

0950. LEOPOLD MOZART TO HIS DAUGHTER,¹ ST. GILGEN

Salzb., 18th April,
1786

Little Leopold² is in fine fettle!

I am starting this letter already on the 18th because I am astonishingly bored, [5] because yesterday, on Easter Monday, and today I was already not even able to go to church. I have such severe rheumatism on the left side of my neck that I cannot move my head without pain, and I would very much like it to be better by tomorrow because *M.^{dme} Duscheck*³ will sing an *aria* in the town *hall*. [10] On Easter Sunday I called, with Heinrich,⁴ on the *Duscheks* in the Weisers' Hof,⁵ was with them in the morning as well; they immediately asked about you, and because the weather is so fine, I almost had the idea that you would both come into town. They commend themselves to both of you. – The new violinist⁶ arrived on Good Friday, but still has not played a single note *solo*, and as far as I can observe we will hardly be hearing a *concerto* from him any time soon; perhaps a *quartetto*, that is possible, for the Italians are saying: the poor man; – he is a splendid *professore*,⁷ one must grant him that, and is good for leading the 2nd violins; but playing *concertos* is not something he has specialised in. He can, if need be, play a *trio* or *quartetto* cleanly, and moreover he is timid.

[20] Now, one must not hold it against him that he is timid, for he is only 30 years old. So the Archbishop has been neatly swindled once again, namely with a salary of 500 florins and 40 ducats⁸ travelling money in both directions, thus 700 florins, *proficiat!*⁹ – Nor is the man handsome. He is of medium size, has a pale, somewhat inflated face, [25] and yet with certain bony parts, like a horse's head, lets his head hang forwards, and chews tobacco like the peasants in the Ziller valley; that is what the Italians say. I feel sorry for the man; it is, by the way, an Italian form of boldness to undertake something for which one is not equipped.

We have a Senior Chamberlain:¹⁰ and who is it? The old Royal Marshall [30] Count *Lodron*,¹¹ overnight, because the esteemed Count *Wolkenstein*¹² did not accept it either.

In his Testament, the blessedly departed Bishop in Chiemsee¹³ requested to be buried in the crypt¹⁴ beside *Wolfdietrich*¹⁵ – as a persecuted cathedral dean beside the persecuted

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: 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, 1785.

³ BD: Josepha Duscek (1753-1824) was a singer; wife of Franz Xaver Duscek (1731-1799), pianist and composer in Prague. They had known the Mozarts since 1777.

⁴ BD: Heinrich Marchand, son of the Munich theatre director Theobald Marchand, once a pupil in keyboard, violin and composition in the Mozarts' home for three years. Now a performer.

⁵ BD (footnote to No. 0949/12, “inheritance”): Townhouse of Ignaz Anton (von) Weiser, former mayor of Salzburg.

⁶ BD: Latouche, wrongly called “Detouche” in line 89.

⁷ = teacher.

⁸ BD: Leopold calculates five florins to the ducat.

⁹ = “good luck, may it prosper”.

¹⁰ “Oberstkämmerer”.

¹¹ “Hof-Marchall Gr.”. BD: Nikolaus Sebastian, Count [Graf] Lodron (1719-1792).

¹² “H: Gr.”. BD: Perhaps Paris, Count [Graf] Wolkenstein-Trostburg, later Regional Governor [Landeshauptmann] of the Tyrol.

¹³ Cf. No. 0948/5 concerning his death; BD: Ferdinand Christoph, Count [Graf] Waldburg-Zeil (1719-1786), Prince-Bishop in Chiemsee and cathedral canon in Salzburg. Involved with Mozart in 1777, cf. e.g. No. 0331/104.

archbishop. And this wish was complied with. – [35] Now the people have seen through the lie, which has always persisted, that Wolfdietrich is sitting in a chair without bodily corruption.¹⁶ Everyone who was allowed to go down saw, after raising the lid which was not nailed down, that he was lying half-decayed, even though it is fully 160 years now since he was buried. Certainly over 150 persons went down there in the course of proceedings.

[40] the 21st April.

