

1117.<sup>1</sup> MOZART TO MICHAEL PUCHBERG,<sup>2</sup> VIENNA

Dearest friend! –

[Vienna, 20<sup>th</sup> February, 1790]

If I had known that your beer was almost at an end, I would certainly never have been so presumptuous as to rob you of it; I therefore allow myself herewith the liberty of sending the other jug back to you again, [5] since I am already provided with wine for today; – I thank you heartily for the former, and when you are once again supplied with beer, my request is that I might have a little jug of it; you know how much I like to drink it; – I would ask you, most valued friend, to send me for only a few days some ducats,<sup>3</sup> if you can, because it has to do with a matter that cannot be put off, [10] but must be done at once; – forgive my importunity, sir, it arises from the great trust that I place in your friendship and brotherly<sup>4</sup> love. –

Eternally, sir, your  
Mozart.

IN MICHAEL PUCHBERG'S HAND:

[15] the 20<sup>th</sup> Febr. 1790 25 florins sent.

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<sup>1</sup> BD: Original unknown. Edition Nottebohm.

<sup>2</sup> BD: Johann Michael Puchberg (1741-1822), 1768-1777 in charge of a factory and wholesale business for finished and semi-finished silk layers, velvet, ribbons, cloth and gloves. He resumed this activity in 1785 in association with his brother. The landlord of the premises on the Hoher Markt in Vienna was Franz, Count [Graf] Walsegg-Stuppach, who commissioned the *Requiem* from Mozart in 1791. Member of various Masonic lodges from 1773 onwards. It was probably in Masonic circles that he met Mozart. He was also in contact with Joseph Haydn, who wrote to him in January, 1792, in connection with Mozart's death. He represented Constanze for a time regarding Mozart's estate. Mozart dedicated to him the string trio divertimento in E<sup>b</sup> KV 563 (cf. No. 1094/23; No. 1121/11) and perhaps also the piano trio in E KV 542 (cf. notes on No. 1077/50 and No. 1083/18). Puchberg died in poverty in 1822.

<sup>3</sup> 1 ducat = 4.5 florins.

<sup>4</sup> "Brother [in the Order of Freemasons]".