

Salzb., 16th March, 1787Little Leopold² is healthy and well!

The messenger³ will no doubt have passed on to you both, immediately and in person, the news that I gave him, namely that the esteemed Municipal Justice⁴ in Lauffen has become Senior Administrator there, – [5] but the esteemed brother from Deissendorf⁵ has become Municipal Justice, *ergo Praetor Civitatis*.⁶ God be praised! That was *decreed* on Election Day!⁷ He came into town straightaway on Election Day itself, – had an *audience* with the Prince⁸ after the meal, having also seen the esteemed Court Chancellor⁹ beforehand. He was already here with me after 5 o'clock, – and at 6 o'clock he went to the theatre with me. [10] Just today he was with me the whole afternoon and asked me to write to you both about it, since he had a lot of running around to do, and tomorrow, as soon as he gets home, has to have blood let from his leg because he could not sleep last night, and must furthermore take a *mixture* today: and he really does not look as well as he did on Wednesday. His current new Senior Administrator in Lauffen is also here, – [15] he ate with him today. The current Deputy Clerk¹⁰ in Lauffen will probably come to Deissendorf as Senior Clerk. He will surely inform my esteemed son¹¹ about this in detail. – Otherwise the esteemed *Canonicus ad Nives*¹² *Prehauser*, and also Herr Markreitter, have become *Consistory* Advisers.¹³

Apparently a new marriage is in the offing. [20] Aloysi Merhofer¹⁴ has come here from the mines on business. He has made the acquaintance of the *Mss.^{lle}* sister-in-law of the esteemed Paymaster.¹⁵ If no hindrance is put in their way by the court, the girl will not reflect long on it, since this Merhofer is a handsome, young and genuinely upstanding man who cannot but please her.

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: 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.

⁴ “Stattrichter”.

⁵ BD: Franz Anton Maximilian von Berchtold zu Sonnenburg (1749-1809), one of the younger brothers of Leopold’s son-in-law. A regional administrative official in Teisendorf, later city judge [Stattrichter] in Laufen.

⁶ = “Thus magistrate of the city”.

⁷ BD: The anniversary of Hieronymus’ election as Archbishop. 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.

⁸ “Fürst” (= Hieronymus).

⁹ “HofCanzler”. BD: Franz Anton Maximilian von Berchtold zu Sonnenburg (1749-1809), one of the younger brothers of Leopold’s son-in-law. A regional administrative official in Teisendorf, later municipal judge in Laufen.

¹⁰ “Mitterschreiber”.

¹¹ Leopold’s customary form of address for his son-in-law.

¹² BD: “Canon of the snows” = “Schneeherr”, a member of a Salzburg religious foundation which assisted the Archbishop at the altar and which took care of consistory business.

¹³ “Consistorialrath”.

¹⁴ BD: Alois Vinzenz Mehofer, probably a son of the quartermaster Franz Anton Mehofer, also related to the singer Josepha Duschek via the Weisers.

¹⁵ “Zahlmeister”. BD: Franz Vinzenz Lankmayr (1745-1823), mentioned frequently in letters and notes as a friend of the Mozart family.

The former housekeeper to the new Countess von Lodron¹⁶ [25] and the Neudlingers' daughter are the stuff of history. When the Countess travelled to Gratz¹⁷ in Carnival, she left her housekeeper here and took only her chamber servant with her. – She wrote afterwards and dismissed her because she has a smelly fistula in her nose. Before the *wardrobe service* was disbanded, her father was Senior Tailor¹⁸ Greck, now he is a chamber servant at court. [30] The other girl had permission to go into the *Lodrons'* house in order to gain *practical experience* with the 2 housekeepers of the Countess and of *Comtesse Louise*. Suddenly they were both gone, but the 2 fathers caught up with them. They were in the company of two actors so as not to have to travel alone. Countess *Lodron's* bent-over administrator has been given a pension, [35] with some hundred gulden¹⁹ salary as administrator of the *Marian Collegii* etc.²⁰ Count *Momolo* has taken on a new one from Carinthia who is even said to go on crutches.

Tomorrow Herr von Schidenhofen goes to Werffen²¹ *for the installation*.²² His father-in-law²³ is on the point of death.

