

0357. MARIA ANNA (NANNERL) MOZART TO MOTHER AND BROTHER, AUGSBURG;
POSTSCRIPTS BY LEOPOLD AND NANNERL

¹*A Monsieur / Monsieur le chevalier Wolfgang / Amadé Mozart Maître
de / Musique / à...*²

My dearest Mama
and brother,

[Salzburg, 27th October, 1777]

[5] No letter at all! when we were hoping to find out how the concert went. We hope that both of you are well. We are, praise God, well. Yesterday the shooting³ was at our place and Mama donated the first prize. Papa won it. Herr Brix,⁴ whose cashier⁵ I have become because Mademoiselle Sallerl⁶ no longer comes and he called on us [10] and asked me to do it, will donate it the next time. He sends his compliments to both of you and regrets your absence greatly, Wolfgang. Herr Deibl⁷ called on us to congratulate you and asked us to pass it on in writing. Just like Miss Waberl Eberlin,⁸ Fräulein von Schidenhofen⁹ has now moved downstairs to where her brother was, and he has moved up, a sign that the marriage can take place anytime now.¹⁰ [15] My dear Mama said to me, before she set off, I would find a piece of canvas to line the coat that I wanted to take in, and I cannot find it. Is it a new or an old canvas? Or perhaps an old linen cloth? My request is that Mama should tell me; likewise, I cannot find the cotton yarn in the right lengths to join up stockings. [20]

IN LEOPOLD MOZART'S HAND:

NB. I believe I have found one in knots.

IN MARIA ANNA (NANNERL) MOZART'S HAND:

¹ = "To Monsieur Wolfgang Amadé Mozart, Knight, master of music in..."

² BD: Space left blank.

³ BD: The shooting of bolts from airguns at round targets was practised in the apartments of the members of the "marksmen's company" or club. Each time, a new target was presented by a member of the club, who would have some topical motif painted on it with matching verses. A member would donate a first prize and would then also pay for everything consumed during the meeting.

⁴ BD: Franz Anton Prex, brother of the physician Dr. Johann Prex, whom the Mozarts met in Paris in 1766 (cf. Nos. 0110/4; 0109/89 ff.).

⁵ BD: For the small formal transactions within the airgun club.

⁶ BD: Maria Anna Rosalia Walburga Joly [Joli] (1723-1788), usually referred to in the correspondence as "Sallerl", was for many years a friend of the Mozart family, especially Nannerl and Wolfgang, with whom she exchanged humorous poems (cf. Nos. 0391/75 ff.; 0394/64 ff.). She was the daughter of the Salzburg Royal Confectioner [konfektmeister] Mathias Joly.

⁷ BD: Franz de Paula Deibl (? 1698-1783), oboist, also violinist, in Salzburg.

⁸ "Jungfrau Eberlin Waberl". BD: Maria Cäcilia Barbara Eberlin, eldest daughter of Salzburg music director Johann Ernst Eberlin.

⁹ BD: Maria Anna Aloisia von Schiedenhofen (1760-1831), sister of Johann Baptist Joseph Joachim Ferdinand von Schiedenhofen (1747-1812). The latter made a successful career in the state administration of Salzburg. Married Maria Klara Daubrawa von Daubrawiack in 1778. The Schiedenhofens were in frequent contact with the Mozarts, offering mother and daughter accommodation in Schloss Triebenbach during the travels of Leopold and Wolfgang.

¹⁰ BD: Cf. No. 0348/21 ff.

Yesterday, a castrato¹¹ passing through gave people at court a chance to hear him. Papa was there and heard him, but he was not particularly to his liking,¹² his voice sounds through the nose a little, and a tall person, [25] a long face and a low forehead. But he sings much better than Madame Duschek,¹³ N.B. the Archbishop¹⁴ said that. Perhaps the Archbishop will take him on because Signor Casseli¹⁵ is not coming to him, after he offered 2000 guildens, but not free at Carnival. Otherwise I know of nothing new. We hope to hear something from you soon. *A propos*,¹⁶ do not forget the target.¹⁷ [30] I kiss Mama's hands and wish you both good health and that things should go well with you, sirs.

I am

your sincere sister

Marie Anne Mozart

[35] Monsieur Abbé Bulinger¹⁸ sends his compliments to you both.

