

Most highly honoured sirs,

Vienna, 11th Nov., 1799.

Although I should and could in all fairness delay my answer to your letter of 26 *October*³ until I receive from you an answer to my letter of the 9th of this month,⁴ I shall nevertheless dutifully send you herewith, [5] while voicing the reservation that it should not prejudice my position, as many as I have of the pieces you requested.⁵ I am doing this to please you and, because I still possess these things, to be of as much service to you as possible. I expect these pieces back in the course of time, as soon as it can be done, along with the payment of one gulden⁶ for each printed sheet of the pieces of this genre that I am lending you. [10]

There are 4 numbers that you are receiving along with this, and I will send them, if possible (which I do not yet know), by letter post so that they will be delivered to you all the sooner, because I think you are in a hurry to publish your 6th volume. They are the following,⁷ and I am keeping the thematic catalogue, [15] in which I have noted what I have actually sent:

1. your No. 6., which for me is No. 8. and consists of 2 pages.
2. the *Gigue*, which for me is No. 7., of one page.
3. the 3rd of the *Rondeaux* you indicated, which for me is No. 4., of 5 pages; and
- [20] 4. the *Fantasy* with what belongs with it, of 14 pages.

With this last *Fantasy*, I must ask you to follow my pagination exactly because the score as it is laid out is not in sequence.

Your last letter, already mentioned, is new proof for me that you do not have the time or inclination to keep up the correspondence with me: [25] in it you once again reply to me on any minor point you choose, devoting not even a word to the main question⁸ which I put to you in my letter which, as I see from your reply, you have received. After my letter of 9th November, you can save yourselves every bit of this long-windedness as you see fit.

[30] It is a little inaccurate to say that you had already asked me to send the accompanying works. All that happened was that you once wrote to me saying you wanted to show me what was to be published in the next volumes and requesting it from me if it were in my possession. With this consignment, then, this really has been fulfilled on both sides.

[35] My thanks to you for your readiness to send on to me what was shipped to you at my order⁹ as well as for the kind thoughts you expressed regarding the dedication of the glass harmonica quintet,¹⁰ which you wanted to leave up to me. Although I am not making any use of this friendly offer, I nevertheless remained very grateful for it. But you are indeed showing too much kindness in withdrawing the title plate just because of me. [40]

¹ BD: Nissen's handwriting, Constanze's signature. Nissen: cf. note No. 1224.

² BD: Founded as "Breitkopf" in 1719. On 1st November, 1795, Christoph Gottlob Breitkopf concluded a contract of partnership with Gottfried Christoph Härtel (1763-1827). This was followed in 1796 by a secret contract of sale in which the entire Breitkopf business was made over to Gottfried Christoph Härtel. The latter was also declared universal heir by Breitkopf shortly before his death in 1800.

³ BD: No. 1260a (lost).

⁴ BD: No. 1263.

⁵ BD: According to No. 1270/15-17, 32-35, 62, Constanze had lent B & H the originals of the "4 numbers". These had been in one of the sealed "packs", opened by André at Nissen's request (cf. No. 1274) on the day of his departure from Vienna (cf. No. 1292/25-26). [The dating of No. 1274 is correspondingly corrected in BD VI.]

⁶ BD: Effectively = 1 florin.

⁷ BD: Probably KV⁶ 547b; cf. note on No. 1292/14-15, 25-26; KV 574; KV 511; KV 475.

⁸ BD: The question of whether B & H wish to buy everything at once, cf. No. 1258/26 f.

⁹ BD: The clothing and music being sent from Hamburg via Leipzig, cf. Nos. 1258/74-76; 1259/56-61.

¹⁰ BD: KV 617; cf. No. 1152/2; B & H published it at the end of 1799 as No. 2 "from the estate of the deceased". No. 1 was KV 503.

The 27 fl. which you sent me as 3 Carlsd'or¹¹ have been put to your account and, on the other side, 22^{kr} noted for your letter of 26th *October*.

In expectation of your prompt decision on my previous letter,¹² I have the honour to be
[45] your most obedient servant

Constance Mozart

¹¹ BD: Karld'or, Charlesd'or: a gold coin minted in Braunschweig-Wolfenbüttel; from 1764-1834 worth 5 thalers gold or 9 florins.

¹² BD: No. 1260a, lost.