

Most Nobly Born, most Highly Honoured
Sir.

Salzb., 10th
Aug., 1781

To everything that you wrote to me dated 30th *Julii* I will reply in the greatest detail here. You received a communication from me from Munich last winter. [5] Since I was consequently not in Salzb. during the fair, I *commissioned* a merchant there to present himself at Schwarzkopf's² agency regarding a payment, but he received the same answer that Herr Stein gave me at the Michaelmas fair the previous year, that he had received no *ordre*³ from you to pay me anything. I have consequently received no payment. [10] Regarding the remainder of 20 florins 8 kreuzers still in your hands, sir, the circumstances are as follows. While the instruments were being worked on at Grenser's⁴ in Dressden, you received from me 25 copies of the violin school,⁵ for which the amount, at 1 f 30 Xr – comes to 37 f 30 Xr.

You wrote to me dated 4th *Julii*, 1778, that Herr Schwarzkopf will pay me. [15] But on the 4th Octob., 1778 I received from Schwarzk.'s agency only 17 f 21 Xr, while I presumed you had paid him 20 f 8 Xr according to the order I had made in favour of Herr Grenser, in which case our account would have been settled.

	to Grenser	20 f 8
[20]	I received:	17 - 21

—————
37 „ 29 „ –

You also wrote to me on 30th March, 1779 that Herr Schwarzkopf had informed you that I had not accepted the whole sum, being of the opinion that the remainder had been paid to Herr Grenser. [25] But since you had received neither a letter nor an *ordre* from the lazy man, you did not know where you stood on the matter, and in the same letter you once again requested 30 copies etc. – To this I replied, via an enclosure sent to Herr Schwarzkopf on 29th April, 1779, that I had already sent the books off on the 28th, and asked for the remainder still in your hands, the aforementioned 20 f 8 x, [30] to be paid to Herr Grenser and to have a receipt made out. Now, because I heard nothing after that from either Grenser or yourself, and this lazy man did not even write me a syllable concerning it, it remained this way, without my being able to know whether he had drawn it or not. If, now, he has not appropriated it, or does not wish to, the best thing will be to have the remainder paid to me by Herr Schwarzk. at a suitable opportunity. [35] This is really taking it too far with laziness, for I have known enough people who are too lazy to work and rather perish, but negligence in collecting money and calling in debts is a rare characteristic. Concerning my son, he is no longer in service here. He was summoned to Vienna by the Prince,⁶ [40] who was in Vienna at the time, when we were in Munich, and he set off for there from Munich on 12th March; I, however, returned to Salzburg on the 14th with my daughter. Now, since His High Princely Grace⁷ mistreated my son quite extraordinarily there and the entire higher nobility, on the contrary, showed special

¹ BD: Later “Breitkopf & Härtel”. Founded as “Breitkopf” in 1719. On 1st November, 1795, Christoph Gottlob Breitkopf concluded a contract of partnership with Gottfried Christoph Härtel (1763-1827). This was followed in 1796 by a secret contract of sale in which the entire Breitkopf business was made over to Gottfried Christoph Härtel. The latter was also declared universal heir by Breitkopf shortly before his death in 1800.

² BD: The Nuremberg representative of the publisher Breitkopf, cf. No. 0163/31.

³ = “order”.

⁴ BD: The family instrument-making firm founded in Dresden by Karl Augustin Grenser (1720-1807).

⁵ BD: Leopold's *Versuch einer gründlichen Violinschule* of 1756.

⁶ BD: Hieronymus Joseph Franz de Paula, Count [Graf] Colloredo (1732-1812), Prince-Archbishop [Fürst-Erzbischof] of Salzburg from 1772. Employer of Leopold and, for two periods, of Wolfgang. Cf. No. 0263/9. At one point he dismissed both Leopold and Wolfgang, although Leopold was later reinstated. Cf. No. 0328.

⁷ “S^r Hochf. gd.”. The Prince-Archbishop of Salzburg.

honour towards him, [45] they could therefore easily persuade him to quit his journeyman's service with its miserable remuneration and stay on in Vienna.