LEOPOLD MOZART'S POSTSCRIPT:

It is never more necessary to write than one is thinking of leaving a place, even if it is only two lines. We did not doubt at all that we would receive a letter today, and yet nothing! If you have gone, [40] my brother¹⁹ should or could have written it. You are indeed very lucky, inasmuch as you have the finest weather. Today, the 27th, we are having the finest warm day. I do not yet know the name of the castrato, but I note |: just as you know from me :| that Rust²⁰ wrote to him in secret that he should venture to come for an audition, for he praises him and [45] advances his cause astonishingly. He sings slightly through the nose and some notes in his throat, his voice is not very strong; if he does not cost much, he is good enough! The chorister Egger²¹ is dead; in his place, Hofstetter²² will probably come to Holy Trinity²³ as a choral tenor. At other post offices, you must always leave a note so that they can send on the letters, [50] otherwise they are lost. This is the 3rd letter I have enclosed to my brother. The postal packet²⁴ addressed to the landlord of The Lamb²⁵ with the scores by Eberlin²⁶ etc. will no doubt have reached you. If

¹¹ BD: Francesco Ceccarelli (1752-1814), castrato, employed in Salzburg and then, from 1795, in Dresden; often a guest in the Mozarts' house. Mozart wrote for him KV 374, cf. No. 0587/19; he also sang in Mozart's concert in Frankfurt in 1790. A few days later, he was employed provisionally for six months, cf. 0362/11-12. In 1778, he was given a permanent position in the court music.

¹² BD: Leopold soon revised his opinion, cf. Nos. 0362/29, 95-96; 0395/19-20; 0446/123.

¹³ BD: Josepha (1753-1824) was a singer, wife of Franz Xaver Duschek (1731-1799), pianist and composer in Prague. They met the Mozarts in 1777. Mozart wrote two works for Josepha: KV 272 (cf. No. 0337/84); KV 528 (cf. No. 1070/809). Mozart stayed at their country house during work on *Don Giovanni* in 1787.

¹⁴ BD: Hieronymus Joseph Franz de Paula, Count [Graf] Colloredo (1732-1812) was elected Prince-Archbishop of Salzburg in 1772. Employer of Leopold and, for a time, Wolfgang.

¹⁵ BD: Vincent Caselli, whom the Mozarts met in Mantua in 1770, cf. No. 0156/12.

¹⁶ Here: = "By the way".

¹⁷ BD: For the airgun club, cf. line 7.

¹⁸ BD: Abbé Franz Joseph Johann Nepomuk Bullinger (1744-1810), Jesuit, private tutor, friend of the Mozart family in Salzburg, where he seems to have arrived between 1774 and 1776. House tutor to Count [Graf] Leopold Ferdinand Arco, later to Count [Graf] Sigmund ("Sigerl") Lodron. Mozart called him "his best of all friends" (cf. No. 0459/1).

¹⁹ BD: Leopold's brother Franz Alois Mozart (1727-1791), bookbinder in Augsburg; cf. No. 0006/7.

²⁰ BD: Giacomo (Jakob) Rust, music director in Salzburg 1777-1778. Had strained relations with Michael Haydn, cf. No. 0331/96, 100, 102.

²¹ BD VIII: Georg Anton Egger, from 1751 tenor in Salzburg cathedral.

²² BD VIII: Felix Hofstätter, (c. 1744-1814), tenor and violinist in the court music from 1768.

²³ BD: Cf. No. 0330/4.

²⁴ BD: Cf. No. 0350/163.

²⁵ BD: "Zum weissen Lamm" at the Heiligkreuztor (gate). Cf. No. 0331/37-38, 88-89.

you are well, everything is in order. God keep you! Dear Mama wrote nothing at all last time – I hope the motion of the journey will be good for her health. [55] Did she not equip yourself with felt shoes in Augsp.^{?27} She also forgot her stockings here. – I have simply been ill, otherwise I would have [60] taken care of things. With your coach, especially the wheels, you must be diligent with inspections and, because it seldom rains, often have them soaked. You should also have a paid man in reserve, for, if you lose one on the way, [60] you are stuck in the mud! and this can happen in a moment, for now the bad roads are coming. On no account travel much into the night; rather early in the morning and, if you can avoid it, never say in the inns where and when you are travelling. Sometimes a bad type hears it and makes use of it. Now I will finish. A million kisses to you both, and, bearing the eternal wish to be by you both, I assure you from the bottom of my heart that I am, until death, as always your husband and father,

Leopold Mozart.

I must tell you that Nannerl is astonishingly diligent, hard-working and attentive in all aspects of the household and she plays as often as she can [70] and accompanies very well. Every evening, our practising time is at least 2 to 2 ½ hours. Addio!

²⁶ BD: Johann Ernst Eberlin (1702-1762). School in Augsburg; university in Salzburg 1721-1723, but took a position with the court music without finishing studies. From 1749 in charge of music at court and in the cathedral. Cf. line 12.

²⁷ Augsburg, Leopold's birthplace.