

À Madame / Madame Marie Anne / Mozart / à / Salzbourg

Vienna, 18th *Sept.*,
1773.

I am glad that you like¹ the ribbons.² In the meantime, [5] you will also have received the shoes from Count Salm's valet.³ Today was the day fixed for my intended departure from here, but the death of *Doctor Niderl*⁴ and even his arrival robbed us of much time, just as we have enough to do with his widow,⁵ now almost crazy for pain, and who, and this is the worst, hears nothing, all the more so since the two sisters,⁶ [10] precisely because one of them cannot hear, easily fall out with each other; about this I can tell you more in person, but cannot write about it. We shall not be able to leave before the coming Wednesday or Thursday, the numerous reasons for which you will hear on our arrival. We are well, praise God. The enclosure which you sent me was from *Misliwecek*,⁷ from Naples. Today I have not received any letter because you, [15] as I requested, will not have written one. If there is anything to write about, you should address it, as already indicated, to the monastery in Lambach.⁸ To be handed to the eminent *Father Camerer* until the arrival of Herr *Mozart*. The *Jesuit Fathers* are now almost completely out of their monasteries, some friars are already going about in secular clothing and have been taken into service by various persons.⁹ [20] One is in a women's convent as a house servant, some more skilled ones as janitors, and the hunch-backed Jesuit apothecary¹⁰ has gone to the Spanish Hospital¹¹ as apothecary, where he has a salary of 700 florins and full board. We have constant good weather, and simply wish that we may also have good weather for the way home. [25] We have not yet been able to go to Rothmühle,¹² and I hardly believe that so much time will be left that we will be able to go. We commend ourselves, along with the Fischer household¹³ and Herr von Heufeld,¹⁴ and *Msr. Grill*,¹⁵ who gave me 2 jars of incomparably good

¹ BD: His wife had obviously written in the meantime: No. 0297a, lost.

² BD: Cf. No. 0295/40-41.

³ "vom Graf Salmischen Cammerdiener". BD: Cf. No. 0295/43. Franz Xaver, Count [Graf] Salm-Reifferscheid (1749-1822), cathedral canon in Salzburg, Cologne, Strasbourg and Olmütz, from 1783-1822 Prince-Bishop of Gurk, Imperial Prince [Reichsfürst].

⁴ BD: The arrival of Dr. Niderl in Vienna from Salzburg for a gallstone operation and its fatal outcome are described in letters from No. 0293/35 onwards.

⁵ BD: Niderl's widow was blind, cf. No. 0296/49, 56.

⁶ BD: Cf. No. 0297/5.

⁷ BD: Joseph Mysliveček (1737-1781), composer. He met the Mozarts in 1770 in Bologna, where he was working on an opera (cf. No. 0171/39); Mozart visited him in hospital in Munich in 1777 on his way to Paris.

⁸ BD: Cf. No. 0297/15-16; old connections cf. No. 0116/5.

⁹ BD: Leopold continues to observe the outworkings of the dissolution of the Jesuit order, cf. Nos. 0294/4 ff.; 0295/56 ff.; 0296/31 ff.

¹⁰ BD: Not identified.

¹¹ BD VIII: In Vienna, founded by Charles VI. BD VII: Turned into an orphanage in 1785.

¹² BD: The country estate of Dr. Franz Anton Mesmer (1734-1815), the famous "magnetizer" and healer, by Schwechat (Deutsch Bild No. 261), cf. No. 0289/54.

¹³ BD: Maria Anna Barbara Fischer, widow of the Vienna court cook, Johann Fischer († 1759), and her daughter of the same name, who had married the coppersmith Gottlieb Friedrich Fischer († 1793). Known to the Mozarts since 1768.

¹⁴ BD: Franz Reinhard (von) Heufeld (1731-1795), known to the Mozarts since 1770. Imperial official and playwright. Theatre director. The title role in his version of *Hamlet* was played in 1773 by Joseph Lange, who later married Aloisia Weber, Mozart's sister-in-law. Cf. No. 0163/23, 24, 26.

¹⁵ BD: Probably Michael Grill, official at the War Ministry, mentioned in numerous recent letters.

pomade of ox marrow, which he made himself and which smells exquisite. We commend ourselves to all our friends, both gentlemen and ladies, [30] within and outside the house. We kiss you both many 10 000 000 times and I am as always your
Mzt mp¹⁶

So write immediately with the first post to Augsburg, to Herr Johann Jacob Lotter,¹⁷ book printer and music publisher, saying that your husband has instructed you to write to inform him that [35] he expects the bill for the violin schools still in hand at the Michaelmas market after his return from Vienna, all the more definitely because he has not made the payment promised by St. George's Day.¹⁸ Herr Joseph¹⁹ will certainly have the goodness to write in your place, which, with our compliments, I most courteously beg him to do. A woman can be rather sharp in expressing the instructions of her husband.

[40] Our Wolfgang is very zealously composing away.²⁰

¹⁶ mp = manu propria = in his own hand.

¹⁷ BD: Printer and publisher in Augsburg; printed and published Leopold's violin school, cf. No. 0001 etc.

¹⁸ BD: 24th April.

¹⁹ BD: Johann Lorenz Hagenauer (1712-1792), Salzburg merchant. Friend of the Mozarts and their landlord 1747-1773. Cf. No. 0272/10-11.

²⁰ BD: Most probably two choruses (Nos. 1a and 6a in NMA II/6/1) and possibly also the intermezzi to the "heroic drama "Thamos, King of Egypt", text by Tobias, Baron [Freiherr] von Gebler (1726-1786). The Joseph Messmer mentioned in No. 0288/25 or the Heufeld mentioned in line 27 could have put Mozart in contact with Gebler. The latter sent the music to Christoph Nicolai in Berlin on 13th December, 1773. The first two courses were probably performed in the Kärntnertheater on 4th April, 1774. Gebler had been a state official since 1753 and belonged to the Masonic lodge "Zur wahren Eintracht" ["In the sign of true unity"].