

Salzb., 19th Novb., 1784

On my son's name-day² he gave a small concert at which his *students* |: the female *pupils*³ |: also *performed*, and on top of that the esteemed *Baron Bage*⁴ from Paris entertained the company by playing a *violin concerto*: [5] That set them laughing! he writes, and then: I have received my sister's letter⁵ safely: I hope that she will also have received mine⁶ in the meantime. He no doubt understood this to mean a letter to me. You probably knew a long time ago that we have 2 new *seneschals*.⁷ Since there were only 4 to carry the canopy⁸ at the Liturgy of the Hours recently, [10] since the rest were partly already in heaven,⁹ partly *invalided* and *worn out*; the Prince¹⁰ was therefore forced to select a couple of young boys for the weighty task of holding heaven¹¹ in place. *Cajetan Andretter* has long been in *training* in the court council, and they did of course have to give him something in due time. He accordingly received *motu proprio*¹² the *decree* installing him as a *seneschal*¹³ entitled to 15 florins [15] and the salutary reminder to make himself worthy of further high favours by diligently *frequenting* the court council. The *Mehofers'* young *Antonius*,¹⁴ who has taken *Kapeller's* daughter,¹⁵ and has long been on the waiting list for heaven knows what kind of post, received the same *decree*; but I do not know whether he received an additional allowance; in the meantime, each has had to pay a 25 florin fee for his *decree* of entitlement. [20] – Army Paymaster *Thurner*¹⁶ is also long since buried. The Abduction from the Seraglio was performed fairly well on the 17th to the greatest applause and 3 numbers were *repeated*: at 5 o'clock no-one more could get into the theatre downstairs, and at quarter past 5 it was completely full upstairs as well.¹⁷ *Governess Katherl*¹⁸ had to go into the front *parterre* with the *Platz* children.¹⁹ [25] It will be performed again on Sunday the 21st: afterwards they will

¹ BD: Maria Anna Walburga Ignatia ("Nannerl"), née Mozart, 1751-1829. After her marriage in 1784 her name was Maria Anna von Berchtold zu Sonnenburg. In all letters to Nannerl after her marriage Leopold refers to her as "Frau Tochter" [madam daughter] and to his son-in-law as "Herr Sohn" [esteemed son].

² BD: 31st October.

³ BD VI, p. 706: The word "schülerinnen" ["female pupils"] is not in the main text, but stands alone in the same line as the date.

⁴ BD: Karl Ernst, Baron [Freiherr] von Bagge af Boo (1718 or 1722-1791), from 1750 in Paris: on the one hand mocked as a laughable dilettante, but on the other hand in contact with Gossec, Gavaniès, Boccherini, Duport etc.

⁵ BD: No. 0817 (lost).

⁶ BD: No. 0818 (lost).

⁷ "Trouxes" [Truchsess]. BD: Local administrators. Kajetan, Edler von Antretter(n); Anton Johann Mehofer. Kajetan von Antretter (1758-1814) was son of the Chancellor of the Parliament of the Estates [Landschaftskanzler] Johann Ernst von Antretter. After a career in administration, he ran into debt and died insane in a religious house.

⁸ In German "Himmel", usually the word for "heaven", the meaning used in the following puns.

⁹ "Himmel" again.

¹⁰ "Fürst". BD: The Prince-Archbishop of Salzburg, Wolfgang's employer.

¹¹ "Himmel" again.

¹² = "At his own instigation".

¹³ "Trouxes" [= "Truchsess"].

¹⁴ BD: Anton Johann Mehofer, son of the chamber quartermaster Franz Mehofer, official in the war office and regional administrator.

¹⁵ BD: Maria Antonia Theresia Capeller, daughter of the Royal Postmaster [hochfürstlicher Postmeister], Joseph Anton August Capeller in Thurnheimb (1714-1749).

¹⁶ "Kriegszahlmeister". BD: Military adviser Johann "Thurner", sometime military treasurer.

