

Salzb., 31<sup>st</sup> March,  
1786Little Leopoldl<sup>2</sup> is well!

I am very sorry to hear that the letter went astray,<sup>3</sup> as I have strained my eyes for nothing, [5] and now can no longer remember everything that I wrote. I wrote that old Schnürers' Sepperl<sup>4</sup> had been buried. – That you should naturally *practice* the new *concertos* nicely, and that you will play and hear them here. – That the stick of salt<sup>5</sup> costs 1 florin. – That I cannot make use of your vehicle to drive out to you because I cannot possibly be sure of the day and the hour; [10] but I shall certainly come with the organ-builder<sup>6</sup> as soon as possible, and that we have a great surfeit of snow, mud, and simply everything else that can contribute to a bad road; that otherwise there is nothing major wrong with the *fortepiano*, and it will soon be restored. – That I am glad that Lenerl,<sup>7</sup> to whom I send greetings, has recovered again, [15] – and that Tresel<sup>8</sup> is better again too. – That the solutions for the 7 riddles<sup>9</sup> are correct; but that none of us could solve the 8<sup>th</sup> riddle, and I have already written to your brother on this account, since he is the philosopher and the author of the riddles and fragments; That the riddles were only for fun, but the fragments deserve to be taken to heart by every reasonable person for the strengthening of morals, [20] and were found thoroughly pleasing for just this reason. – That I thank you for the eggs etc. – That Leopoldl seldom eats semolina, but egg groats etc. etc. and other things. Otherwise there was nothing in it except probably the leaflet announcing the *concert* in the town hall; and that the Archbishop had consecrated 2 prelates in St. Peter's Church at 8 o'clock during a musical Pontifical Mass; [25] – That the 6 prelates dined at court and were at the *soirée* etc.

Marchand<sup>10</sup> played the violin extraordinarily well at the town hall *concert* on Wednesday: everyone admired him. But he had to practice the *concerto* in front of me for 2 days, labouring like a beast of burden. It was a new, difficult *concerto in E #* by *Viotti*.<sup>11</sup> [30]

Concerning *Gilowsky's*<sup>12</sup> wart tincture,<sup>13</sup> I cannot busy myself with it at this time, – I will take care of it soon; it helped *Baron Rechberg*<sup>14</sup> too; but you know it must be used often and carefully.

<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. In all letters to Nannerl after her marriage Leopold refers to her as "Frau Tochter" [madam daughter] and to his son-in-law as "Herr Sohn" [esteemed son].

<sup>2</sup> BD: Nannerl's son Leopold (born in Salzburg on 27<sup>th</sup> July, 1785) was to remain with Leopold from his birth until his grandfather's death in May, 1787; Nannerl returned to St. Gilgen at the beginning of September, 1785.

<sup>3</sup> BD: No. 0946; which obviously reached Nannerl late.

<sup>4</sup> BD: Josepha Schnürer, mentioned as "Madmslle von Schurer" in No. 0056/66.

<sup>5</sup> Presumably some of the salt which was part of the remuneration for those involved in salt working in the region.

<sup>6</sup> BD: Leopold had long been looking for an opportunity to drive out to St. Gilgen with the new organ builder and keyboard specialist in Salzburg, J. E. Schmid: there were problems with Nannerl's *fortepiano*. Johann Evangelist Schmid (1757-1804): organ builder, worked in Salzburg from 1786 to 1803 as the successor to "old" Egedacher; he had previously learned in Rottweil and worked in Vienna, Hungary, Bohemia, Saxony and Augsburg.

<sup>7</sup> BD: Nannerl's serving girl Lena, often called Lenerl.

<sup>8</sup> BD: Therese Pänckl, servant in the Mozart household in Salzburg for many years.

<sup>9</sup> Cf. Nos. 0933; 0943/81. Riddles thought up by Mozart for a ball in Vienna.

<sup>10</sup> BD: Heinrich Marchand, son of the Munich theatre director Theobald Marchand, once a pupil in keyboard, violin and composition in the Mozarts' home for three years. Now a performer.

<sup>11</sup> The sign "#" presumably indicates "major". BD: Giovanni Battista Viotti (1755-1824); his violin concertos Nos. 2 and 6 were in E major.

<sup>12</sup> BD: Wenzel Andreas Gilowsky (1716-1799), ante-chamber servant and court surgeon. Father of "Katherl". In No. 0705 called the "Barber of Salzburg".

<sup>13</sup> *Warzengeist*: BD: Presumably a remedy for warts.

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Here too is the Children's Magazine.<sup>15</sup>

[35] A short letter from Gretl.<sup>16</sup> And 3 *sonatas* by Gretl, since the others must first be read through and *corrected* because of the *copyist's* errors.