Today I heard that my servants also know about Frau von *Amand*.²⁴ [40] – her children are with Alterdinger's wife.²⁵

On Wednesday the municipal administration really did do honour to its name. The theatre and the lighting were without exception splendidly arranged. – The music was good, – but not in the theatre style. The *orchestra* was replete with good people, and it went outstandingly.

[45] The installation will be conducted jointly by the esteemed Senior Administrator and the esteemed Municipal Justice²⁶ in May, and this will be in the administrative building, for which they will buy everything jointly, but the esteemed Senior Administrator will have it cooked by his people to save all unnecessary costs.

I am sending the little book along with this, – I ask you to send it back to me again with the messenger. [50]

The dress is coming too. The *puffed hem* will no doubt be the right one.

¹⁶ “Gräfin”. BD: Maria Cäcilia, née Orsini-Rosenberg, wife (from July, 1787) of “Momolo”, Count [Graf] Lodron. On 3rd December, 1786, she announced her wish to have keyboard lessons from Leopold, cf. Nos. 1007/74; 1010/57.

¹⁷ Graz: the main city in Styria in southern Austria, about 270 km from Salzburg.

¹⁸ “Oberschneider”.

¹⁹ The gulden has effectively the same value as the florin.

²⁰ BD: The *Marianum* boarding house for pupils in Salzburg, established in 1645.

²¹ BD: Werfen, 40 km south of Salzburg.

²² BD: Johann Baptist Joseph Joachim Ferdinand von Schiedenhofen made a successful career in the state administration of Salzburg. The Schiedenhofens were previously in frequent contact with the Mozarts, offering mother and daughter accommodation in Schloss Triebenbach during the travels of Leopold and Wolfgang. He is going to Werfen for the installation of a new Senior Administrator [Pfleger].

²³ BD: Virgil Christoph Daubrawa von Daubrawiack (1725-1787), Royal Chamber Councillor [Hofkammerrat] and master of the mint [Münzmeister].

²⁴ BD: A widow, pregnant by one of the musicians. Cf. No. 1020/59, 62.

²⁵ BD: Anna Maria Alterdinger, née Polis, sister of Frau von Amann, wife of Rochus Alterdinger, the Prince's wardrobe inspector [hochfürstlicher Guarderobe-Inspektor] and palace administrator [Residenz-Schloss-Verwalter].

²⁶ BD: Cf. line 4 above.

My thanks for the dripping you sent, and please forgive me for not thanking you on that occasion, I was in such a rush to get everything finished for the glass-carrier woman²⁷ and pack everything cleverly.

[55] My thanks for the fish too, – I apologise for having robbed you of it. At the moment you should not send me any more, since I must always eat meat dishes, only I do eat frogs' legs in the meat soup. Otherwise all my soups, barley gruel, rice, oat-kernel soups etc. contain a little beef, lamb and fine veal, otherwise the wind would put an end to my life. [60]

	fl kr	
6 lb ²⁸ barley à 6 kr	–. 36	
the black ribbon.	1 –	
The broad white ones	–. 26	
[65] Narrow white ones.	–. 12	
2 beard wax.	–. 16	
2 shoe brushes.	–. 10	
For 13 loth ²⁹ for the silk- spinner	–. 32	
[70]	—	
	13f 12k	

On the Prince's Election Day there were enough people in the theatre, the women in order to parade their finery. And since the *subscription* [65] for a whole family is only one ducat, and around 50 have *subscribed*, even if one *family* brings only 3 persons, that already makes 150 persons. How many come with 5, 6 and more persons? [70] – – Only the *Barisani*¹ household, where the father also comes. The esteemed Court Councillor¹ *Hermes* comes with 6. Von Kleinmayr and Steinhauser with 4. etc. etc:

*M.^{dme} Schlaucka*³⁰ is already getting back on her feet.

Hafner's³¹ brothers-in-law need not rejoice too much; they are not mandatory heirs, [75] he can make his *testament* as he wishes.

Old *Gilowsky*³² has nothing to fear from the Archbishop, he certainly knows that the old man cannot do anything about it. There may be repercussions for the sisters in due time.

