

Munich, 22<sup>nd</sup> February,  
1786

I did not know if I should laugh or be angry when I read in your letter that the childish prophecy<sup>2</sup> I sent you made you anxious. [5] I had not even read this r...sh, and I must say, to the honour of the people of Salzburg, that in Salzburg they only laughed about the matter and did not pay the least attention to it, yes, I even heard that reasonable people were ashamed to speak of it at all, let alone refute this roguery, as really did happen here in the printed refutation I have found, [10] but which I was equally disinclined to take the trouble to read. Of course, 100s of persons had indeed gathered outside the town this morning to watch the *execution*, because a soldier was hanged because of many violent burglaries and robberies etc. etc. Yet I must admit that I was once again given proof that the Bavarians are 100 times more stupid than the people of Salzburg: [15] here they even have to have a printed refutation published, while in Salzburg there was hardly any mention of this simple-mindedness, and that was only in laughter. I am well, praise God, and every post-day I have letters from Nandl<sup>3</sup> in which she informs me of Leopoldl's<sup>4</sup> well-being and the very assiduous checks by Herr von d'Yppold,<sup>5</sup> who pays his daily visits as *visitor*<sup>6</sup> at varying times and hours. [20] The esteemed *Concertmaster* Fränzl,<sup>7</sup> who was never here but always in Manheim, has arrived with his son,<sup>8</sup> who plays violin very finely indeed, wants to go to Vienna, and in this matter I must write to your brother, whose answer Herr Fränzl wishes to await here; the answer will however go to Herr Fränzl himself or to Herr Marchand, [25] because I am leaving on Ash Wednesday.

Gredl<sup>9</sup> sang and acted outstandingly in *The Fiera di Venezia*<sup>10</sup>. On the coming Monday they will be giving the opera *Armida*<sup>11</sup> once again. Yesterday, with a cold wind, a spell of fine, bright weather started, and today all the windows were frozen, causing everyone to complain about the severe cold, and they will forget the whole earthquake because of it. [30]

All the Marchands commend themselves to both of you, as do the Langs,<sup>12</sup> *Brochards*;<sup>13</sup> – then *Md.<sup>me</sup> Durst*,<sup>14</sup> – *Hepps*,<sup>15</sup> – *Tavernier*<sup>16</sup> etc: – von Hofstettens<sup>17</sup> etc.,

<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: An earthquake in Europe had been prophesied for 7<sup>th</sup> January, 1786, then for the 17<sup>th</sup>.

<sup>3</sup> BD: Maria Anna Pietschner (1732-1805), Leopold's servant girl (“child nurse”).

<sup>4</sup> BD: Nannerl's son Leopold (born in Salzburg on 27<sup>th</sup> 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, 1785.

<sup>5</sup> BD: Franz Armand d'Ippold (c. 1730-1790), Imperial and Royal Captain, supervisor of page training in Salzburg. He added the “de” (in the Viennese style) himself. Sometime suitor of Nannerl.

<sup>6</sup> Really = “Papal representative”.

<sup>7</sup> BD: Ignaz Fränzl (1736-1811), joined the Mannheim music in 1747, concertmaster from 1774. Most of the Mannheim musicians moved to Munich with Elector Karl Theodor in 1778.

<sup>8</sup> BD: Ferdinand Fränzl (1770-1833), became concertmaster of the Munich court music in 1789.

<sup>9</sup> BD: Maria Margarethe (“Gretl”) Marchand, daughter of Munich theatre director Theobald Marchand. She was for some time a boarding pupil of Leopold's: February, 1782 - September, 1784. Her brother is mentioned in line 52.

<sup>10</sup> BD: *La Fiera di Venezia* by Antonio Salieri. Cf. Nos. 0905/9; 0929/112; 0932/10.

<sup>11</sup> BD: *Armida abbandonata* by Alessio Prati, cf. No. 0909/60.

<sup>12</sup> BD VIII, p. 123: The horn player Martin Lang, an acquaintance of the Mozart family, married the actress Marianne Boudet (1756-1835) in 1782.

