

1028. LEOPOLD MOZART TO HIS DAUGHTER,¹ ST. GILGEN

Leopold² is well!

Salzb., 5th Feb.,
1787.

The woman³ came just before 2 o'clock as we were getting up from the table after the meal.

[5] Since today is my work day, I have no idea how I will manage everything, the woman wants to leave again at 5 o'clock, and I often do not come home until after 5. So I will have to leave something out in order to hurry back home.

I have not yet received anything from the silk spinner, but until I do I do not want to part with the new silks.

[10] I must doubt whether you two are now going to get any good mead, because at Hagenauer's⁴ they were also complaining that there were no good ones to be had – and it really was very watery indeed. The esteemed Lebzelters,⁵ as I observe, are all on the slippery slope.

*Frau von Robini*⁶ has lost her child. – is now in better health. [15] The same happened to the Senior Equerry's wife,⁷ and at just the same time he had the *colic* and *Regerl*⁸ had a head fever. And who knows who else was ill. It was like a hospital.

A week ago, in the afternoon, *Barisani's* wife⁹ gave birth to a boy. She had already started to feel the pains on Sunday. Everyone is well.

[20] The *Sub-Prior*¹⁰ at St. Peter's is called *Romanus*.

The Munich trip is not yet entirely lost.¹¹ As a precaution, if there is something that has to be sent urgently, you could write a note to Maria Anna Pietschner,¹² if, as might happen, we were already to leave on Friday morning, since if we left on Saturday, [25] the Sunday would be inconvenient because of hearing Mass, because the Masses everywhere

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: 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: The family business of Johann Lorenz Hagenauer (1712-1792), Salzburg merchant. Sometime landlord and friend to the Mozart family.

⁵ BD: The manufacturers of the mead.

⁶ BD: Josepha, née Schusterschutz, wife of Georg Sigismund Robinig von Rottenfeld (1760-1823), son of the factory owner Georg Joseph Robinig von Rottenfeld (1710-1760).

⁷ "Oberbereiterin". BD: Maria Anna Aloisia Walpurga Thekla von Weyrother, third wife of Gottlieb von Weyrother Esquire [Edler] (1731-1816), active in the Salzburg riding school and in charge of the court stables.

⁸ BD: Regina, daughter of Gottlieb von Weyrother from his first marriage.

⁹ BD: Josepha Barisani, née Poschinger (1761-1830), the wife of the physician Joseph Barisani (1756-1826), eldest son of the Salzburg Archbishop's personal physician, Dr. Silvester Barisani.

¹⁰ BD: Cf. No. 1027/41-42.

¹¹ BD: A trip to the opera in Munich with Heinrich. Cf. No. 1027/4 ff.

¹² BD: Maria Anna Pietschner (1732-1805), Leopold's servant girl ("child nurse").

along the way are at inconvenient times, because one cannot be sure of arriving. The stag has everything on his horns,¹³ yet it seems, the way we sense it, more yes! than No!

The 3 pieces of waxed cloth are samples. I am sending the umbrella along with this,
[30] Pfutscher¹⁴ did not replace the fabric, – no one wanted to do it because it has reed spokes. Finally a *Carabinier*¹⁵ put fabric on it for me and afterwards brought me these samples which are light and withstand water.

I will order the almond paste¹⁶ as soon as Sepperl¹⁷ comes.

Now I must go out. I kiss you both from the heart, greet the children and am as always your sincere father [35]

Mozart mp¹⁸

With this I am sending you 6 *lemons* and 2 oranges. I bought the *lemons* for 2 kreuzers, the oranges are a present.

The mead cost 1 florin.

[40] The umbrella 2 fl 6 kr
3 ells¹⁹ linen sheet à 30 kr
and 36 kr for the work.

¹³ BD: A phrase often used by Leopold to say the matter is still undecided.

¹⁴ BD: Mentioned in No. 1013/66-68.

¹⁵ BD: A member of the Archbishop's horse-mounted bodyguard.

¹⁶ BD: The remains of almonds after pressing, used for body care.

¹⁷ BD: Joseph Wölf(f)l (1773-1812), a pupil at the cathedral music school (Kapellhaus) 1783-1786, son of Johann Paul Wölf(f)l, administrator of the St.-Johannes-Spital [“St John’s Hospital”] close to Salzburg. His father obviously obtained the almond paste.

¹⁸ mp = *manu propria* = in his own hand.

¹⁹ 1 ell [Munich] = 83.3 cm. (R. Klimpert, *Lexikon der Münzen, Maße und Gewichte usw.*, Leipzig 2/1896.)