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A Senior Chamberlain<sup>17</sup> will be appointed,<sup>18</sup> but no one knows yet who it will be. There is talk of a Count *Arco* from Munich,<sup>19</sup> who lives there from his own means and whose wife<sup>20</sup> I know. [40] There is talk of Count *Arco* from Passau, the father of Count Leopold. There is talk of a Count *Attems* from Gratz,<sup>21</sup> – and of Count von Herberstein.<sup>22</sup>

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I will hardly be able to write anything more tomorrow morning. Today I was at the first *rehearsal* of *Gluck's Orpheo*,<sup>23</sup> which lasted from 8 o'clock until after 12, and there is a *rehearsal* at 8 o'clock tomorrow morning again [45] because attention has to be paid to so many things for an exact performance; [45] not that the music is difficult, but a lot of *rehearsal* is required to get the true tempo and the proper expression everywhere, as well as the correct entries for the chorus. The word booklet will be printed, I had prepared it from the *score* and Herr Altmann wrote it out.<sup>24</sup> There will be a concert performance on Wednesday; [50] but there will be no card tables in the hall on this occasion.

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In all their letters the Marchands<sup>25</sup> send compliments to you in St. Gilgen, and Herr von *D'Ypold*<sup>26</sup> always reminds me to send his as well. I could not possibly recall all the people who enquire about your well-being, so much so that if I were suspicious or did not have any letters from you, [55] I would truly believe, or could surmise, that you were ill or otherwise in unpleasant circumstances, which the people wanted to give me an opportunity to inform them about in more detail because the enquiries, definitely urgent and specific, are continuing endlessly. Now I must close, it is already half past 11, I still have a lot to do and must also go to bed so that I can get up earlier than usual tomorrow. [60] I kiss both of you from the heart, send my greetings to the children and am as always your sincere father

Mozart mp<sup>27</sup>

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<sup>14</sup> BD: Aloys, Freiherr (later Graf) von Rechberg (1766-1849).

<sup>15</sup> *Kinder Magazin*: BD suggests three possible publications with similar titles.

<sup>16</sup> BD: Maria Margarethe ("Gretl"), daughter of Munich theatre director Theobald Marchand, had board, lodging and teaching in keyboard, violin and composition in the Mozarts' home for about two years to September, 1784. Her composing continued. Keyboard sonatas from 1785 and 86 are known of, but lost. Three sonatas for keyboard and violin were published in 1800.

<sup>17</sup> "OberstCammerer".

<sup>18</sup> BD: A successor for Johann Georg, Count [Graf] Arco, who had recently become Royal High Steward [Obersthofmeister].

<sup>19</sup> "Graf". BD: A line whose relationship to the Salzburg Arco line goes back to the 16<sup>th</sup> century.

<sup>20</sup> BD: Antonia Rupertina, née Countess [Gräfin] Trauner, of a Salzburg family.

<sup>21</sup> "Graf". BD: Probably Ferdinand, Count [Graf] Attems (1746-1820), a leading Imperial official, at this point based in Graz.

<sup>22</sup> "Graf". BD: Johann Gundacker, Count [Graf] Herberstein, cf. No. 0861/11.

<sup>23</sup> Cf. No. 0940/20.

<sup>24</sup> BD: Herr Altmann, corrector in a Salzburg printing shop, was originally given the task of preparing the Italian text (cf. No. 0943/40), but he required Leopold's constant assistance.

<sup>25</sup> BD: The family of Munich theatre director Theobald Marchand (1746-1794), two of whose children, Heinrich and Margarethe, have already been mentioned above.

<sup>26</sup> BD: Franz Armand d'Ippold (c. 1730-1790), Imperial and Royal Captain, supervisor of page training in Salzburg. He added the "de" (in the Viennese style) himself. Sometime suitor of Nannerl. Currently a daily visitor at Leopold's.

<sup>27</sup> mp = *manu propria* = in his own hand.

The *room* at the town hall was astonishingly full on Wednesday again, although the weather was abominable. Once again, members of the *consistory*, – professors and even a city chaplain were there. [65]

Today, the 1<sup>st</sup> April.

Leopoldl is well, praise God! He kisses you both, Tresel and Nandl<sup>28</sup> commend themselves. Heinrich<sup>29</sup> commends himself and hopes to see both of you soon. [70] They said *M.<sup>me</sup> Khune*<sup>30</sup> was dead, but she is quite well in Landshut. Apparently Herr *Eck*<sup>31</sup> and Herr *Giarnowick*<sup>32</sup> are now in Vienna, and since the 2 Fränzls<sup>33</sup> have also moved there, there will therefore be 4 strong violinists frisking around gallantly. I have not had a letter from your brother for a long time, he is of course busy with his *subscription concerts* and *opera* rehearsals.<sup>34</sup>

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<sup>28</sup> BD: Maria Anna Pietschner (1732-1805), Leopold's servant girl ("child nurse").

<sup>29</sup> = Marchand, line 27.

<sup>30</sup> BD: Actress, wife of theatre actor/director Ernst Kuhne, whose troupe appeared in Salzburg in 1783.

<sup>31</sup> BD: Johann Friedrich Eck (1766-c.1820), violinist, son of horn player Georg Eck.

<sup>32</sup> BD: Giovanni Mane Giarnovich, really Ivan Mane Jarnowick (c. 1740-1804), moved in Mozart's circles in Vienna.

<sup>33</sup> BD: Ignaz Fränzl (1736-1811), joined the Mannheim music in 1747, concertmaster from 1774. His son, Ferdinand Fränzl (1770-1833), became concertmaster of the Munich court music in 1789.

<sup>34</sup> BD: *Figaro*; première 1<sup>st</sup> May, 1786.