

0675. MOZART TO HIS FATHER, SALZBURG

À / Monsieur / Monsieur Leopold Mozart / maitre de la Chapelle de
S: A: R: / l'archeveque de et à / Salzbourg.

Vienne ce 29 de May
1782.

Mon très cher Père!¹ –

[5] The other day I was completely hindered in finishing my letter and therefore asked my dear Konstanze to present my excuses for that. – For a long time she was reluctant, out of fear you might laugh at her because of her *orthography* and *scheme*. – and she gives me no peace, I have to ask you to excuse her. –

[10] The first amateur *concert* turned out very well – Archduke Maximilian² was among those present, Countess Thun,³ Wallenstein,⁴ Baron van Suiten⁵ and a host of others. – I am sighing longingly for the next post-coach, which should bring me music. – Concerning the *musique* for Robinig,⁶ I can absolutely assure you that I did not take it with me – and – [15] that Eck⁷ must still have it – for he had not yet given it back when I left Munich. – The initiator of the *amateur concerts*, M:^{sr} Martin,⁸ knows the esteemed Abbè Bullinger⁹ very well. – He was at *seminary* in Munich at the same time. – He is a very good young man who is making efforts to advance himself by his *musique*, his beautiful handwriting, [20] and generally by his adroitness, good head and strong spirit. – When he arrived here, he faced great hindrances – he had to get by for a fortnight with half a gulden.¹⁰ – Adamberger¹¹ |: who also knows him from Munich :| has frequently shown kindness to him here. – He was born in Regensburg;¹² his father was the personal *medicus* to Prince von Daxis.¹³

[25] Tomorrow I am eating at Countess Thun's with my dear Konstanze, and will show how the 3rd act¹⁴ is to be ridden. – Now I have nothing except vexatious work, namely – *correcting*. – Next Monday we will have the first rehearsal. – I am truly looking forward to this opera, I must confess; –

[30] *à propós*;¹⁵ – some days ago I received a letter:¹⁶ from whom? – – from – – Herr von Feigle¹⁷ – and the content – – that he is in love – and with whom? – – – – with my sister – –

¹ = “To Monsieur Leopold Mozart, Music Director to His Royal Highness the Archbishop of and in Salzburg. / My very dear father! / Vienna, this 29th day of May, 1782.”

² BD: Archduke [Erzherzog] Maximilian Franz (cf. Nos. 0034/51; 0641/30; 0660/38), youngest son of Maria Theresia.

³ “gräfin”. BD: Marie Wilhelmina, Countess [Gräfin] Thun-Hohenstein, Vienna, appears frequently in the letters as a patroness of Mozart, although only until 1782. Was also acquainted with Baron van Swieten.

⁴ BD: Probably Marie (Anna) Elisabeth, Gräfin Waldstein, the younger sister of Gräfin Thun.

⁵ BD: Gottfried Bernhard van Swieten (1733-1803), became a diplomat in 1755, served in numerous European cities. From 1777 he had educational responsibilities in Vienna. Owner of an enormously valuable library. Wrote the text for Haydn's “Seven Last Words” and “The Seasons”. Acquainted with C. Ph. E. Bach. Met Mozart in Vienna in 1767, saw him regularly in Vienna, introduced him in his home to the music of Handel and Bach. Commissioned works from Mozart. Composed music himself.

⁶ BD: Cf. No. 0673/34.

⁷ BD: Probably the horn player Georg Eck, 1766-1778 in Mannheim and then in Munich. Cf. No. 0485/47.

⁸ BD: Philipp Jakob Martin from Regensburg, once a pupil of Abbè Bullinger, now an organiser of concerts. Later celebrated in the canon KV 560b.

⁹ BD: Ecclesiastical friend of the family in Salzburg.

¹⁰ 1 gulden is effectively worth 1 florin.

¹¹ BD: Josef Valentin Adamberger, singer in Germany, Italy and then in Vienna, where he was well paid. Sung in many of Mozart's works. Freemason.

¹² = “Regensburg”.

¹³ BD: The Regensburg princely dynasty Thurn and Taxis.

¹⁴ BD: Of *The Abduction from the Seraglio*, cf. No. 0615/28, 0673/30.

¹⁵ = “By the way”.

¹⁶ BD: No. 674a, lost.

– No, – with – – my cousin!¹⁸ – – but he will have to wait a long time till he gets a letter from me – you know how little time I have for writing. – [35] I am only curious to know how long this will last. –

Now another thing – of which I became aware only by chance and which – made me extremely annoyed with Count Kühnburg.¹⁹ – Fräulein von Auerhammer²⁰ told me yesterday that Herr von Moll²¹ had asked her if she might perhaps wish to go to a noble house in Salzburg for 300 florins a year? – the court *gentleman* is called Kühnburg. – How do you like that? – so my sister is rated as nothing? – use this. – He was only here for one day – but if he comes again, I will certainly find an opportunity to speak to him about it. –

Now I wish you will in every way – I kiss your hands 1000 times, [45] I embrace my dear sister with my whole heart – to *Mad.^{selle} Marchand*²² |: my dear *Constanz* has already given me permission to do so :| I also send a couple of kisses, and am, sir, eternally your

most obedient son,
W: A: Mozart mp²³

[50] *P: S:* My dear Konstanze kisses
your hands and embraces my
sister as her true friend
and future sister-in-law.

¹⁷ BD: Karl Bernhard von Feigele, entered Salzburg University in 1777 to study law, romantically associated with Mozart's sister and then with his cousin. Cf. No. 0532/3.

¹⁸ BD: Maria Anna Thekla Mozart of Augsburg, famous recipient of Mozart's "Bäsele" letters.

¹⁹ "graf Kühnburg". BD: Cf. No. 0034/41. Leopold Joseph Maria, Count [Graf] Kuenburg (1740-1812), Royal and Imperial Chamberlain [k.k. Kämmerer], Privy Councillor [Geheimer Rat], from 1764 Chief Stablemaster [Oberstallmeister] in Salzburg.

²⁰ BD: Josepha, daughter of Johann Michael von Auernhammer (†1782); a pupil of Mozart's with professional aspirations.

²¹ BD: Ludwig Gottfried von Moll, Salzburg, who had come to Vienna for only one day.

²² BD: When Leopold and Nannerl returned from Munich on 14th March, 1781, they took with them Heinrich Marchand, son of the theatre director Theobald Marchand, who had board, lodging and teaching in keyboard, violin and composition in the Mozart's home for three years. His sister Maria Margarethe joined him in February, 1782.

²³ "mp" = "manu propria" = "in his own hand".