

1017. LEOPOLD MOZART TO HIS DAUGHTER,<sup>1</sup> ST. GILGEN

Leopold<sup>2</sup> has had the Running Catherine<sup>3</sup>  
for a long time now and is nevertheless  
good-humoured, in good health and spirits.

Salzb., 4<sup>th</sup> January,  
1787

[5] On the coming 15<sup>th</sup> January, Count Franz *Lodron*<sup>4</sup> |: the Italian *Lodron* :|, who will inherit the estate according to the rights of *Secondo-genitor*,<sup>5</sup> will travel to Vienna to fetch his bride, Countess Wallstein,<sup>6</sup> sister of the cathedral canon, after which he will become *Royal Marshal*<sup>7</sup> here. Count Nicklas, currently Senior Chamberlain,<sup>8</sup> will give them board and lodging since he will inherit from him after his death anyway. [10]

---

Yesterday and today I gave the new Countess *Lodron*<sup>9</sup> the first *lessons*, – she is by no means unskilful. I will go to *Comtesse Louise*<sup>10</sup> for the first time in the coming days, – since we do not yet have a *clavier*.<sup>11</sup> – the housekeeping at the *Lodrons*<sup>12</sup> currently looks as if the young windbag will, in a couple of years, be applying to have a *receiver* appointed. [15] Every day there are 12 persons at the *officers*' table, gorging and boozing all their stomachs<sup>13</sup> can take. – He was ill for some time with glands in his neck which burst open; hardly had he recovered when he set off yesterday night for 9 or 10 days in Gmündt<sup>14</sup> with valet and *secretary*, [20] although they had advised him against it. – From there a road is to be built heading straight for Triest for the benefit of commerce, since the letters etc. have to go such a long way round. Herr Reitter<sup>15</sup> has gone there for 3 months of surveying . . .

---

Herr Hafner von Inbachshausen, Esquire<sup>16</sup> has added to his retinue, [25] now that he has now raised his servant, the one he had *promoted* from coachman to *lackey*, to nothing less than a valet with 40 florins salary per month, he has everything else free anyway. But now the

---

<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> BD: Diarrhoea.

<sup>4</sup> “Gr: Franz Lodron”. BD: Franz Maria Joseph, the second-youngest of the seven children of Count [Graf] Nikolaus Sebastian Lodron; the latter was once Royal Marshal [Hofmarschall], now Senior Chamberlain [Oberstkämmerer]. Previously resident in Italy. Cf. No. 1011/75-81.

<sup>5</sup> = “secondogenitur”. BD: In certain circumstances, an estate could devolve to the second-born son.

<sup>6</sup> “Gräfin Waldstein”. BD: Countess [Gräfin] Waldstein; but none of the four still living sisters of cathedral canon Johann Friedrich, Count [Graf] Waldstein, ever married a Count [Graf] Lodron.

<sup>7</sup> “Hofmarschall”.

<sup>8</sup> “OberstCammerer”.

<sup>9</sup> “Gräfin Lodron”. BD: Maria Cäcilia, née Orsini-Rosenberg, wife (after July, 1787) of “Momolo”, Count [Graf] Lodron. On 3<sup>rd</sup> December, 1786, she indicated her wish to have keyboard lessons from Leopold, cf. Nos. 1007/74; 1010/57.

<sup>10</sup> “Comtesse Louise”. BD: Aloisia, Countess [Komtesse] Lodron, daughter of Regional Marshal [Landmarschall] Ernst, Count [Graf] Lodron, cf. No. 1007/69-73.

<sup>11</sup> BD: Meaning, of course, Comtesse Louise.

<sup>12</sup> BD: House of Hieronymus (“Momolo”), Count [Graf] Lodron, apostrophised in line 14 as “the young windbag”, 20 years old in 1787.

<sup>13</sup> BD VI proposes “Bauch” [“stomach”] for the presumably erroneous “Brief” [“letter”].

<sup>14</sup> BD: Gmünd in Carinthia (locality Spittal/Drau), seat of the Lodron primogeniture estate.

<sup>15</sup> BD: Probably the “Reitter” mentioned in no. 0885/107. He was meant to come to St. Gilgen as tutor to Nannerl’s three youngest stepsons.

<sup>16</sup> “Edler von Inbachshausen”. BD: Sigmund Haffner (1756-1787), ennobled “von Imbachshausen” on 29<sup>th</sup> July; son of the eponymous Salzburg merchant.

coachman has *advanced* to servant, and Count Platz<sup>17</sup> coachman has been given the post of coachman-in-ordinary to Herr von Imbachshausen. Everyone in the house is happy, [30] with the exception of the esteemed master of the house, who is often melancholy to the point of death. His horses are becoming ill from their leisurely life, for even when he is only driving to Aigen,<sup>18</sup> he calls on the services of the postmaster.

---

Now the court music is running peacefully, since not the least dispute occurs, where previously there were always quarrels among the Italians.<sup>19</sup>

---

[35] I handed the money for the esteemed Senior Court Clerk<sup>20</sup> to the saddler's<sup>21</sup> wife myself, and she took it out to him personally, since, as she told me, she would travel out in a few days.

