

0860. LEOPOLD MOZART TO HIS DAUGHTER,<sup>1</sup> ST. GILGEN

*À Madame / Madame Marie Anne / de Sonnenbourg née de Mozart<sup>2</sup> /  
à / Salzburg To be delivered to the Tanzmeister= / =haus.<sup>3</sup>*

[Vienna,] Friday, 8<sup>th</sup> April,  
1785

Since he wanted to come here in Holy Week, Herr Lang of Munich<sup>4</sup> doubted whether he would still meet us in Vienna, because I want to leave around that time. [5] When he arrived he said that we would travel back together, since he only wanted to stay here 3 weeks. I was not inclined to believe that, but hoped to leave earlier. Now he wants to leave on the 18<sup>th</sup> April, and I would like to do the same, but in the meantime we have had a lot of snow again, – and today, as I write this, it is snowing as at Christmas, [10] and it is just as cold. So I do not know what is happening, For on top of everything there is still the circumstance that, with these treacherous roads and heaped snow, even if we should drive away from here with 2 horses, we will be forced to have 3 horses harnessed at the first post stage, for they take the treacherous roads as a pretext and leave the passengers standing if they object, as happened to Herr Lang, [15] your brother's brother-in-law.<sup>5</sup> However it may turn out now, you will always have news from me as long as I am here, and if I should be able to write from Lintz, I will certainly do that. I cannot expect any more letters from you, – and if there should be something very important to write to me about, you can write, – your brother will then send the letter to Lintz or to Munich if I should no longer be here, [20] this way you can always write a letter which your brother, too, can read: for I am truly raging, for I would like to be gone from Vienna, and the weather is as cold and abominable as in February. A day or two ago I ate at Herr Marchall's,<sup>6</sup> who is *governor* of the 3 young sons of Prince *Carl Liechtenstein*,<sup>7</sup> [25] and yesterday I was at *M:<sup>lle</sup> Villersi's*,<sup>8</sup> who is *governess* for Prince von Fürstenberg<sup>9</sup> and has 3 beautiful princesses<sup>10</sup> under her, they all commend themselves, and you can easily imagine that I had 1000 questions to answer, since you know that *Villersi* has her quite special love and esteem for you. – Katherl *Gilowsky*<sup>11</sup> has written a few words to me in an enclosure sent to her brother,<sup>12</sup> saying that the esteemed Court Councillor<sup>13</sup> sends thanks

---

<sup>1</sup> 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].

<sup>2</sup> BD: The formula “née de Mozart” corresponds to an old Austrian custom.

<sup>3</sup> Address in DME. “The dancing-master’s house”: BD: The name of the house on the Hannibalplatz where the Mozart family had lived since 1773 and where Leopold now finds himself alone after Nannerl’s marriage.

<sup>4</sup> BD: Martin Lang, hunting horn player, known to Mozart from Mannheim; moved to Munich with the Mannheim court.

<sup>5</sup> BD: The actor (Johann) Joseph Lange (1751-1831), engaged by the Burgtheater in Vienna 1770-1810, also painter. Married Aloisia Weber in 1780 and was thus Mozart’s brother-in-law; six children; they separated around 1795.

<sup>6</sup> BD: Perhaps the tutor mentioned in No. 0362/143.

<sup>7</sup> “Fürst”. BD: Karl Borromäus Joseph, Prince [Fürst] Liechtenstein (1730-1789), Imperial and Royal Field Marshal [k. k. Feldmarchall]. He had 5 sons; the youngest 3 all had military careers.

<sup>8</sup> BD: Perhaps the daughter of Casimir Villersi († 1776), once tutor [Hofmeister] to Archbishop Hieronymus in Salzburg. She had lessons with Nannerl for a time.

<sup>9</sup> “Fürst”. BD: Possibly Karl Alois, Prince [Fürst] of Fürstenberg (1760-1799), who had 4 daughters.

<sup>10</sup> “Fürstinnen”.

<sup>11</sup> BD: “Katherl”, Katharina Gilowsky (1750-1802), daughter of Wenzel Andreas Gilowsky, court surgeon, member of the airgun club, frequenter of the Mozart family home. Sometime governess to the children of Leopold Andreas, Count [Graf] Plaz.

<sup>12</sup> BD: Franz Xaver Wenzel [von] Gilowsky: master surgeon, brother of “Katherl”, witness at Mozart’s wedding.

concerning the large room, but Frau von *Amand*<sup>14</sup> must go out to Eygen, where in the meantime everything in the house is being auctioned, – including everything belonging to old *Amand*<sup>15</sup> – and says that *Balisili Amand*<sup>16</sup> died very suddenly on Easter Monday. May God comfort him. Luckless *family!* – – – Katherl’s brother does not let us see him. [35] He sent the letter on to me via your brother’s aged mother-in-law.<sup>17</sup> They say that he not only has a lover here to whom he is greatly attached, but some even choose to suppose he has already married in secret. That would be a misfortune: A ruse! I refuse to believe it, but I feel wary because he will not let me see him, [40] and furthermore only sent me the second enclosure after I had expressed, in my letter to his sister, my astonishment that he had not brought the letter to me himself, and preferred to carry it up 3 appalling flights of stairs to *M.<sup>dme</sup> Weber* instead of giving it to me personally on the first floor 2 little streets away and visiting a friend of his family. Enough! [45] his clean, stupid letter, which he wrote to me back then regarding your brother’s love, is for me an assurance that he is also quite capable of a foolish piece of nonsense, which is however worse – because he, in his *metié*,<sup>18</sup> is not the hundredth part of what my [son]<sup>19</sup> is in his: I would feel sorry for his father and his sisters. [50] *Boudé*<sup>20</sup> has already played 3 times now: *Sophie*,<sup>21</sup> then the good-humoured girl in the 3 Daughters,<sup>22</sup> yesterday in The Good Daughters,<sup>23</sup> again the joyful, naive girl. She is well liked; although she had a predecessor who acted so extraordinarily well that no-one could imagine anything more outstanding and more natural, but all at once she lost her hearing, [55] they therefore sent for *Boude* from Munich, since *Md.<sup>me</sup> Adamberger*<sup>24</sup> is there for *treatment*, the one with whom I ate, – certainly a dear, charming person! She is a *Jaquet*.<sup>25</sup> Today the new *Italian opera* is on for the second time, I was hindered the first time, but today I will see it. Tomorrow *Boude* will appear for the fourth time, in the Hole in the Door.<sup>26</sup> If I had been able to get hold of a journeyman from a good *organ* builder here, [60] I would have written to Egedacher<sup>27</sup> a long time ago. It is quite possible and probable that the *fortepianos* which have