¹⁷ BD: The theatre could accommodate 700 persons.

¹⁸ BD: Katharina Gilowsky, daughter of Wenzel Andreas Gilowsky, court surgeon, member of the airgun club, frequenter of the Mozart family. Governess to the children of Leopold Andreas, Count [Graf] Platz.

¹⁹ BD: Cf. No. 0820/40.

probably put it aside for 5 weeks. The whole town is delighted with it. Even the Archbishop had the great graciousness to say It was really not bad. They apparently had takings of 191 florins, I hear. The instruments in the *obbligato* aria²⁰ were played by – Stadler²¹ the *violin* |: which is easy |: Feiner²² the *oboe*, Reiner²³ the flute – [30] and Fiala²⁴ the violoncello, and it went together well. Herr Kassl²⁵ had been asked to play the flute, and he came to the first rehearsal too, but the next day he said to Stadler he would not come any more, they should take someone else, the rehearsing was too *irksome* for him; now everyone has taken great umbrage at him, even among the *nobility*. [35] In contrast, Herr Fiala not only played, but did not even accept payment, but said he had played as a favour to Herr Schmid²⁶ and especially to Herr Mozart.

Now the messenger has come.²⁷ The prices for the *opera* have not been raised, but the *season tickets* have simply been *suspended*.

[40] Gretl²⁸ sang outstandingly, and received the greatest approbation from the Elector,²⁹ who spoke to her afterwards, then from Maestro Prat.³⁰ etc., and everyone. You know that everyone was constantly eagerly expectant to know who would become *2^{da} donna*,³¹ since Lisel Wendling³² did not want to play *2^{da} dona* to *M^{dme}: Le Brun*,³³ especially since it really is not such a significant part this time, with 2 very short, simple arriettas. [45] but now that Lisel Wendling saw no hope for her daughter, she did indeed take this simple part on herself so that Gretl might in some way be able to take a step forward herself, thus preventing Gretl showing herself in the Electoral *opera* and gaining favour. [50] In the meantime she has sent her daughter to Paris along with her husband. Bologna³⁴ has not written a word, only when Pacherotti³⁵ was there did they send me a letter saying that he was ill again, and had to have blood let. I have to reply to Marchand³⁶ with a long letter or really 2 letters,³⁷ for which,

²⁰ BD: Konstanze's aria *Martern aller Arten* (No. 11), sung by Franziska Kallmes (cf. No. 0809/22).

²¹ BD: Mathias Franz de Paula Stadler (1744?-1827), violinist, took over Leopold's violin teaching at the Kapellhaus after Leopold's death.

²² BD: Joseph Feiner, valet and oboist in the court music.

²³ BD: Perhaps Franz Reiner, who was a horn player for Prince [Fürst] Esterházy in 1763.

²⁴ BD: Joseph Fiala (c. 1754-1816), oboist in Prague, Regensburg, Wallerstein, Munich, Vienna, Salzburg, St. Petersburg, Donaueschingen. Also composed.

²⁵ BD: Joseph Thomas Cassel, violinist and double-bass player in the court music.

²⁶ BD: Karl Ludwig Schmidt (c. 1740-1814), the principal actor of the troupe mentioned above. Freemason.

²⁷ BD: Messenger/carrier travelling to Graz and passing through St. Gilgen. He arrived in Salzburg every Thursday, left on Saturday. Cf. Nos. 0803/16, 17; 0809/37.

²⁸ 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 Mozarts' home for three years. His sister Maria Margarethe ("Gretl") joined him in February, 1782. They left in September, 1784.

²⁹ "Churfürsten". BD: Karl Theodor (1724-1799). Studied in Leyden and Leuven. From 1742 Elector [Kurfürst] of the Palatinate, where he encouraged the arts in Mannheim, and from 30th December, 1777, Elector of Bavaria. Cf. No. 0363/30.

