

À Madame / Madame Marie Anne / Mozart / à / Salzbourg / par Mantova / Insprugg¹

Milan, 9th January,
1773.

[5] If you have not received a letter from me on a post-day,² this will be a mistake at a post-office, for I have written correctly every post-day, and no worries are necessary in this case, since it can easily happen that a letter is left lying. Recently I received a letter from you one post-day later. The *opera*³ is going incomparably well, praise God, so the theatre is astonishingly full every day, [10] since otherwise, of course, people do not come to the first *opera* in great numbers unless it receives special applause. Every day, *arias* are repeated, and the *opera* has been gaining in strength since the first *sera*⁴ and has received more applause from day to day. Yes, esteemed Count *Castelbarco*⁵ has honoured my son with a golden watch chain [15] with a *sedan chair* and a golden lantern hanging on it. So you can have yourself carried in a *sedan chair* and our Herr *Bözlmayr*⁶ can light up.

You write nothing about the illustrious Prince *Colloredo*⁷ having been so dangerously ill in Vienna. Here we have known for more than a week that he was near death, but we also know that he is now somewhat better. [20] They will have kept quiet about it in Salzburg in order not to disturb the music performances and arrangements for the *operas*. I am amazed that Herr *Leutgeb*⁸ did not leave Salzburg sooner once he had indeed come up with such an idea. I do not yet have any thoughts about leaving here. It may happen at the end of this month, for we also want to hear the *composition* for the second *opera*.⁹ We are both well, God be praised. [25] My head has also been in better order for some time now. Two days ago it began to freeze a little here and the days are most beautiful. Herr von *Aste* and *Madame von Troger*,¹⁰ Herr *Germani* and his wife,¹¹ and

¹ BD: Innsbruck. Note (by Frau Mozart? Nannerl?) beside the address: “N:° 11 from Milan”.

² BD: Leopold is obviously replying to a letter from his wife: No. 0276a, lost.

³ BD: *Lucio Silla* KV 135, the first opera of the season in Milan, première 26th December, 1772. Cf. No. 0275/41.

⁴ = evening, night.

⁵ “H: Graf”. BD: Mentioned in Nos. 0218/49; 0246/52-54; 0247/22.

⁶ BD VII: [“Bözl” = “little bolt”, as in the airgun shooting mentioned in the letters]. If this means the Mayr who belongs to the shooting club, it could be Joachim Rupert Mayr von Mayrn.

⁷ “S: D: der Fürst Colloredo”. BD: Rudolph Joseph, Prince [Fürst] Colloredo, father of the Prince-Archbishop of Salzburg, Leopold's employer.

⁸ BD: Cf. No. 0266/31. Joseph (incorrectly Ignaz) Leutgeb (Leitgeb) (1732-1811), horn player, one of the few people mentioned throughout the almost 30 years of correspondence (1763-1791). The large number of works written for him by Mozart (KV 371, KV 412 + 514 (386b), 407 (386c), 417, 447, 495) speak for his musical abilities. Mozart made contact with him in 1781, shortly after arriving in Vienna. Leutgeb lived in a large house outside town; Mozart stayed there occasionally when his wife was taking spa treatment in Baden in 1791. In 1773 his wife borrowed a sum from Leopold Mozart (cf. No. 0293/31-32; No. 0297/30); this was still outstanding in 1782 (cf. No. 0673/56 ff.).

⁹ BD: *Sismano nel Mongol* by Giovanni Paisiello (1740-1816), text by Gamerra (cf. No. 0266/28). He met Mozart again in Vienna some years later, travelling back from Saint Petersburg, where he was director of music and court composer.

¹⁰ BD: Marianne d’Asti von Asteburg, daughter of Leopold Troger, cf. No. 0224/8-9. Leopold Troger was a court official to the Governor General [Generalgouverneur] in Milan. His sister lived in Salzburg (cf. No. 0160/55), he visited her in 1771. Cf. No. 0155/41.

¹¹ BD: Don Fernando (Ferdinandi) Germani, steward/house administrator [Haushofmeister] to the governor general of Lombardy, and his wife Therese, frequent providers of hospitality to Leopold and Wolfgang.

*Sigr. maestro Mislivetschek*¹² commend themselves. Everyone wishes to see you both. Esteemed Count *Castelbarco* especially asked me to pass on his compliments to you both. [30] We commend ourselves to all good friends, both gentlemen and ladies, within and outside the house. We kiss you many 10 000 000 times and I am as always your Mzt mp.¹³

How is Herr Joseph Hagenauer?¹⁴ Our compliments to him.

MOZART'S POSTSCRIPT TO HIS SISTER:

When you see *Madame d'Aste* and Herr Troger¹⁵ and Herr and Frau *Germani*, I ask you to pass on¹⁶ my commendation to them. From Herr von Schidenhofen,¹⁷ [35] Hefner¹⁸ and other bosom and belly friends,¹⁹ both gentlemen and ladies, I have to pass on *compliments*, especially from the wife of the Court Chancellor.²⁰ I know of nothing new, except that Count *Saurau*²¹ has become Cathedral Dean. *Addio*.

LEOPOLD MOZART'S POSTSCRIPT:

²²<From Florence I have news that the Grand Duke has received my letter²³>, is considering it <and will let> us know. [40] We still have high hopes.²⁴

¹² 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.

¹³ mp = manu propria = in his own hand.

¹⁴ BD: Ignaz Joseph Hagenauer (1743-1780), second son of the Salzburg merchant Johann Lorenz Hagenauer. Cf. No. 0272/10-11.

¹⁵ BD: Leopold Troger, father of Marianne d'Asti von Asteburg, cf. No. 0224/8-9.

¹⁶ BD: In the postscript, Mozart reverses the direction of the "passing on" and includes Salzburg news.

¹⁷ BD: Johann Baptist Joseph Joachim Ferdinand von Schidenhofen made a successful career in the state administration of Salzburg. Married Anna Daubrawa von Daubrawiack in 1778. The Schidenhofens were in frequent contact with the Mozarts, offering mother and daughter accommodation in Schloss Triebenbach while Leopold and Wolfgang were travelling. Mentioned frequently in the correspondence.

¹⁸ BD: Heinrich Wilhelm von Hef(f)ner († 1769), son of Franz Friedrich von Hef(f)ner, the city legal adviser in Salzburg. At school and university he had acquitted himself well onstage.

¹⁹ BD: "Blood-friend" is a traditional phrase = "bosom friend"; Mozart extends it to include "bones".

²⁰ BD: Anna von Mölk, wife of Franz Felix Anton von Mölk (1714-1776), Court Chancellor [Hofkanzler].

²¹ "S": E: graf Saurau". BD: Cf. Nos. 0128/46, 0248/10 f. Joseph Gottfried, Imperial Count [Reichsgraf] von Saurau (1720-1775). Cathedral canon, cathedral dean, privy councillor in Vienna. Cf. No. 0272/10-11.

²² BD: Family code.

²³ BD: No. 0276.

²⁴ BD: Hopes of good employment for Wolfgang. Cf. No. 0279/30 and other letters of the third Italian journey.