As far as I know, 6 *sonatas* for clavier and a violin will be *engraved* there.⁸ They have furthermore requested him to take on an *operetta* which is already to be performed in the middle of September, and he still has to compose it, [50] because it is intended for the arrival of the Grand Prince of Russia.⁹

The 6 *sonatas* dedicated to Her Serene Highness the Electress of the Bavarian Palatinate are published by Herr Sieber in Paris, also available from him in rue S:^t honoré à l'hôtel D'Aligre ancien grand conseil. [55] He took them in hand from my son for 15 *Louis neuf*,¹⁰ 30 *copies* and freedom of *dedication*. Those which we thus have are no longer available or in fact have been given away in return for *douceurs*.¹¹

His opera in Munich was *Idomeneo*. The remarkable thing was that everything was by persons based in Salzb. The poetry by the Court Chaplain here, *Abbate Varesco*,¹² – the music by my son, – the German translation [60] by Herr Schachtner.¹³ They wanted to persuade us by all means to publish the *opera* printed¹⁴ or *engraved*, the entire score, or arranged for the keyboard. There were already *subscribers* for some 20 *copies*, including His Serene Highness Prince Max von Zweybrücken¹⁵ etc., but my son's journey to Vienna and the intervening events caused us to postpone everything. [65]

Also published in Paris are the Trois Airs Variés, pour le Clav: ou Forte=piano. Prix 4 Liv: 16 S:¹⁶ at H: Heina, ruë de Seine faubourg S:^t germain à l'Hôtel de Lille; we do not have any more of these either.

Generally my son does not hand over for engraving or printing anything which is in the hands of others; [70] since we are particular about having only single copies made of anything, certainly little of his is known. By the way, you will remember that we came to an agreement to let you have my violin school for 1 f 30 Xr cash payment per copy; in *commission*, on the other hand, à 1 f 45 Xr. I had therefore not expected from Herr Schwarzkopf the excuse, repeated at two fairs, [75] that he did not have an *ordre*. I will send on your compliments to my son; my daughter sends her most devoted thanks and I am with special respect

Your Most Noble Sir's
most devoted Servant,
Leopoldt Mozart, Mus. Dir.

[80]

P.S: I subscribe for 1 copy of Music Director Reichardt's music magazine.¹⁷

⁸ BD: The six violin sonatas dedicated to Josepha Auernhammer, KV 296, 376 (374d), 377 (374e), 378 (317d), 379 (373a), 380 (374f), published by Artaria as Opus II.

⁹ BD: Paul Petrovich (*1754, murdered 1801), later Czar Paul I. He visited Vienna in November 1781 and October 1782.

¹⁰ New louis [d'or]. BD: Depending on the exchange rate, worth 120–165 florins.

¹¹ = "Favours".

¹² BD: *Abbate* Giambattista Varesco (c. 1736-1805), court chaplain in Salzburg from 1766, wrote the texts for *Idomeneo* KV 366 and *L'oca del Cairo* KV 422. The latter was his response to Mozart's request for an opera buffa for Vienna.

¹³ BD: Schlachtn: BD: Cf. No. 0089/73. Johann Andreas (he called himself "Andrée") Schachtner (1731-1795). Became Salzburg High Princely Court and Field Trumpeter [Hochfürstlicher Hof- und Feldtrompeter] in 1754. He also played violin (cf. No. 1210/99) and violoncello. He published a book of poems in 1765, dedicating it to Johann Christoph Gottsched. Probably contributed texts to KV 42, 50 (46b), 196; 345 (336a), 344 (336b), the German version of KV 366. In 1792 gave Nannerl detailed information on Mozart's early years, cf. No. 1210.

¹⁴ BD: Here "printed" means "typeset".

¹⁵ BD: Maximilian Joseph von Pfalz-Zweibrücken-Birkenfeld (1756-1825), succeeded Karl Theodor as Elector of Bavaria in 1799. In 1781 he was among the subscribers for *Idomeneo*, cf. No. 0617/62 f.

¹⁶ BD: KV 179 (189a); 180 (173c), 354 (299a), published by Gertrude Heina in 1778. [Three Airs with Variations, for the harpsichord or fortepiano. Price 4 livres 15 sols.]

¹⁷ BD: Johann Friedrich Reichardt (1752-1814), *Musiklaisches Kunstmagazin* I-II, Berlin, 1782 and 1791.