

0983. LEOPOLD MOZART TO HIS DAUGHTER,¹ ST. GILGEN

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

The play turned out very well: everyone was most satisfied.²

Little Leopoldl³ is well!

Salzb., 3rd Sept:
1786

I and Heinrich⁴ request my esteemed son⁵ and yourself [5] not to give Lenerl⁶ six of the best, we are the reason that she did not get away on Sunday, she received the shoes so late *N.B.* not until 8 o'clock in the morning, or was it perhaps already as late as half past 8? – In short, should she still have set off on Sunday? Just think, both of you: on Sunday! – – we thought it would make no difference if she arrived late on Sunday or on Monday. [10] We did not let her go. – She can tell you the rest of the story. So: *pardon* me! – –

We had the pleasure of seeing your esteemed brother from Strobel⁷ and his young madam daughter when they called on us: and they promised to visit us once again if possible. – tomorrow they journey to St. Leonhard.⁸ [15] She is a truly well-mannered lady with nothing *affected* about her, – and I like that. Leopoldl was her joy, she carried him around on her arm and played with him: she is sure to tell you both about it etc.

Today there is a play, as you will see from the playbill. I was at the main stage rehearsal yesterday. They perform it better than I could have expected, [20] but the best one of all is the wig-maker's journeyman Ludwig Hannibal: he can play on any stage. The persons are:

Pfeifner, the teacher at the model school.

Kratzer the bookbinder, whose wife is the pretty little braid-maker's daughter. –

N.B. the story with Westermeyr.⁹

[25] Kiefer, journeyman apothecary at Hochmuth's.

Herr Hanibal, journeyman wigmaker at Joseph's next to the *Gilowskys*.

Herr Nussbaumer. A journeyman watchmaker.

Herr Rieger, a gunner. Son of the president of the military court.¹⁰

Herr Laurent. Accountant at Mayer's bookshop.

Acts very well.

[30] Then the 2 girls do their parts very well for beginners, especially Marianne.

Well, that is all the news. I kiss both of you from the heart, send my greetings to the children and am as always your faithful father

Mozart mp¹¹

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 Address and remark on the play from DME. Remark at end of text in BD III.

³ 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.

⁴ 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 until 1774.

⁵ BD: Leopold's grandson by Nannerl.

⁶ BD: Magdalena, nursery maid at the Berchtolds.

⁷ BD VIII, p. 127: Joseph Sigismund von Berchtold zu Sonnenburg (1739-1794), older brother of Leopold's son-in-law, administered an iron warehouse in Strobl on the Wolfgangsee.

⁸ BD: Just south of Salzburg.

⁹ BD: A choral singer who applied for a vacancy for a tenor (cf. No. 0382/16); the "story" is not known.

¹⁰ "des Profosen".

[35] Now we are told that the Archbishop¹² will arrive here on the 10th.
Herr Kurz,¹³ Chief Administrator¹⁴ in Werffen, has died, as you will surely already know.
Heinrich commends himself. Nandl¹⁵ and Tresel¹⁶ kiss your hands.
Other strings for the *clavichord* will come to you via the messenger.¹⁷

¹¹ mp = *manu propria* = in his own hand.

¹² BD: Cf. No. 0982/17. Hieronymus Joseph Franz de Paula, Count [Graf] Colloredo (1732-1812), Prince-Archbishop [Fürst-Erbischof] of Salzburg from 1772. Employer of Leopold and, for two periods, of Wolfgang. Cf. No. 0263/9. At one point he dismissed both Leopold and Wolfgang, although Leopold was later reinstated. Cf. No. 0328. He had just been in Brühl working on a political alliance, afterwards visiting in Aschaffenburg.

¹³ BD: Felix Anton Patrizius Kurz von Goldenstein (1728-1786 in Werfen, 40 km south of Salzburg).

¹⁴ “Pfleger”.

¹⁵ BD: Maria Anna Pietschner (1732-1805), Leopold’s servant girl (“child nurse”).

¹⁶ BD: Therese Pänckl, servant in the Mozart household in Salzburg for many years.

¹⁷ 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.