On Wednesday I had recovered so well that, after wrapping up my neck thoroughly, I could attend the music in the town hall. Now, the esteemed prelate of St. Peter's¹⁷ was there, having brought the esteemed *Reverend Father Rector*¹⁸ in his coach with him, and the Professores were there anyway, as was the cathedral city chaplain [45] – even old Frau Hagenauer,¹⁹ who had never seen the room at all, was there with her husband and their family. *M.^{dme} Duscheck* sang; How? – I can't help myself! She screamed, or screamed, an *aria* by *Naumann*²⁰ quite astonishingly, with exaggerated expressive force, as she did back then, and even worse. – – Heavens above! With so many other singing faults that I was very sorry for her strong voice, [50] that she cannot use it better. But who is the cause? – – her husband, who does not know any better, and has taught her, still teaches her and imparts the idea that she alone possesses the true *gusto*.²¹ Otherwise she is really no longer so free or typically singer-like; it was in no sense the performance of a court singer; – the Archbishop did not exchange a single word with her at the town *hall*. [55] In short! She only sang, as I had already fancied, in order to please the city council, at the request of Herr Weiser,²² because she does after all have a little of the blood of an ex-mayor and city councillor in her. She will leave in 2 or 3 days. As for how much the inheritance came to, no one knows, as Herr and Frau Hagenauer told me in person, and they would of course have liked to know themselves.

[60] Yesterday, as required in the will, the church service²³ took place in St. Sebastian's instead of the cathedral, with all the same pomp as in the cathedral. The 3 veiled principal women mourners²⁴ were Countess Khünburg,²⁵ her daughter, and Countess *Lizow*.²⁶ The 6

¹⁴ BD: According to Haselberger's chronicle, he requested to be buried at the feet of Archbishop Wolf Dietrich († 1617). Since there was no room there, he was laid at his left side.

¹⁵ BD: Wolf Dietrich von Raitenau (archbishop 1587-1612). After being deposed, he was imprisoned in Hohensalzburg, where he died in 1617.

¹⁶ BD: Resembling the legend about the sleeping Emperor under the Untersberg mountain in Salzburg.

¹⁷ BD: Father Dominicus Hagenauer, elected prelate on the 31st January, 1786.

¹⁸ BD: Professor Dr. Konstantin (Joseph) Langhaidler (1726-1787), rector of the university.

¹⁹ BD: Maria Theresia Hagenauer, wife of the Salzburg merchant Johann Lorenz Hagenauer, sometime landlord to the Mozart family.

²⁰ BD: Johann Gottlieb Naumann (1741-1801), with whom Mozart would become acquainted in Dresden in 1789.

²¹ = "*taste, style*".

²² BD: Franz Xaver Andreas Athanasius Weiser (1739-1817), city councillor and business magnate, son of the Ignaz Anton Weiser mentioned above. The Weisers were related to the families Hagenauer and Duscheck.

²³ BD: For the deceased Bishop of Chiemsee, cf. line 32.

²⁴ BD: The nearest female relatives.

²⁵ "Gräfin". BD: Friederike Maria Anna, Countess [Gräfin] Kuenburg, née Komtesse Waldstein (1742-1802), wife of Leopold Joseph Maria, Graf Kuenburg (1740-1812), Royal and Imperial Chamberlain, Privy Councillor and, from 1764, Chief Master of the Stables [Oberstallmeister] in Salzburg. Cf. 0868/37. Her daughter: Therese (1769-1805).

²⁶ "Gräfin Lizow". BD: Antonie, Countess [Gräfin] Lützow, nee Komtesse Czernin von Chudenitz, (1738-1780), a niece of Salzburg Archbishop Hieronymus and wife of Johann Nepomuk Gottfried, Count [Graf] Lützow, commander of the fortress in Salzburg, vice-president of the Council of War [Kriegsrat]. Mozart wrote the clavier concerto KV 246 for her in 1776. Cf. No. 0319/37, 39.

*Cavaglieri Serventi*²⁷ were the 2 *Rhelings*,²⁸ Jos: *Überacker*,²⁹ little *Baron Dicker*,³⁰ the Senior Master of the Kitchen *Arco*,³¹ and Baron *Schafman*.³² The 3 principal mourners the esteemed *Cathedral Dean*,³³ [65] Count *Khünburg* the Senior Master of the Stables³⁴ and *Count Wolfegg*.³⁵ Prince *Breiner*³⁶ held the *Requiem*. The 4 Prelates were from *St. Peter's*, from *St. Zeno*, from *Chiemse[e]* and *Höglwerth*.³⁷ 2 soldiers at the church doors, 4 soldiers at the church grille, 2 at the passage leading to the convent³⁸ etc. etc., guards everywhere. The populace turned out in extraordinary crowds. But the bells rang only in the cathedral church [70] just as if there were a church service in the cathedral, – the *Libera*³⁹ was in *Gabriel's Chapel*⁴⁰ by the grave. Today there was the *ordinari* service held by the Chapter in the cathedral.