The esteemed brother from Deissendorf visited Wolfgangerl,³³ – he told me that, amongst other things, the esteemed Magister³⁴ had told him that he once asked Wolfgangerl [80] if he had never been punished at home because of his lies and rascally pranks? – An answer was: Papa always put the blame on the servants and Mama and soundly upbraided them.

From Wolfgang Mozart I still have not received a word, although I wrote to him in Vienna. Perhaps one will come tomorrow.

[85] On the question of whether Gredl's³⁵ fortepiano³⁶ has already been sent off, I have to laugh. That would be nice! And meanwhile another one, for young Count Baumgarten,³⁷

²⁷ 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.

²⁸= lb = pound weight ≈ 0.5 kg.

²⁹ BD: 1 lot(h) = 18 gr.

³⁰ BD: Cf. note on No. 1038/48.

³¹ BD: Siegmund Haffner the Younger (1756-1787), son of the eponymous Salzburg merchant. He had two sisters.

³² BD: Cf. note on No. 1038/92. His daughters, one being the "Katherl" frequently mentioned in earlier letters, were complicit in abetting a forbidden relationship involving their brother.

³³ BD: Nannerl's stepson, currently attending a private school in Salzburg.

³⁴ BD: Magister Abele, proprietor of the private school just mentioned.

³⁵ BD: Maria Margarethe, daughter of the theatre director Theobald Marchand. Like her brother Heinrich, she too had been a boarding pupil with Leopold. Composed, played keyboard and sang.

which also stood in our house, has been sent off to Munich. And now another one really will come to us, which is also due to go to Munich and is already finished.

Are you saying that you cannot find a *fortepiano* in Linz?³⁸ [90] That would be unbelievable! Old Count Thun³⁹ had one by Stein.⁴⁰ That will have gone to Bohemia. I do not know of any letters⁴¹ which I could give you for Linz, other than to the esteemed Bishop or at best also to Herr Roser,⁴² to whom I gave an open *attestatum*⁴³ that he was the one best equipped to be music director. He furthermore wrote me a letter of thanks in which he informed me that the esteemed Bishop and chapter expressed every respect for my testimony, [95] only so far no appointment had been made.

Recently, however, I read in the newspapers that the music at the *cathedral* church in Linz would now be directed by Herr Roser.

Now I kiss you both from the heart, greet the children and am as always your sincere father

[100]

Mozart mp⁴⁴

Heinrich commends himself.

Nandl⁴⁵ and Tresel⁴⁶ kiss your hands, I greet Lennerl.⁴⁷

³⁶ BD: Presumably made by Johann Evangelist Schmid (1757-1804), organ builder, 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.

³⁷ "Gr: Baumgarten". BD: The son of Countess [Gräfin] Baumgarten, née Comtesse Lerchenfeld, for whom Mozart wrote the scene "*Misera, dove son!*" – "*Ah! non son'io che parlo*" KV 369.

³⁸ Linz: the main city of Upper Austria, about 130 km from Salzburg.

³⁹ "Gr: Thun". BD: Johann Joseph Anton, Count [Graf] Thun (1711-1788), Freemason, husband of Mozart's patroness, Marie Wilhelmina, Countess [Gräfin] Thun-Hohenstein (1747-1800). It was there that Mozart lodged with his wife returning from Salzburg in 1783 and Mozart wrote the Linz Symphony KV 425.

⁴⁰ BD: The famous maker in Augsburg.

⁴¹ BD: Letters of recommendation; Nannerl and her husband were obviously planning a journey.

⁴² BD: Johann Georg Roser von Reiter (1740-1797), recommended by Leopold in 1786 and given the post of music director at the cathedral and in the city parish. His son had lessons from Mozart in Vienna for a short time and supposedly received from Mozart, "a fortnight before his death", a gift of the autograph leaves of minuets 1, 2 and 4 from KV 585.

⁴³ = "attestation".

⁴⁴ mp = *manu propria* = in his own hand.

⁴⁵ BD: Maria Anna Pietschner (1732-1805), Leopold's servant girl ("child nurse").

⁴⁶ BD: Therese Pänckl, servant in the Mozart household in Salzburg for many years.

⁴⁷ BD: Magdalena, nursery maid at the Berchtolds.