

Dearest, best of wives! –

[Vienna, 9th July, 1791]

Your letter of the 7th, complete with receipt³ confirming correct payment, has reached me safely, only I would have wished, for your own good, that you had asked a witness to sign as well, for if *X.Y.* does not choose to be honest, [5] he can cause you some inconvenience today or tomorrow regarding the authenticity and the weight; since you have only written a clip round the ears, he could unexpectedly send you a court order for a coarse or thorough or even *aggio*⁴ clip round the ears; what are you going to do then? Then one has to pay on the spot when one often cannot! [10] My advice would be to come to an amicable settlement with your adversary and instead give him several coarse ones, 3 thorough and 1 *aggio*, and a few more as well, so that in the event of his not being satisfied |: for I say that everything can be sorted out with kindness; generous and gentle conduct has on many occasions reconciled the most bitter of enemies, and if you are currently not in a position to make the entire payment, [15] you do of course have acquaintances, I have no doubt that if you ask her, *X.*⁵ will take care of the cash payment, if not in whole, then at least partially.

Dearest little wife, I hope you have received my letter of yesterday safely;⁶ now the time, the happy time, of our meeting again is coming ever closer, [20] be patient, just lift your spirits as much as possible. I was completely downcast after reading yesterday's letter from you, so much so that I almost decided to drive out leaving business unfinished, and what good would that be to us? – then I would have had to drive into town straightaway again, would have had to live in anxiety instead of contentment. The whole story must reach an end in a few days: [25] *Z.*⁷ has promised me this earnestly and solemnly, then I will be with you at once, but if you wish I will send you the necessary money, you pay for everything and come into town! I am certainly happy to accept that; – only I find that Baden can be very pleasant for you at this beautiful time, and beneficial for your health as far as the magnificent walks are concerned – [30] you are surely best able to feel this: – if you find that the air and the movement are having a good effect on you, stay on and I will then come to collect you, or else stay some days to please you – or, as I say, if you wish, you can come into town tomorrow; write telling me honestly. – Now I wish you well, dearest *Stanzi Marini*. I kiss you a million times and am eternally your

[35]

*Mozart**Vienna, 9th July, 1791.*

P. S. Please pass on the following message to *X.Y.*⁸:

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¹ BD: Original lost. Copy Bspk. Copy privately owned Salzburg. Edition *Bayerische Zeitung* 12th Dec., 1863 = NohlB No. 265.

² BD: Constanze had problems with her feet (cf. note on No. 1106/14) and had spa treatment in Baden on previous occasions; now, furthermore, she was soon due to bear a child.

³ BD: The “receipt” presumably refers to Mozart's instructions in No. 1182/38-40, where he asks Constanze to give Süßmayr (“*X.Y.*”, cf. line 4) a clip round the ears.

⁴ = “discount”.

⁵ BD: This could be Sophie, Constanze's sister, who certainly spent time in Baden with her and possibly already in July.

⁶ BD: No. 1186 (lost).

⁷ BD: Possibly the banker Raimund Wetzlar, cf. No. 1180/24.

⁸ BD: Probably Süßmayr.

What does he say to that? Does he like it? I don't really expect so, these are harsh terms! and hard to understand. –

– *Adieu.*