

0960. LEOPOLD MOZART TO HIS DAUGHTER,<sup>1</sup> ST. GILGEN

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

Salzb., 26<sup>th</sup> May [1786]

Little Leopold<sup>2</sup> is well!

It is already after 11 o'clock at night as I write this because I have just come home. This morning, the personal valet Ankerbauer<sup>3</sup> asked me to visit him at 6 o'clock this evening with Marchand<sup>4</sup> [5] to see and hear a *fortepiano*, since the Chief Master of the Stables<sup>5</sup> and *Barisani*<sup>6</sup> and families had likewise promised to come for this purpose. We came, and Marchand played; – it turned 8 o'clock, the music at court had been cancelled anyway, and as we were about to leave, the table was laid and food served, – [10] we all thought it was a joke! But it was serious, we all took *supper* there, and have only come home now. Since the messenger<sup>7</sup> said he would already collect the letter after 7 o'clock tomorrow morning, I am writing today to say that I have received the letter and the 18 kreuzers,<sup>8</sup> that this afternoon Nandl<sup>9</sup> carried Leopold to Frau Zezi,<sup>10</sup> since she had often given invitations, since she had visited him [15] and also already knows that you will finally come into town for once at Pentecost; I also told Herr von *D'Ypold*,<sup>11</sup> who commends himself to you both and feels the greatest pleasure over seeing you here again for once. Today the big room was cleaned up, tomorrow I will bring the clavier in and then have the other rooms and windows cleaned. The organ-builder<sup>12</sup> will get here in the coming week, [20] since he had already left Stühlingen on the 22<sup>nd</sup>. Otherwise everything is already prepared and all provisions made, as I am expecting you on Friday or at the latest Saturday, have also told everyone, in answer to the endless questions, that you will both be here at Pentecost; I also let the Hubers' Nannerl<sup>13</sup> know when I sent the letters to her. [25] Yesterday the new tenor,<sup>14</sup> whom Schikaneder<sup>15</sup> has engaged,

<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: 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>3</sup> "LeibCammerdiener". BD: Johann Ulrich Angelbauer, second personal chamber servant to the Archbishop; cf. No. 0585/27 ff.

<sup>4</sup> 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.

<sup>5</sup> "die Oberbreuterischen". BD: The family of Senior Equerry [Oberbereiter] Gottlieb von Weyrother, Esquire [Edler] (1731-1816), active in the Salzburg riding school and in charge of the court stables.

<sup>6</sup> BD: Dr. Sylvester Barisani (1719-1810), personal physician to the Prince-Archbishop of Salzburg, member of an extensive Salzburg family.

<sup>7</sup> 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.

<sup>8</sup> 60 kreuzers = 1 florin.

<sup>9</sup> BD: Maria Anna Pietschner (1732-1805), Leopold's servant girl ("child nurse").

<sup>10</sup> BD: Maria Anna Zezi, née Polis, married the merchant Johann Bernhard Zezi in 1764.

<sup>11</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>12</sup> 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.

<sup>13</sup> BD: (Maria) Anna Huber, daughter of a Salzburg antechamber servant.

<sup>14</sup> BD: Benedikt Schack [properly "Ziak" or "Žák"] (1758-1826), studied philosophy and singing in Vienna from 1776, became a music director in Silesia in 1780, joined Schikaneder's troupe, employed in Munich from 1796. After losing his voice he turned to composing for the church. He was previously successful as a composer of singspiels. He sang Tamino in the first performance of *The Magic Flute*. Reportedly participated in the rehearsal of the Requiem by Mozart's deathbed on the afternoon of 4<sup>th</sup> December, 1791.

arrived. He sings outstandingly, has a beautiful voice, a light, agile throat,<sup>16</sup> and fine technique. For this reason a further *opera*, *La Frascatana*,<sup>17</sup> will be given on Wednesday<sup>18</sup> so that the public will still be able to hear him; perhaps the *opera* will have to be given once more during the Pentecost feast-days before Schikaneder's departure. [30] This man really sings very beautifully! Now I am closing to go to bed, since I will soon embrace you both personally, I kiss you from the heart, send greetings to the children and am, in pleasurable expectation of yourselves, your sincere father

Mozart mp<sup>19</sup>

[35] Leopoldl kisses you both, Heinrich<sup>20</sup> commends himself and looks forward to the day of your arrival, as do Nndl and Tresel,<sup>21</sup> who send you handkisses.

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<sup>15</sup> BD: Emanuel Schikaneder (1751-1812), actor and theatre director. He took over the Moser troupe in 1778, which he took to Ulm, Stuttgart, Augsburg, Neuburg an der Donau, Nuremberg, Erlangen, Rothenburg ob der Tauber, Laibach, Klagenfurt and Linz 1780. They were in Salzburg 1780/81. He soon got to know the Mozart family, gave them free entry to the theatre every evening, and participated in the air-rifle club. He was important in giving Mozart familiarity with stage practice. In 1786 they performed operas ten times and plays three times in Salzburg.

<sup>16</sup> BD: Cf. No. 0629/46.

<sup>17</sup> BD: *La Frascatana* by Giovanni Paisiello, given as *Das Mädchen von Frescati*, previously performed five times in Salzburg to full houses in 1781/82. Here Schrak takes the role of Nardone.

<sup>18</sup> BD: 31<sup>st</sup> May, 1786.

<sup>19</sup> mp = *manu propria* = in his own hand.

<sup>20</sup> 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.

<sup>21</sup> BD: Therese Pänckl, servant in the Mozart household in Salzburg for many years.