

0887. LEOPOLD MOZART TO HIS DAUGHTER,¹ ST. GILGEN

Salzb., 20th Octob.,
1785.

3 o'clock in the afternoon.

At this moment it is snowing for the first time. We had the most beautiful time until the appearance of the full moon. [5] The night from the 17th to the 18th was so beautiful, and everyone admired the extraordinary beauty of the full moon. On the morning of the 18th there was thick mist everywhere. The whole day long the sun battled with the mist, could not break through; in the evening it rained heavily, then it turned cold, yesterday it was very cold without rain, today once again very cold, and now the cold wind has brought the snow. [10]

A very unpleasant piece of news for the esteemed *legal adviser*² to the cathedral chapter is that he has been *summoned* by the Archbishop to present himself at the Court Council,³ and has to give an account of himself on certain points. As Court Councillor⁴ he is still subject the Prince, so to speak, because he is an Actual Court Councillor:⁵ [15] and it is in this capacity, as a High Princely Court Councillor,⁶ that he was called for; yet apparently a report or even a *demand* for legally relevant information must have been sent to the Cathedral Chapter; at least there was a Chapter meeting on Tuesday. What is certain is that he has been *summoned*, and I also know for sure, and from a reliable source, that it will be better for him if he appears immediately, in which case he will get off with a declaration that that is not what he intended; [20] if, on the other hand, he or the Chapter offers resistance, – the Prince would have him removed from office, and his non-appearance would be attributed to fear because he is guilty. In general I can inform you confidentially that even the Court Council concedes that the Prince in Chiemsee⁷ is responsible for Hutterer's and everyone's misfortune.

[25] On Monday Herr Ramm⁸ left for Gratz via Radstatt⁹ with the young *Cannabich*¹⁰ using the postmaster's horses. *Canabich* wanted to play at court on Sunday, but the Archbishop had made excuses.

As long as he has been here, the administrator of the Johansspital¹¹ has obtained his wood from St. John's Hospital,¹² because his predecessor had done the same. [30] Nor had the *commission* back then ever presented him with a bill. For a few years now, there have been constant examinations and financial changes, with Herr *Melk* and Herr *Dahler*¹³ being on the

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 "Capitl Syndicus". BD: Johann Baptist Anton Daubrawa von Daubrawiack (1731-1810), court councillor, legal adviser to the Cathedral chapter, helped the Mozarts as a "messenger" between Salzburg in Vienna more than once.

³ BD: On 22nd/23rd October he was interrogated for over 20 hours.

⁴ "Hofrath".

⁵ "wirk: Hofrath".

⁶ "Hochf: Hofrath".

⁷ "Fürst". BD: Ferdinand Christoph, Count [Graf] Waldburg-Zeil (1719-1786), cathedral canon in Salzburg. He admitted to the Cathedral chapter that he had read Dr. Hutter's letter of petition to the Imperial Court Councillor and was therefore also guilty.

⁸ BD: Friedrich Ramm, oboist, joined the court music in Mannheim aged 14, travelled to Paris with Mozart, went to Munich with the court in 1778.

⁹ BD: Radstadt, south-west of Salzburg, burned almost completely to the ground on 5th September, 1781.

¹⁰ BD: Karl Konrad Cannabich (1771-1806), violinist, son and successor of Christian Cannabich, director of the court music first in Mannheim and then in Munich.

¹¹ BD: Johann Paul Wölf(f)l, administrator of the St.-Johannes-Spital ["St John's Hospital"] close to Salzburg.

¹² "Johanns-Spital". BD: An ancient hospital on the edge of Salzburg.

¹³ BD: Dr. jur. Philipp Gabriel Taller, adviser to the consistory.

commission. Herr Melk, because he had a lot to do as Cathedral Warden,¹⁴ was always absent, and Herr Dahler has succeeded in steering things in such a way that the administrator is required to pay back 600 florins to the Johanns-Spital [35] because, according to the letter of the *regulations*, he is not entitled to make use of the hospital's wood. N.B. that is the work of Herr Dahler, who called on the administrator daily to gorge, guzzle and sponge; of which we ourselves are witnesses.

The 21st.

[40] This morning the child,¹⁵ who is in good health, praise God, made his way over to a warm room. With Nandl¹⁶ there are all kinds of complications due to a servant's *capriciousness* which, with a certain calmness and in the manner familiar to you, I pretend not to understand, and proceed with the business in the straightforward way; none of which is worth recording here in detail; [45] – now everything is right and proper, and comfortable. – My error is simply that I have enough intelligence of my own, and do not find it necessary to ask the prudent servant for advice.

