

Vienne ce 28 avril
1784.

*Mon très cher Père!*¹

I must write to you in haste. – Herr Richter, the clavier player, is going on a tour in order to return to Holland, his Fatherland. – [5] I gave him a letter to Countess Thun² to take with him to Linz. – Since he is also inclined to go to *Salzbourg*,³ I also gave him just 4 lines for you, my own, best of fathers. – So now I am writing to tell you he will arrive not long after you receive this. – He plays a great deal; as far as the *execution* is concerned – however – as you will hear – too rough – too laboured – [10] and without any taste or sensibility. – otherwise the best fellow in the world – without the least pride – he was motionless watching my fingers when I played to him – then kept saying: My God! – How much effort I have to make, so intensively that I sweat, and – in the end receive no applause – and you, my friend, you simply play with it – Yes, said I, I had to make efforts too [15] so that I no longer need to make an effort now – *afin*⁴ – he is a man who always belongs among the good *clavier* players and at the same time – an honest, good man – and I hope the Archbishop will perhaps be more inclined to hear him because he is a clavier player – *en depit de Moi*⁵ – a *depit*⁶ which I do however very much wish for. – That is true about Menzl the violinist.⁷ – [20] and he will probably sail off from here as early as Sunday. – By this means you should also receive *musique* from me. Now I wish you well in every way. – We both kiss your hands, and embrace our dear sister from the heart, and are, sir, eternally your most obedient children,

W C: Mozart mp⁸

¹ = “Vienna, this 28th day of April, 1784 / My very dear father!”

² “gräfin”. BD: Elisabeth, Countess [Gräfin] Thun, fourth wife of Count [Graf] Johann Josef Anton Thun-Hohenstein and mother-in-law of Marie Wilhelmina, Countess [Gräfin] Thun, sometime patroness of Mozart in Vienna.

³ BD: This was in fact the route he chose.

⁴ = “in short”.

⁵ = “despite me”.

⁶ = “despite”.

⁷ BD: Described in No. 0783/25-30.

⁸ mp = “manu propria” = “in his/her own hand”.