhe). On the death of Karl III Wilhelm in 1771, Baden-Baden reverted to Baden-Durlach. Leopold shows that he is precisely informed.

one sovereign, since the Margraves of Baden have died out, except one single person, [55] who will be Lutheran and where that certain Schmidbauer³⁰ is presumably music director, but in which of these places he resides I do not know; but they are all not far away from Strasburg. From Stuttgart it is not far to Dischingen,³¹ where Prince Taxis³² will be; they will know at the court in Stuttgart whether he is there or not. [60] From Dischingen you could drive to Kaysersheim,³³ a large and very impressive monastery with a prelate, and from there to the Bishop of Eychstätt,³⁴ who is a Count Strasoldo³⁵ and who became Prince in Eychstätt³⁶ with the help of our Archbishop Schrattenbach³⁷ of blessed memory, since the Archbishop had arranged to have himself elected in Eychstätt, but the Prince of Eychstätt was subsequently in Salzburg when we were in Vienna,³⁸ and the Archbishop was so angry that we were not there.

You then go on from Eychstätt to Augspurg.³⁹ It is not far out of your way, and if I were with you, I should have the cost of travel |: at least :| well reimbursed; yes, I would perhaps want to have money left over and the journey should cost me nothing, [70] only I do not know if you are in the frame of mind for such things: – but this I know: that one must keep one’s thoughts on this business alone once one embarks on it; that one must have a reliable hired coachman from one place to the next, and also a good friend in each place to negotiate coach fares – [75] that one must know the distances between the places precisely so as not to run the risk of driving on into the night during these short days; – that one has to make enquiries regarding the safety of the roads since now many idlers will be swarming around in the Roman Empire because of the Prussian desertions, resorting to robbery and stealing, since many 1000s of men have already run away from the King in Prussia⁴⁰ [80] and that one should not stay longer in any place than absolutely necessary, especially when the business is finished, or – if one sees that there is nothing to be done. Nor do I know whether – and what you have with you in the way of musical material. Much depends on circumstances. Regarding everything written above, Frank Brothers and Herr Johann Georg Scherz [85] will be able to give you more precise information and advice. The [Duchy]⁴¹ of Baden-Durlach is not far from Strasburg for a start. Stuttgart, or also Ludwigsburg, where the Duke von Württemberg⁴² may be, is close to Baden. The Duke is

³⁰ BD: Joseph Alois Schmittbaur (1718-1809), from 1754 one of the royal musicians in Rastatt. Moved to Karlsruhe with other royal musicians in 1771. 1775-1777 music director in Cologne Cathedral. From 1777 is it director at court in Karlsruhe. Taught the blind glass harmonica virtuoso Marianne Kirchgassner, for whom Mozart wrote the Adagio and Rondo KV 617 in 1791.

³¹ BD: Dischingen, on the border between Bavaria and Württemberg, on the Danube about 15 km north-west of Dillingen, palace of the Prince [Fürst] of Thurn und Taxis. Leopold's figure of “11 miles” (line 94) is close to the actual figure of 85 km (as the crow flies).

³² “Fürst Taxis”. BD: Prince [Fürst] Carl Anselm von Thurn und Taxis (1733-1805); ruled 1773-1805.

³³ BD: Kaisheim by Donauwörth. In December, 1778, Wolfgang travelled with the Abbot of Kaisheim, Imperial Prelate [Reichsprälat] Coelestin II Angelsprugger (1726-1783) from Mannheim (via Heidelberg – Heilbronn – Schwäbisch Hall – Crailsheim – Dinkelsbühl – Nördlingen – Donauwörth) to Kaisheim (cf. Nos. 0508/20 ff.; 0510/14 ff.). After some days there, he continued his journey with the Abbot as far as Munich (cf. No. 0510/8-9).

³⁴ BD: Eichstätt by Ingolstadt.

³⁵ “graf Strasoldo”. BD: Raimund Anton, Count [Graf] Strassoldo († 1781), elected [Prince-]Bishop of Eichstätt in September, 1778.

³⁶ “fürst in Eychstätt”: i.e. Prince-Bishop [Fürst-Bischof].

³⁷ BD: Siegmund Christoph von Schrattenbach (1698-1771), Prince-Archbishop [Fürsterzbischof] in Salzburg from 1753 following long association with the cathedral. Leopold’s employer until 1771.