The messenger⁴¹ delivered everything in good order. Leopoldl now goes into every room in the house. He would also have gone on an outing by now if we had not had such an astonishingly sharp and strong wind despite such fine weather. [50]

The Hubers' Nannerl⁴² would certainly have come out to you if the Platz⁴³ household were not constantly heaping work on her up to her neck. Now the Countess has lost the child and

²⁷ = literally “serving court gentlemen” = “knights of honour”.

²⁸ BD: Georg Johann Joseph, Baron [Freiherr] von Rehlingen-Dietenheim (1740-1807), held military and civilian offices in Salzburg, ultimately that of Royal Chamber Councillor [Hofkammerrat] 1801. His twin brother was Johann Nepomuk, Baron [Freiherr] von Rehlingen-Dietenheim (1740-1808), held military and civilian offices in Salzburg, ultimately that of general tax inspector [Generalsteuereinnnehmer].

²⁹ BD: Wolf Joseph Ludwig, Count [Graf] von Überacker (1743-1819), last of the so-called “Tittmoning line”; often referred to as “Count [gr:] Sepperl Überacker”. 1761 “Edlknabe” [in training as page], 1773 chamberlain [Kämmerer], 1777 court councillor [Hofrat] and court chamber councillor [Hofkammerat]. For a time, member of the airgun club, cf. No. 0536/5, 22.

³⁰ “B: Dicker”. BD: Ferdinand Dück(h)er, Baron [Freiherr] von Haslau (1740-1814), from 1778 in charge of the Salzburg police, member of the war council [Hofkriegsrat]. After a long military career, he received his pension in 1806.

³¹ “Oberstküchenmeister”. BD: Karl Joseph Felix, Count [Graf] Arco (1730-1830), son of Count [Graf] Georg Anton Felix Arco, held various offices in Salzburg, including High Master of the Kitchen [Oberstküchenmeister]. Played a role in the dismissal of Mozart described in No. 0604/4 ff.

³² “B: Schafman”. BD: Franz Felix Schaffmann von Hämerles und Khanorowicz (1720-1793), castle commander [Schlosskommandant] in Tittmoning. His son had visited Mozart and his mother in Mannheim (cf. No. 0366/38-40).

³³ “H: Domdechant”. BD: Sigmund Christoph, Count [Graf] Waldburg-Zeil, Cathedral Dean [Domdechant] in Salzburg, nephew of Ferdinand Christoph, Count [Graf] Waldburg-Zeil (1719-1786).

³⁴ “Oberststall:”. BD: Cf. No. 0034/41. Leopold Joseph Maria, Count [Graf] Kuenburg (1740-1812), Royal and Imperial Chamberlain [k.k. Kämmerer], Privy Councillor [Geheimer Rat], from 1764 Chief Stablemaster [Oberstallmeister] in Salzburg.

³⁵ “Gr: Wolfegg”. BD: Anton Willibald, Count [Graf] von Waldburg zu Wolfegg und Wandsee (1729-1821), hereditary seneschal [Rechtserbtruchsess], cathedral canon in Salzburg, high official. Supposedly Provincial Director, under the name “Prunelius”, of the Salzburg Illuminati lodge “Apollo”.

³⁶ “Fürst Breiner”. BD: Franz Xaver, originally Baron [Freiherr], later Prince [Fürst], Breuner (* 1723). He received the rank of Prince so that he could retain his rank as Bishop of Lavant after being appointed Bishop in Chiemsee, a post he held 1786-1797. Cf. No. 0340/93.

³⁷ BD: Höglwörth, a foundation by Teisendorf in Bavaria.

³⁸ BD: The “Bruderhaus” attached to St. Sebastian's.

³⁹ Part of the Requiem Mass.

⁴⁰ BD: Mausoleum of Archbishop Wolf Dietrich, cf. line 33.

