

0946. LEOPOLD MOZART TO HIS DAUGHTER,¹ ST. GILGEN

À Madame / Madame de Sonnenbourg / à / St. Gilgen

Leopoldl² is well!

Salzb., 28th March,
1786

I must hurry, since the glass-carrier woman³ is setting off again immediately and now Herr Atzwanger⁴ and Herr Hefter⁵ have called on me [5] concerning the printing work for the *opera* booklet for Orpheo and Euridice⁶ which I have arranged to have printed from the *score* because it is to be sung *concertante* in the city hall a week tomorrow. Yesterday, at 8 o'clock, there was the *blessing* of the 2 prelates⁷ in St. Peter's church with a musical Pontifical Mass. At midday there was a banquet at court, [10] and in the evening grand music and company at court.

I am sending the *concerto*⁸ back again. *Practise* the new *concertos*,⁹ you will play and hear them here.

The stick of salt¹⁰ is 1 florin. – I am also sending you the dress; it was only after it was brought back that it had to be turned out and put back in order again.

[15] I cannot make use of your *chaise* since I cannot fix any day with certainty, because unexpected hindrances can occur. Just ask the glass-carrier woman how the roads look after yesterday's terrible wet snow, so that one can hardly go out of the house. The organ-builder¹¹ will soon get the *fortepiano* back into good shape, there is no doubt of that, [20] and that will happen as soon as possible.

On Sunday, Fräulein *Louise*¹² was buried, and in the evening old Sepperl Schnürer.¹³

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: Leopold's grandson by Nannerl.

³ BD: From letter No. 0808 (14th Sept., 1784) onwards, the "glasträgerin" ["glass-carrier woman"] is Leopold's regular messenger to St. Gilgen, where Archbishop Thun established a glassworks in 1701.

⁴ BD: Raimund Felix Atzwanger, Salzburg city councillor, tax collector general, representative in the parliament of the estates.

⁵ BD: Johann Ignaz Valentin Hefter (1739-1818), Salzburg merchant and later mayor of the town.

⁶ BD: Cf. No. 0943/37 ff.

⁷ BD: Cf. No. 0943/20 ff.

⁸ BD VI, p. 282 identifies this as KV 466. A later comment (p.715) states: "It is doubtful whether this [with the minor third] could be KV 451 or 466."

⁹ BD VI, p. 283: KV 466, KV 467.

¹⁰ Presumably some of the salt which was part of the remuneration for those involved in salt working in the region. Promised often in recent letters.

¹¹ BD: Leopold had long been looking for an opportunity to drive out to St. Gilgen with the new organ builder and keyboard specialist in Salzburg, J. E. Schmid: there were problems with Nannerl's *fortepiano*. Johann Evangelist Schmid (1757-1804): organ builder, 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.

¹² BD: Maria Aloisia Viktoria (1757-1786), known as Louise, daughter of the factory owner Georg Joseph Robinig von Rottenfeld (1710-1760). Her illness has been commented on frequently since letter No. 0838/63 ff.

¹³ BD: Josepha Schnürer, mentioned as "Madmslle von Schurer" in No. 0056/66.

I am very pleased that Lenerl¹⁴ is better, I send my greetings. Trese¹⁵ too is better again; Trese and Nandl¹⁶ commend themselves, [25] and Leopoldl sends kisses to you both. As Marchand¹⁷ was carrying him around 2 days ago, he pissed around on him so gallantly that it ran down inside his shirt; how we all laughed!

I have already written to your brother about the last riddle,¹⁸ since none of us can solve it. He will explain it to me, for he made all of this up, [30] and he was the *masquerader*. The riddles are only for fun, but the fragments really are suitable for being taken to heart and improving morals, which every reasonable person must work on as long as he lives; this is also why they were particularly to everyone's liking and were printed in full in the newspapers. The solutions to the riddles are correct.

[35] Heinrich¹⁹ commends himself. Tomorrow he will play a violin *concerto* in the town hall again.

I kiss you both from the heart and am as always your same old sincere father

Mozart mp²⁰

[40] I have received the eggs, my thanks for them; the lady-in-waiting recently sent me 32 kreuzers²¹ worth which she got from Tittmoning, since Leopold seldom eats semolina now, but egg groats etc.

Leopold teases and laughs like a young billy-goat, he rolls around so much that one does not dare to go even a couple of steps away from him. [45]

Today there was a church service for the *Robinis' Louise*.²² Now one will hear what she has left to her beloved.²³ 1000 ducats,²⁴ I suspect.

¹⁴ BD: Nannerl's serving girl Lena, often called Lenerl.

¹⁵ BD: Therese Pänckl, servant in the Mozart household in Salzburg for many years.

¹⁶ BD: Maria Anna Pietschner (1732-1805), Leopold's servant girl ("child nurse").

¹⁷ BD: Heinrich Marchand, son of the Munich theatre director Theobald Marchand, once a pupil in keyboard, violin and composition in the Mozarts' home over three years. Now a performer.

¹⁸ Cf. Nos. 0933; 0943/81. Riddles thought up by Mozart for a ball in Vienna.

¹⁹ = "Marchand" in line 25.

²⁰ mp = *manu propria* = in his own hand.

²¹ 60 kreuzers = 1 florin.

²² BD: Maria Aloisia Viktoria (1757-1786), known as Louise, daughter of the factory owner Georg Joseph Robinig von Rottenfeld (1710-1760). Her illness has been commented on frequently since letter No. 0838/63 ff.

²³ BD: Cf. No. 0838/63 ff. The lover was obviously poor, but was given a title so as to be able to marry Aloisia.

²⁴ BD: = 4,500 florins.