³⁸ BD: Probably in 1762.

³⁹ BD: Leopold is therefore recommending Stuttgart – Dischingen – Kaisheim – Eichstätt – Augspurg.

⁴⁰ “König in Preussen”. BD: Frederick II (“the Great”) (1712-1786), r. 1740-1786. At this point he was involved in the War of the Bavarian Succession with Bavaria and Austria.

⁴¹ BD: Word missing (“Herzogtum”).

⁴² “Herzog von Württemberg”. BD: 0493/87: Karl II Eugen von Württemberg (1728-1793; r. from 1737). Ludwigsburg was his secondary residence. Cf. No. 0053/17, 27, 44. ,

known as an astonishing lover of music and has set up a big music school⁴³ for young people which even the Emperor⁴⁴ has inspected personally [90] and which deserves to be looked at. There you should apply all means humanly possible to arrange to speak to His Illustriousness the Duke.⁴⁵ You should ask the esteemed Franks, and also Herr Scherz, to give you a recommendation for that place. From Stuttgart it is not more than around 11 miles⁴⁶ to Dischingen, to Prince Taxis, that would be as far as from Salzb. to beyond Wasserburg. [95] From the court at Studgard you can get a recommendation, perhaps from the Duke himself, for Prince Taxis. One has to look for letters [...].⁴⁷ From Dischingen it is a short outing by coach to Kaysersheim and Eychstätt, and from Eychstätt it is only 12 hours to Augspurg. But just make sure of always having a reliable hired coachman, or of going by post-coach with other people. [100] If nothing can be done with a concert in Strasburg or if there is otherwise nothing to be earned quickly, seek to move on and do not use up money and time for nothing. Herr Scherz should give you as much money as he believes you need, for N.B. in Augspurg you will certainly find money at my brother's, since I will write to him. If you should come to Rastatt, [105] there should be an old *musicus* there who has a pension and who is the father⁴⁸ of the oboist who has received a post with us, Herr Feiner. Now I know nothing more to write to you about other than the danger the house of Lodron is in of losing their prospective heir, Count Sigmund⁴⁹ |: Sigerl :| due to an internal inflammation: today they gave him the Holy *Sacramenta*. [110] Since they do not know whether it comes from his immoderate passions and way of life or from falling from a horse twice, they are between fear and hope – but always more in fear! I hope to receive news from Strasburg about which route you are taking so that I can make my arrangements accordingly, I wish you a good journey, which I, Nannerl and Herr Bullinger⁵⁰ pray God to grant, [115] and, as I wait for you, I am your sincere father Mozart.

I and Nannerl kiss you a million times.

⁴³ BD: Duke [Herzog] Karl II Eugen established the “Karlsschule” as a military orphanage in 1770. It became a military academy in 1773 and was moved to Stuttgart in 1775 there is increasingly became an academy for natural sciences and the arts.

⁴⁴ “Kayser”. BD: Joseph II (1741-1790), Holy Roman Emperor [Kaiser] 1765-1790. Son of Maria Theresia. He visited the Academy in spring, 1777, on his way to Paris; pupils gave concerts marking the occasion on the 7th and 8th April, 1777; in addition, the opera *Didone abbandonata* by Niccolò Jommelli was performed. Joseph II elevated to university status [Hochschule] in 1781. Students included Schiller (1773-1780) and Johann Andreas Streicher (1761-1833), maker of keyboard instruments and later son-in-law of Johann Andreas Stein.

⁴⁵ “S: Durchl: dem Herzog”.

⁴⁶ “Meile” [“mile”] = approx. 7.6 km.(!) (Klimpert, *Lexikon der Münzen, Masse...*, Berlin, 1896).

⁴⁷ BD: Two words destroyed by the seal.

⁴⁸ BD: Ludwig Feiner, father of the oboist Joseph Feiner (cf. No. 0359/121).

⁴⁹ BD: Cf. No. 0359/121: Sigerl Lodron: Sigmund, Count [Graf] Lodron, son of the Hereditary Marshall [Erbmarschall] Ernst Maria Joseph Nepomuk, Count [Graf] Lodron (1716-1779).

⁵⁰ 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. Amateur viola player. Mozart called him “his best of all friends” (cf. Nos. 0331/5; 0459/1).