

Vienna, 21st *Jullius*
1784

Dearest of sisters! –

My wife and I both wish you much happiness on your name-day;² – My wife would have liked to write to you herself, but sitting for a long time creates difficulties for her, [5] because the future *first heir*³ does not give her any peace at all. – She therefore joins me in wishing you all possible happiness and pleasure and we ask you to keep us constantly in your sisterly love. – For eight days now, the old Hampel⁴ from Munich has been here with his son, and will leave for Russia in two days. – they will eat with us tomorrow, [10] and in the evening we will make a little *musique*. I hope you will in the meantime have received everything by post-coach; I would have liked to send you the *cadenzas*⁵ for the other *concertos* as well, but you cannot believe how much I have to do! – As soon as I have some time for myself, I will certainly use it for you.

[15] I am very curious to know which of the 3 grand *concertos*⁶ you will like best once you have heard them all. – I would ask you not to let Papa forget to send me that certain item⁷ by the next post-coach. – if he could also send me the old *oratorio* *Betulia liberata*,⁸ I would be most grateful. – I have to write this *oratorio* for the *Society*⁹ here – [20] perhaps I could indeed use bits and pieces of it. – I ask for my compliments to be passed on to Gretl,¹⁰ and tell her that I will perhaps reply to her myself – but I do not wish to promise this, for fear of not being able to keep my promise – because I am much too busy. Regarding the *aria*,¹¹ she must simply be patient – [25] but what I advise her to do in order to be sure of receiving the *aria*, and sometime soon, is to choose a suitable text and to send it to me, since I cannot possibly take the time to go through all the *operas*. – Now I must close, because I must get to a *lesson* quickly. – My wife and I kiss you 1000 times, and ask you to pass on to Papa our hand-kiss, and we are eternally your

[30]

sincere *W: A: C: Mozart* mp¹²

¹ BD: Mozart's sister, Maria Anna Walburga Ignatia ("Nannerl"), 1751-1829.

² BD: 26th July (Anna).

³ BD: Mozart's second child, Carl Thomas, was born on 21st September, 1784. He died, as last member of the family, in Milan on 31st October, 1858. Cf. No. 0793/70-73.

⁴ BD: The clarinettist Thaddäus Hampel and his son, the violinist Paul Josef Hampel. Both had been members of the court music in Mannheim and moved to Munich with the court in 1778.

⁵ BD: On 15th May, 1784, Mozart sent the concertos KV 449, 450, 451 and 453 by post-coach, cf. No. 0790/2 ff. In No. 0797/20 ff., he spoke of cadences for KV 451, probably sending them between 12th June and 21st July (with No. 0798?). The other concertos referred to here are KV 449, 450 and 453.

⁶ BD: KV 450, 451, 453.

⁷ BD: Not identified. Perhaps the certificate of baptism mentioned in No. 0776/40-41?

⁸ BD: KV 118 (74c): a commission from Padua (cf. No. 0236/17), but probably first performed in Salzburg. The intended arrangement mentioned here seems not to have been completed (cf. No. 1207).

⁹ BD: "Die Tonkünstler-Societät": a benevolent society for musicians in Vienna. The intended arrangement seems not to have been completed.

¹⁰ BD: Maria Margarethe Marchand. 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 Mozarts' home for three years. His sister Maria Margarethe joined him in February, 1782.

¹¹ BD: Possibly KV 119 (382h), but it is uncertain whether an aria for Margarethe was ever written.

¹² mp = "manu propria" = "in his/her own hand".