---

I received the money along with the letter from the messenger,<sup>22</sup> as well as the fish, for which I say thank you. [40] But you should not think that this was the reason why I let you know that I have started to eat fast-day dishes again; I only wrote so that you know that I have stopped taking the herb soup, and that I have not become entirely Lutheran, for I am quite astonishingly *scrupulous* anyway. – But I think the *doctores* will scold me when they hear that wind presses so hard on my breast and under my ribs that I often feel great pain. [45] – and one cannot go for a walk at the moment either! –

---

I am sending the pillules along with this, – then I allow myself the honour of presenting you both with 3 lemons.

---

I am no longer sleeping in the cold room, but had a bed frame carried up for me, [50] and I sleep in our dining room. Quite naturally, you will probably have been afraid of the cold room, and for that reason have not come into town. But I forgot to write to tell you that I have found a remedy for this. You can both sleep quite comfortably in the room at the back where I used to sleep, which is not only easy to heat, but also has 2 heated rooms next to it, [55] namely where Heinrich, – and where Leopoldl is. Nor would the child disturb you much, since he sleeps well and does not cry. There my large desk is also at your service etc. etc. – So the cold is no valid excuse.

---

Wolfg.<sup>23</sup> called on me with good wishes for the New Year. I asked him if he would rather be here or in St. Gilgen? – Oh, my God, he said, how glad I am to be here; I cannot say thank you enough to God and to Mama, who brought it all about. Here, after all, I can learn something. What would I have learnt out there? Here I see other fine boys, who have already learnt a lot. Out there, of course, I saw nothing but peasant boys. – [65] As a joke I asked him how often he has been beaten already? – At that he opened his mouth wide and laughed, – Ah,

---

<sup>17</sup> “Gr: Platz”. 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.

<sup>18</sup> BD: Optatus Basil von Amann (1747-1785), Royal Chamber Councillor [Hofkammerrat], with his wife, had bought the estate Aigen near Salzburg and furnished it luxuriously. The favourite son of “old” Amann; married Maria Franziska Polis von Moulin. He helped himself to takings in the Royal Brewery in Kaltenhausen; the missing amount was taken from his father’s estate.

<sup>19</sup> Concertmaster Brunetti had recently died; other musicians had left.

<sup>20</sup> “H: Oberschreiber”. BD: Franz Anton Maximilian von Berchtold zu Sonnenburg (1749-1809), one of the younger brothers of Leopold’s son-in-law. A regional official in Teisendorf, later municipal judge in Laufen.

<sup>21</sup> BD: This could also mean the wife of a man called Saddler.

<sup>22</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>23</sup> BD: Nannerl’s stepson, since November, 1786, a boarder in a small private school in Salzburg.

absolutely never! – But how often have you had your hands caned? I asked; I have had that twice, he said, because I did not learn diligently, and laughed out loud during prayer and made others laugh too. He looks very well and has been properly smartened up.

[70] Heinrich<sup>24</sup> commends himself!  
I kiss both of you from the heart  
send greetings to the children and am  
eternally your sincere father

Mozart mp<sup>25</sup>

[75] Leopoldl, who is in a very good humour, shouts out nothing but Mo, Mo whenever he sees a bowl because he loves eating merren<sup>26</sup> |: carrots :| more than anything else, sends you little kisses. He says A and b clearly, and in this way I teach him to pronounce the letters as fun, not in their sequence; rather I try with whatever letter he finds easiest to say. [80] When one speaks about God and asks only the question, have you already said your prayers?, he immediately points to the big *crucifix* above the door and begins to pray bla, bla, bla! etc. Now *addio!* Nandl<sup>27</sup> and Trese!<sup>28</sup> kiss your hands for the New Year, my greetings to Lenerl.<sup>29</sup>

With the *solveggi*<sup>30</sup> one sings according to these letters:

# # b # b # # # b  
*a b c d e f g.*, *a ais. b. h. c cis des.* [85] *d. dis es. e, f, fis ges.*<sup>31</sup> *g. gis ges*<sup>32</sup> etc. etc.

But when the bass is written underneath, have them sing nothing but *A*.

---

<sup>24</sup> 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. Now employed as a violinist in the Salzburg court music.

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

<sup>26</sup> BD: Dialect form of "Möhren".

<sup>27</sup> BD: Maria Anna Pietschner (1732-1805), Leopold's servant girl ("child nurse").

<sup>28</sup> BD: Therese Pänckl, servant in the Mozart household in Salzburg for many years.

<sup>29</sup> BD: Magdalena, nursery maid at the Berchtolds.

<sup>30</sup> BD: Solfeggi, singing exercises for Nannerl's step-children. The suffixes -is and -es mean # and b respectively. German "h" = English "b", German "b" = English "b<sup>b</sup>".

<sup>31</sup> BD: Erroneously marked #. Should be b .

<sup>32</sup> Should be "as" [a<sup>b</sup>]?