³⁰ BD: Alessio Prati (1750-1788), commissioned to compose *Armida abbandonata*.

³¹ = "second lady".

³² BD: Elisabeth Augusta (I) Wendling (1746-1786), wife of the violinist Franz Anton Wendling (Mannheim, then Munich). Her daughter was Dorothea (II) Wendling; cf. BD V, p. 66 for table of the (confusing) names and relationships among the Wendlings.

³³ BD: Ludwig August Lebrun (1752-1790), oboist first of all at court in Mannheim and then in Munich. Married to the singer Franziska Dorothea Lebrun, née Danzi (1756-1791), likewise employed in the court music.

³⁴ BD: Michelangelo Bologna, castrato, active in the court music in Salzburg 1782-84. Began a love affair with Regina ("Regel") Weyrother, left for Munich in September, 1784.

³⁵ BD: Gasparo Pachierotti (1744-1821), famous castrato, probably stopping in Munich on the way to London.

³⁶ BD: Theobald Marchand, Munich theatre director, father of "Gretl" (Maria Margarethe), who had board, lodging and teaching in keyboard, violin and composition in the Mozarts' home for about two years to September, 1784. Her composing continued. Keyboard sonatas from 1785 and 86 are known of, but lost. Three sonatas for keyboard and violin were published in 1800.

³⁷ BD: No. 0824a, lost.

because I can only write a little at one time, I need a week in order to deal with all the points properly. [55] They want me to travel to Munich – – They want me to travel to Vienna³⁸ and God knows where else. Ah! If only I were my own master! I would soon pack my *bags*. As soon as I find out about the messenger, I will certainly make sure that I can give the glass-carrier woman³⁹ something to take with her.

Of course I ought to have the boxes that I sent you returned to me in town again, [60] for if there is something to be sent, I must always have boxes. The one that the pears⁴⁰ were in belongs to Herr *D'Ippold*⁴¹ anyway. Now that has turned cold, I have bought myself 6 lb⁴² of good beef and am having it boiled for myself at home. From the chickens which I am still having fattened, I take one from time to time and have it roasted at the Hofwirth;⁴³ and there it turns out very well: [65] I will have the last one the day after tomorrow. So I am eating half from the Hofwirth and half from my own food: if I have anything, I get them to prepare it for me there. The usual thing that I send for is the soup with a fried sausage at midday, then cabbage, occasionally with a liver-sausage, perhaps with lights or innards, or calf's foot or preserves, – with the latter in particular I usually keep it for the evening, [70] when Tresel⁴⁴ boils up some of the soup, partly from my beef, partly from the Wirth's, some rice or barley which I have bought for myself, for what comes from the inn is without exception soured with vinegar. In a word! I live like the soldiers, – if I have something – I can eat. When day comes, it brings something! Practise patience! – –

[75] If I do not find the *Haydn variations*,⁴⁵ I can always have it copied from *Count Leopold Arco*.⁴⁶ – *Baron Rechberg*⁴⁷ will no longer be coming: – he is going to *Strasbourg*. – The *score* of the *concerto in G* had no tempo indication at all, so do not put one there either. –

Baron Bage is clearly a very old fool. [80] In his *concerts* in Paris back then he always scratched along with the first *violin*, and occasionally droned his way into the *transverse flute* part most miserably: but only now, in his old age, has he been seized with the folly of wanting to play *concertos* and apparently making a fool of himself. – As far as the theatre war is concerned, it is nothing substantial, it only concerned the rabble-rouser Herr Reineke,⁴⁸ who then stirred up *Matausch*⁴⁹ and *Litter*.⁵⁰ Now everything is peaceful.

It is now some weeks since Frau Schirkhofer⁵¹ sent me this cook.⁵² – As far as I know, she was born in Cammer,⁵³ goes around neatly in a golden Linz bonnet; has a limp in one leg, which must be slightly too short, but nevertheless goes quickly on her way along the street. She is not old, – but also not very young. [90] Not beautiful at all, to say the least: yet not exactly ugly: in her dress clean and tidy. I will speak with Frau Schirkhofer and tell her

³⁸ BD: Visit to Wolfgang and Constanze.