---

<sup>13</sup> “Hofrath”. BD: Joseph Anton Ernst von Gilowsky, Court Councillor, engineer, founder member of the Masonic lodge “Zur Fürsicht”, a frequent traveller to Munich for matters relating to salt. Cousin of “Katherl”. He has just received permission to use a room in Leopold’s apartment for an auction, cf. No. 0854/52 ff., but this is now to be held at the Amann family’s castle in Aigen.

<sup>14</sup> BD: Maria Theresia von Amann, née Fallnhäuser (†1778), wife of the tax official Franz Anton von Amann (1712-1785).

<sup>15</sup> BD: Franz Anton von Amann died on 18<sup>th</sup> January, 1785, followed by his son on 28<sup>th</sup> March, 1785; the latter left five children.

<sup>16</sup> BD: Optatus Basil von Amann (1747-1785), Court Chamber Councillor, had with his wife bought the estate Aigen near Salzburg and furnished it luxuriously. The favourite son of “old” Amann; married Maria Franziska Polis von Moulin. He helped himself to takings in the Royal Brewery in Kaltenhausen; the missing amount was taken from his father’s estate.

<sup>17</sup> BD: Maria Cäcilia Weber, née Stamm (1727-1793), married Franz Fridolin Weber in 1756.

<sup>18</sup> = “metier”.

<sup>19</sup> BD: Word missing in original.

<sup>20</sup> BD VIII, p. 123: Marianne Boudet (1756-1835), actress, engaged at the court theatre in Munich from 1777; married the horn player Martin Lang, an acquaintance of the Mozart family, in 1782.

<sup>21</sup> BD: = “Father at home”: Diderot’s *Le père de famille* (1758) was translated into German by G.E. Lessing; the play had been in the programme at the Burgtheater since 1776. Lange was not very well received as “St. Albin” in Munich in 1784 (cf. No. 0824/16-17).

<sup>22</sup> BD: *Die Drei Töchter* [The Three Daughters], comedy by Heinrich Christian Spiess (1755-1799).

<sup>23</sup> BD: *Die guten Töchter* [The Good Daughter], comedy and five acts by Friedrich Ludwig Schröder (1744-1816).

<sup>24</sup> BD: Maria Anna (called Nanni), nee Jaquet the Elder, (1752-1804), actress and singer, member of the Burgtheater 1768-1804. Married the singer Josef Valentin Adamberger in 1780.

<sup>25</sup> BD: Karl Jaquet (1726-1813) was an actor.

<sup>26</sup> BD: *Das Loch in der Thür*, comedy by (Johann) Gottlieb Stephanie (1741-1800), (“the Younger”),

<sup>27</sup> BD: Presumably Johann Joseph Egedacher († 14<sup>th</sup> June, 1785), the Royal Organ Builder and therefore also responsible for tuning and maintenance of the keyboard instruments; usually referred to in the letters as “old Egedacher”.

arrived now will last longer, for the fault is not in the work, but in the wood, because Egedacher is a capricious old fool and keeps back good, old wood like gold; that is actually where the error lies.

[65] Despite all my efforts, I will not get hold of the concert programmes for cash after all. Herr Haydn,<sup>28</sup> too, wrote to me about the lies about the Emperor's 400 ducats<sup>29</sup> etc. etc. The Salzburg people are fools, or do not know the Emperor. On the coming Sunday general prayer at the canonical hours will start in all churches because of the weather. The winter feed is exhausted almost everywhere, [70] the farmer is being forced to slaughter his cattle or let them starve, for he cannot drive out into the field, everything is lying under a deep cover of snow, and there is no end to the snowfall. – Of course, Katherl writes saying I should bring her something, even if it should be only a ribbon. Now I heartily kiss you, my esteemed son, and the children and am, with all my love and longing to embrace you, [75]

Your sincere father Mozart mp<sup>30</sup>

At this moment Herr Lang |: *Boude's* husband :| is here with me, and I note that it is still very doubtful whether he will be able to leave on the 18<sup>th</sup>.

I will bring 2 new *concertos*<sup>31</sup> with me, then all the *cadenzas*<sup>32</sup> and diverse *variations*.<sup>33</sup> [80] I already have everything in my hands.

---

<sup>28</sup> BD: Johann Michael Haydn (1737-1806), brother of Joseph. Employed at court in Salzburg from 1763.

<sup>29</sup> “des Kaysers”. BD: 1800 florins. A supposed gift to Mozart from Emperor Joseph II.

<sup>30</sup> mp = *manu propria* = in his own hand.

<sup>31</sup> BD: Probably KV 466 (cf. No. 0845) and KV 467 (cf. No. 849).

<sup>32</sup> BD: Cadenzas for these concertos have not survived (cf. No. 0854/14).

<sup>33</sup> BD: KV 398 (416e), 455, 460 (454a); cf. No. 0854/13.