<sup>13</sup> BD: Marchand's wife was born a Brochard.

<sup>14</sup> BD: Nannerl stayed with her during her visit to Munich for the première of Mozart's *La finta giardiniera*.

<sup>15</sup> BD: Philipp von Hepp (1753-1798), member of one the richest civic families in Munich in the 18<sup>th</sup> century. His sister was also acquainted with the Mozarts.

*Dufraisne*<sup>18</sup> – *Cannabich*;<sup>19</sup> *Le Brun*<sup>20</sup> and spouse, – *Bologna*<sup>21</sup> etc. and who knows who all the others were. – Tomorrow a grand banquet will be provided by *Martin Lang*-[*Boudé*], [35] to which *Fränzl*:, *Cannabich*:, *Md:me Schulz*,<sup>22</sup> *Brochard*. etc. are also invited, there will be 18 of us. On Shrove Tuesday, as far as I have heard, the feeding will take place in our house.

I do not want to start writing anything at all about the jewellery,<sup>23</sup> since that would take us too far. The offers made to me are too poor and it would take too long to explain it; and now the times really are such that a lucky coincidence in finding a purchaser would simply have to take place.

This morning, the 23<sup>rd</sup>, it is again intensely cold here, at 11 o'clock until 1 o'clock *quartets*<sup>24</sup> will be played: for that everyone with a good understanding of music is coming to us: then at 1 o'clock to Lang's to dine. – [45] Now I will close, at 10 o'clock the letter must be at the post office. I kiss both of you from the heart, send my greetings to the children and am as always your sincere father

Mozart mp<sup>25</sup>

At no time were we at a *ball*, – but at the *concert masqué* twice.

[50] At a suitable opportunity, for example if the glass-carrier woman comes into town, send me the grand *concerto in D*<sup>26</sup> so that it is sure to be there for a performance at court on Election Day.<sup>27</sup> *Heinrich*<sup>28</sup> has it himself, but he is leaving it here for his sister to play it in the *Amateur Concert* in Lent.

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<sup>16</sup> BD: Probably the couple with whom the “Bäsele”, Mozart’s cousin from Augsburg, stayed in Munich.

<sup>17</sup> BD: Known to the Mozarts since at least 1777, cf. No. 0333/52. BD: VIII, p. 93: Probably Johann Baptist Theodor von Hofstetten, who represented Bavaria in Salzburg in 1803. For a short time, his private secretary was Joseph August Röckel, who was the first Florestan in Beethoven’s *Fidelio* in 1806.

<sup>18</sup> BD: Court Councillor Franz Dufraisne, who was also responsible for organising Nannerl’s accommodation on her trip to Munich.

<sup>19</sup> BD: (Johann) Christian (Innocenz Bonaventura) Cannabich (1731-1798), music director to the Elector in Mannheim and then Munich. The Cannabich family were particular friends of Mozart’s in Mannheim.

<sup>20</sup> 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).

<sup>21</sup> BD: Michelangelo Bologna, castrato, active in the court music in Salzburg 1782-84. Began a love affair with Regina (“Regerl”) Weyrother, left for Munich in September, 1784.

<sup>22</sup> BD: Rosa Schulz, née Cannabich, daughter of Christian Cannabich. In 1777 Mozart dedicated the clavier sonata in C KV 309 (284b) to her.

<sup>23</sup> BD: Cf. No. 0804/41; Leopold’s continuing efforts to sell jewellery on behalf of Nannerl.

<sup>24</sup> BD: Probably the six dedicated to Joseph Haydn, cf. No. 0874.

<sup>25</sup> mp = *manu propria* = in his own hand.

<sup>26</sup> BD VI, p. 715: In No. 0943/4-5 Leopold speaks of the Concerto in D with the minor third. It is doubtful whether this could be KV 451 or 466.

<sup>27</sup> BD: Celebrating the anniversary of the Archbishop’s election.

<sup>28</sup> BD: Heinrich Marchand, son of the theatre director Theobald Marchand. He 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.