

0683. MOZART TO MARTHA ELISABETH, BARONESS<sup>1</sup> VON WALDSTÄTTEN, VIENNA

*À / Madame / Madame La Baronne / de Waldstaetten née de / Schoeffer  
/ à / Leopoldstatt / N: 360.*<sup>2</sup>

Most revered Baroness!

[Vienna, shortly before 4<sup>th</sup> August, 1782]

I received my *music* from *Mad.<sup>me</sup>* Weber's<sup>3</sup> maid, [5] and had to give a written attestation of this. – The maid imparted information to me which, even though I do not believe it could happen because it would mean a *prostitution* of the whole *family*, yet it is possible if one knows stupid *Mad.<sup>me</sup>* Weber, and consequently does cause me concern. – *Sophie*<sup>4</sup> burst out in tears – [10] and when the maid asked her the reason, she said: – tell Mozart secretly that he should make *Constanz*<sup>5</sup> come home, for – my mother is *absolument*<sup>6</sup> resolved to have the *police* fetch her! – Are the *police* then allowed to enter any house they want here? – and perhaps it is only a deceitful trap to get her back home again. – But if this could happen, [15] I know of no better remedy than to marry *Costance* tomorrow morning – today, if it can be done. – For I would not wish to expose my beloved to this shame – and this must not happen to my wife. – One more thing: – they have asked Thorwath<sup>7</sup> to come today. – I ask Your Grace for your benevolent advice – and to give such poor creatures as ourselves a helping hand. – [20] I am always at home. – I kiss your hands 1000 times and am

your most loyal servant,

W: A: Mozart

In great haste; *Costance* knows nothing of this yet.

Has Herr von Thorwath called on Your Grace? –

[25] Is it necessary for both of us to call on him after lunch? –

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<sup>1</sup> “Baronin”. Martha Elisabeth, Baroness [Baronin] Waldstätten (1744-1811), a supporter of Mozart and also an outstanding pianist. Lived separated from her husband Hugo Joseph Dominik, Baron Waldstätten, a high official.

<sup>2</sup> = “To Madame, Baroness von Waldstaetten, née von Schoeffer, at Leopoldstatt No. 360”.

<sup>3</sup> BD: Constanze's mother.

<sup>4</sup> BD: Constanze's youngest sister.

<sup>5</sup> BD: It appears that Constanze, as previously in November, 1781 (cf. No: 0651/124), was staying with Baroness von Waldstätten.

<sup>6</sup> = “absolutely”.

<sup>7</sup> BD: Constanze's guardian, cf. No. 0615/29. Thorwart had applied for a marriage license on the 29<sup>th</sup> July, 1782; it was quickly granted. Mozart and Constanze confessed and received communion on 2<sup>nd</sup> August; the marriage contract was drawn up on the 3<sup>rd</sup> with Franz X. Wenzel Gilowsky (brother of “Katherl”) as Mozart's witness; the wedding took place in St. Stephans’s Cathedral on the 4<sup>th</sup>.