

1338. MARIA ANNA,<sup>1</sup> IMPERIAL BARONESS<sup>2</sup> VON BERCHTOLD ZU SONNENBURG, TO  
BREITKOPF & HÄRTEL,<sup>3</sup> LEIPZIG

Most nobly born!  
Most highly estimable sir!

Salzburg, 3<sup>rd</sup> Dec.,  
1801.

I have received safely both your valued communication and the Mozart concertos *No: 2 to No: 6* and *cahiers*<sup>4</sup> 1 to 2 of the *quartets*, which you so kindly sent. [5] You really could not give me any greater pleasure than when you were so kind as to send me my brother's complete works, I would only wish that I might soon be able to obtain for you the missing compositions by means of my activities in Salzburg. In the meantime I am sending you what I discovered when unpacking my music,<sup>5</sup> [10] a piece of which you had sent me the opening bars a long time ago. As far as the opening bars which I still have from you are concerned, I will make every effort to discover something now that I am well again, but this cannot be done so quickly; I therefore hope that you do not need it so urgently and can wait for it patiently.

[15] I have distributed the announcement of the works by Haidn<sup>6</sup> among my familiar music friends, but I have to admit quite openly to you that although there may be very many lovers of music here, they do not have the least wish to spend anything on collections of music. A few rich people among the upper nobility have already subscribed for the works of Mozart and Haidn, [20] the poorer ones do not have the money to purchase these works, and the merchants, who do have the money to purchase collections, are not at all willing to spend any money on that. So, as you see, in this manner no-one was willing to get involved with music sales. But if, as they believe from one day to the next, a new government is formed here, and higher nobility comes here, perhaps it will then be possible to find customers here. [25] In the meantime I shall apply myself to finding a diligent, upright man who will take over this business. I very much hope that I could bring all your wishes to fulfilment, and I remain with great respect

Your

[30]

most devoted

M: A., Baroness von Berchtold zu  
Sonnenburg.

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<sup>1</sup> BD: Maria Anna Walburga Ignatia ("Nannerl"), née Mozart, (1751-1829). After her marriage in 1784 her name was Maria Anna von Berchtold zu Sonnenburg.

<sup>2</sup> "Reichsfreiin".

<sup>3</sup> BD: Founded as "Breitkopf" in 1719. On 1<sup>st</sup> 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.

<sup>4</sup> "Cahiers": the French name used for the volumes of the complete works.

<sup>5</sup> On Nannerl's move to Salzburg following her husband's death; cf. e.g. No. 1336/31-32.

<sup>6</sup> Cf. e.g. the reference to Haydn's Creation in No. 1336/54.