

1366. MARIA ANNA,¹ IMPERIAL BARONESS² VON BERCHTOLD ZU SONNENBURG, TO
BREITKOPF & HÄRTEL,³ LEIPZIG

A / Monsieur / Monsieur Breitkopf et / Haertel. / à / Leipzig

Most nobly born!

Most highly estimable sir!

Salzburg, 20th 7^{ber},⁴
1804.

I would already have written to you a long time ago about my concerns for the little portrait of my brother⁵ [5] had I not been hoping for a letter from you from one post-day to the next, but always in vain. [5] But now this is already the 5th month since I handed in the profile painting of my brother you requested at the post office, and was given a receipt. In that letter I asked you to do me the favour, at all costs, of returning it to me soon and undamaged, [10] but even over this period of such length there was no news of your receiving the portrait safely, not to mention returning the portrait itself. Now, however, I earnestly beg you to do me the favour of answering soon and, at all costs, to return the painting to me undamage[d], and I remain, with great respect,

Your

most devoted

[15]

M: A., Baroness von Berchtold
zu Sonnenburg mpra⁶

I was requested to send you this note asking you to send the *variations* and 3 *marches* for *quatre mains*⁷ by Bethofen,⁸ as mentioned here, [20] for they are waiting for it longingly. Please write telling me, if I should collect the payment for it.

I have just this moment received the works you sent for the esteemed Municipal Legal Officer⁹ and the merchant Metzger;¹⁰ I thank you very much indeed for the two Nos.¹¹ 15 and 16th and for the *concerto*.¹² [25]

I very much wish that you would answer my last letter of 29th April¹³ soon.

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.

² "Reichsfreiin".

³ 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.

⁴ = September.

⁵ BD: Cf. Nos. 1364/42-43; 1365/5. This pastel portrait is lost.

⁶ "manu propria" = in her own hand.

⁷ = four hands.

⁸ BD: Beethoven; probably his variations on a theme by Count [Graf] Ferdinand Ernst Joseph Gabriel von Waldstein und Wartenberg zu Dux (1762-1826), 1791/92. The three marches op. 35 appeared in 1804.

⁹ "Stadtsindikus".

¹⁰ BD: Cf. No. 1355/20.

¹¹ BD: Sonatinas for the pianoforte with accompaniment of a violin; canons,

¹² BD: Probably the clavier concerto KV 503.

¹³ BD: No. 1365, actually 30th April.