From the Archbishop I received the order to write to the organ builder Schmid,¹⁷ asking if he is perhaps still inclined to come here as organ builder; [50] there had supposedly been no response by the High Prince during the time since his letter of petition because he had declared that he was busy until Michaelmas with the organs in hand. – A clever mouse finds a hole anywhere. We have to wait and see how Herr Schmid replies. I have done my best! –

Since you have learned that cold and damp did the damage to your *fortepiano*, – [55] you would now know how to take preventive measures yourselves. Since Egedacher¹⁸ has no longer been attending court for the last 3 weeks because his mother is receiving neither salary nor a gratuitous payment, the Archbishop finds himself in a predicament. – The messenger is just arriving. – In the morning it was quite fine, but in the afternoon it has been snowing very heavily. My thanks to you for the fish; [60] smoked fish is most definitely what I like. You were also in the forestry inspection;¹⁹ you were *treated* well; but where was it? – – there is not a word about that. The reason why I have kept the bag anyway is for when I might have something to send out to you. – you hope that I have received the planks. From whom? – I have seen nothing of them. Heaven knows where they are. No such dog's v– –va [65] has arrived here; the barrel and everything else would still be lying here but for the fact that Tresel ran up and down through half the town to get hold of someone.

Your husband is of course correct in saying that he would not get anyone else if he had one locked away,²⁰ because no one wants to come out into the country. That is why one simply must not demand servants without faults. [70] I have not seen the Hubers' Nannerl²¹ for a long time now, it must be because she is not well; the last time she called on me here, she had a swollen, bandaged face and hoped to get better so as to be able to come out to you: I foresee, however, that she will not be able to come out on foot unless she finds out some opportunity of getting out, such as with a farmer's cart like the one the messenger

¹⁴ "domcustos".

¹⁵ BD: Maria Anna Pietschner (1732-1805), Leopold's servant girl ("child nurse").

¹⁶ BD: Nannerl's son Leopold (born in Salzburg on 27th July, 1785) had remained with Leopold since the birth; Nannerl returned to St. Gilgen at the beginning of September.

¹⁷ BD: Johann Evangelist Schmid (1757-1804), worked in Salzburg from 1786 to 1803 as the successor to "old" Egedacher; he had previously learned in Rottweil and worked in Vienna, Hungary, Bohemia, Saxony and Augsburg.

¹⁸ BD: Johann Rochus Egedacher, cathedral vicar, son of the "old man", as the court organ builder was often called.

¹⁹ BD: The forests were also one of her husband's responsibilities.

²⁰ BD: Cf. No. 0885/84 ff. on punishing servants.

²¹ BD: (Maria) Anna Huber, daughter of a Salzburg antechamber servant.

occasionally loaded his things onto, or even climb on herself. – I am glad to hear that you have recovered somewhat. – the castoreum it is only if the womb rises or presses, as they say, but this is only a way of speaking, for the womb cannot rise, and it would take too long to explain this theoretically here. It is essential that you get exercise. [80] I suspect you will soon be pregnant again, because your first postpartum menstrual period only lasted 3 days: I will write to you with the rest soon. – I will hear or see if Herr Reitter²² comes here soon, or whether he writes to me. At the Wallners²³ he had board and lodging, and 5 florins per month, although he only had one boy. No one will take less, since he has 3. [85] The Hagenauers' Tresel²⁴ has often sent someone to enquire about the fans and has not yet succeeded in getting the finished objects. Little Leopoldl,²⁵ along with Nndl, kisses your hand for the little coat: we will get hold of everything. Although Marchand's Gredl²⁶ played and sang in the *operetta* to the greatest applause, there is in fact no hope for her in Munich, because *August Wendling*²⁷ is now Count *Seeau*'s²⁸ lover etc. etc. etc. [90] In all his letters Herr Marchand sends many *compliments* to you both from all in his household. – Since Herr Ek,²⁹ whom the Archbishop would have liked to have here, is on his travels for a year, Count Spaur³⁰ has now written to Hampl.³¹ But Ramm said to me that they cannot get him either, because there would then be no *concert* violinist at all in Munich, since they are all travelling somewhere. – [95] Did the messenger bring the little shoes for *Carl*³² with him? – the shoemaker had lost the measurements. If they are too small, one should send them back along with the measurements. – But if they are right? – they cost 36 kreuzers³³ – at the moment I do not see how I could possibly travel out to you: – the weather would have to improve first. – Now I believe I have answered every point one after the other, only higgledy-piggledy. – [100]

A *commission* sent by the Cathedral Chapter has called on the Archbishop: – Count Dietrichstein,³⁴ Prince Salm,³⁵ and Arco.³⁶ – the general opinion is that the esteemed Chapter *Legal Officer* will have received a decree from the Chapter today saying he should present himself to the Court Council. – Otherwise, they say, the Archbishop would remove him from office and have him locked in the castle. – [105] I have long known that the Archbishop hates

²² BD: He was meant to come to St. Gilgen as tutor to Nannerl's three youngest stepsons, cf. No. 0885/107.