³⁹ BD: From letter No. 0808 onwards, the “glasträgerin” [“glass-carrier woman”] is Leopold's regular messenger to St. Gilgen, where Archbishop Thun had established a glassworks in 1701.

⁴⁰ BD: Cf. No. 0820/16-17.

⁴¹ BD: Franz Armand d'Ippold: Imperial and Royal Captain, supervisor of page training in Salzburg. He added the “de” (in the Viennese style) himself. Sometime suitor of Nannerl.

⁴² lb = lb = one pound weight (approx. 0.5 kg).

⁴³ BD: “Royal Inn” on the edge of the Lodrons' garden. The court musicians met here in the evening, apparently without Leopold.

⁴⁴ BD: Therese Pänckl, serving girl in the Mozart household in Salzburg.

⁴⁵ BD: Cf. No. 0824/56, 58.

⁴⁶ “Gr: Arco Leop.”. BD: Leopold Ferdinand II, Count [Graf] Arco, son of Leopold Julius Felix, Count [Graf] Arco: one of the younger court gentlemen.

⁴⁷ BD: Aloys, Baron [Freiherr] (later Count [Graf]) von Rechberg (1766-1849), currently in the Virgilianum, an academy of chivalry.

⁴⁸ BD: Reinike, the theatre poet of Schmidt's ensemble.

⁴⁹ BD: Franz Matausch (1767-1833), played lovers and heroes.

⁵⁰ BD: A further member of Schmidt's ensemble.

⁵¹ BD: Joseph Gottlieb Schörkhofer, disponent of the Court Council.

⁵² Domestic staff in Salzburg and St. Gilgen have been a major topic in recent letters.

⁵³ BD: Kammer am Attersee.

everything. There seems to me little danger that she will be corrupted: this woman will not present anyone with particular temptations.

The war⁵⁴ is having the same effect on me as on my esteemed son:⁵⁵ my eyes are always riveted on a map of Holland every newspaper-day; but I am not making any *prognoses*. Count von Weisenwolf⁵⁶ has been called out of the school, and has already left to join his regiment, which is one of those due to go to the Netherlands. *Bon viaggio!* – Now I must close and go to bed. I kiss both of you and the children from my heart and am eternally
[100] for all of you

your sincere father,

*L. Mozart mp*⁵⁷

Hanchen⁵⁸ has written to me and also to Herr Hagenauer.⁵⁹ The Schittenhofens⁶⁰ did not come back up from Triebenbach until last Saturday evening. [105] I will visit them tomorrow, yesterday I did not find them at home.

⁵⁴ BD: Cf. No. 0824/3 ff.

⁵⁵ Leopold's usual way of addressing his son-in-law.

⁵⁶ “Gr: v. Weisenwolf”. BD: Joseph, Count [Graf] Weissenwolf, trained in Salzburg as a page, as “Edelknabe”; in 1784 entered the infantry stationed in the Netherlands.

⁵⁷ mp = “manu propria” = “in his own hand”.

⁵⁸ BD: Maria Johanna Brochard (*1775), daughter of a theatrical couple, from 1783-1784 the third boarder learning in Leopold Mozarts' home in Salzburg.

⁵⁹ BD: Johann Lorenz Hagenauer (1712-1792), Salzburg merchant. Sometime landlord to the Mozart family.

⁶⁰ BD: Johann Baptist Joseph Joachim Ferdinand von Schiedenhofen made a successful career in the state administration of Salzburg. Married Anna Daubrawa von Daubrawiack in 1778. The Schiedenhofens were in frequent contact with the Mozarts, offering mother and daughter accommodation in Schloss Triebenbach during the travels of Leopold and Wolfgang.