⁴¹ BD: There was no post-coach to St. Gilgen. Leopold therefore sent his letters and packages to Nannerl by a messenger, a carter who came to Salzburg once a week. The “glass-carrier woman” also provided a service on this route.

⁴² BD: (Maria) Anna Huber, daughter of a Salzburg antechamber servant.

⁴³ BD: Leopold Andreas, Count [Graf] Plaz (1742-1811), had a successful administrative career in Salzburg, married his cousin Maria Theresia, Countess [Gräfin] Plaz (1754-1815) in 1772.

will travel to Gastein,⁴⁴ so there is nothing more to prevent Nannerl coming out perhaps next week, [80] depending on the weather, or with the messenger if you can manage it, or some other way. Rely on me to see how I can do it.

The Hubers' Nannerl would like to have a straw hat too. But the men who bring them are not there yet, but are coming soon. Then I will send 2 out immediately.

[85] We are expecting Countess Pergen,⁴⁵ Countess *Clari*⁴⁶ etc. etc. from Vienna any day now, and they are accompanying a *Commtesse* Thun⁴⁷ to the Netherlands. Only then will *Ceccarelli*⁴⁸ be allowed to leave.

A *castrato*, *Sgr. Coppola*,⁴⁹ who is travelling through here on his way to Dressden, has been here since Good Friday, is leaving tomorrow, came with the violinist *Detouche*;⁵⁰ [90] the Archbishop did not let him sing! *Detouche*'s prospects look depressing.

Now I hope that you will surely come into town for once next month, since the finer weather is coming, and the weather will also be pleasant towards Pentecost; we have of course had fine weather for a long time now, but there is a sharp wind, and that sustains this weather, one would now wish for rain. [95] I kiss both of you from the heart, send my greetings to the children and am as always your

Mzt mp
the 22nd April.

There are not 3 but 4 Weiser heirs, the *Fräulein* daughter of *Baronesse* What's-Her-Name Weiser,⁵¹ Nannerl, is of course always at the Mehofers,⁵² and is being raised here [100] following the death of her mother. Then he additionally drew up *codicil* upon *codicil* without end, making his testamentary documents into such a huge packet of *dispositions* that they will hardly make one any the wiser. It was all settled between them in absolute secrecy. With age, the man's memory became more and more confused etc. etc.

[105] Nandl⁵³ and Tresel⁵⁴ send hand-kisses to both of you, I send greetings to Lenerl.⁵⁵ Heinrich commends himself, is always hoping that he may see both of you here soon. A heap of little kisses from Leopoldl, whom one can hardly keep on one's arm because he immediately wants to see everything that catches his attention in the room; and he hears everything that stirs and moves, even in the least, [110] and he immediately looks to see what it is.

⁴⁴ A spa about 80 km south of Salzburg.

⁴⁵ "Gräfin". BD: Franziska, Countess [Gräfin] Pergen.

⁴⁶ "gräfin Clari". BD: Eleonora, Countess [Gräfin] Clam. She and Countess Pergen were daughters of Count [Graf] Christoph Joseph Kletzl.

⁴⁷ "Commtesse Thun". BD: Possibly Maria Christine (* 1765), daughter of Mozart's patroness, Marie Wilhelmina, Countess [Gräfin] Thun-Hohenstein (1747-1800). She married Prince [Fürst] Karl Lichnowsky in 1789; he accompanied Mozart on a journey to Berlin in 1789.

⁴⁸ BD: Francesco Ceccarelli (1752-1814), castrato, employed in Salzburg and then in Dresden; frequent guest in the Mozarts' house.

⁴⁹ BD: Probably a relative of the composer Pier Antonio Coppola.

⁵⁰ BD: The "Latouche" mentioned above.

⁵¹ "Baroness N: N: weiser".

⁵² BD: Anton Johann Mehofer, son of the chamber quartermaster Franz Mehofer, official in the war office and regional administrator, son-in-law of the deceased Weiser. He lived in the townhouse of line 10.

⁵³ BD: Maria Anna Pietschner (1732-1805), Leopold's servant girl ("child nurse").

⁵⁴ BD: Therese Pänckl, servant in the Mozart household in Salzburg for many years.

⁵⁵ BD: Nannerl's serving girl Lena, often called Lenerl.