²³ BD: Jakob Wallner, Secretary to the Salzburg Parliament of the Estates [Salzburger Landschaft], Royal War Advisor and captain.

²⁴ BD: Maria Theresia Hagenauer (1740-1820), the eldest daughter of Johann Lorenz Hagenauer.

²⁵ BD: Nannerl's son Leopold (born in Salzburg on 27th July, 1785) was to remain with Leopold from his birth until his grandfather's death in May, 1787; Nannerl returned to St. Gilgen at the beginning of September.

²⁶ BD: Maria Margarethe ("Gretl"), daughter of Munich theatre director Theobald Marchand. She had studied with Leopold for two years.

²⁷ BD: Elisabeth Augusta Wendling, daughter of the flautist Johann Baptist Wendling and his wife Dorothea.

²⁸ "Gr: Seeau". BD: Josef Anton, Count [Graf] Seeau († 1799), from 1753 supervisor of the Palace Theatre [Residenztheater] in Munich. One of his relatives, Ferdinand, Count [Graf] Seeau, († 1768) was Senior Stable Master [Oberstallmeister] in Salzburg. Cf. No. 0300/11.

²⁹ BD: Johann Friedrich Eck (1766-c.1820), violinist, son of Georg Eck.

³⁰ BD: Friedrich Franz Joseph, Count [Graf] Spaur (1756-1821), cathedral canon in Salzburg, Brixen and Passau. Allegedly founder (under the aegis of Archbishop Hieronymus) and first chairman of the eclectic lodge "Zur Fürsicht" ["At the sign of Providence"] in Salzburg.

³¹ BD: The violinist Paul Josef Hampel, son of the clarinettist Thaddäus Hampel. Both had been members of the court music in Mannheim and moved to Munich with the court in 1778.

³² BD: Nannerl's youngest stepson.

³³ 60 kreuzers = 1 florin.

³⁴ BD: Karl Hannibal, Count [Graf] Dietrichstein (1711-1794), Senior of the Cathedral Chapter, later President of the Royal Chamber.

³⁵ "Fürst". BD: Franz Xaver, Altgraf Salm-Reifferscheid (1749-1822), Cardinal, from 1783-1822 Prince-Bishop of Gurk; Imperial Prince [Reichsfürst].

³⁶ BD: Joseph Adam, Count [Graf] Arco (1733-1802), son of Georg Anton Felix, Count [Graf] Arco (1705-1792), Imperial Prince, Imperial And Royal Privy Councillor, 1780-1802 Bishop of Seckau.

him intensely. – Has Herr Pertl³⁷ brought you the *clavier* part for Wolfgang's new *concerto*? – – – Other things are being sent along with this – and the *lb sago*, which costs 56 kreuzers. – Here too are some clavier *sonatas*; more soon. – Count von Klamm,³⁸ *M.^{dme} Duscheck*'s admirer, was here for 12 days, a handsome, friendly, dear man without anything of a *courtier's* pride. [110] He maintains her entire *equipage*; *Ceccarelli*³⁹ and Ramm, the eyewitnesses, told me everything in detail.

I have just been to look at little Leopoldl, he is well, has slept well, Nandl and Tresel⁴⁰ commend themselves, and I kiss my esteemed son⁴¹ and yourself from the heart, send greetings to the children and I am as always your sincere father

[115]

Mozart mp⁴²

The 22nd, early in the morning.

I believe I have arranged matters [: on the quiet :| so that young Preyman⁴³ can play a violin *concerto* at court in order to be taken on for perhaps 8 or 10 florins; and who knows whether Heinrich⁴⁴ may yet come here. [120] The Archbishop is ready to agree to 200 florins annually, – if he pays 300, I will let him come, otherwise not.

³⁷ BD: Joseph Max Kajetan Pertl (†1788), a relative of Mozart's mother (Anna Maria, née Pertl), a court clerk in St. Gilgen and thus subordinate to Mozart's brother-in-law Berchtold.

³⁸ “graf v Klamm”. BD: Christian Philipp, Count [Graf] Clam-Callas († 1805), patron of music in Prague.

³⁹ BD: Francesco Ceccarelli (1752-1814), castrato, employed in Salzburg and then in Dresden; frequent guest in the Mozarts' house.

⁴⁰ BD: Therese Pänckl, servant in the Mozart household in Salzburg for many years.

⁴¹ Leopold's customary form of address to his son-in-law.

⁴² mp = *manu propria* = in his own hand.

⁴³ BD: Anton Breymann (1762-1841). Despite all Leopold's efforts he was not employed in the court music in Salzburg. He became a violinist for Fürst Liechtenstein and at the Burgtheater in Vienna.

⁴⁴ BD: 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.