

1048. LEOPOLD MOZART¹ TO HIS DAUGHTER,² ST. GILGEN

À Madame / Madame de Sonnenbourg / à / St. Gilgen

Salzb., 10th May
1787

I am no worse, praise God, and am placing my hope on more constant weather [5] so that I can get out into the fresh air.

The *Serum Lactis*³ now seems to be having a very good effect on me indeed, and so far Tresel⁴ has also been making it very well. I am infinitely glad that both of you are well and happy, and I do not grudge you your peace, since you were plagued with me the whole day here.⁵ An interruption!

[10] Today, the 11th May.

I had to stop yesterday. – The Senior Clerk⁶ from St. Peter's⁷ called on me a few days ago with the 200 fl.⁸ I was too weak to have it counted out to me and receive it, so I said to him he should put a seal on it, write an accompanying letter, then I would take care of sending it etc. [15] He has not yet come back again. – Perhaps he will send it himself.

My health is unchanged, I have regular bowel movement and appetite. And my legs are becoming slightly thinner; only I still have a pulsation below my stomach and must first wait for the effect of the plaster. The esteemed *Dr.* was away today and yesterday, consequently did not call!

[20] Two days ago, the esteemed *Dr.* asked me to give his compliments to you both, and said there will be little stability in Wolfgangerl's⁹ condition since he is not in good health inwardly and has a *defect* etc. He believes his studying will now be over for this year, and it would be better to take him home to the open air. Yes, I said, he would probably get over it all the sooner there by running around. [25] He asked me if the children can then do whatever they want? I then had to explain to him about the foolish company he is in with the others. God knows what is to be done there. *Marchand*¹⁰ called on him this morning, – he told me that Wolfgangerl had got out of bed, but was very emaciated, and once again has a swelling on his hand, – [30] cannot flex it etc:

Things have been very quiet for some days now at Herr von Hafner's – since he is putting his affairs in order on the earnest advice of the *medicorum*. – What I hear is that a great deal of

¹ BD: This is the last extant letter from Leopold to Nannerl. Next to the address she made this note: "Examined 1803".

² 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].

³ BD: Whey.

⁴ BD: Therese Pänckl, servant in the Mozart household in Salzburg for many years.

⁵ BD: Nannerl had been in town looking after her father; this explains the break of almost two months in the series of letters.

⁶ "Oberschreiber".

⁷ The large and ancient Benedictine foundation in the centre of Salzburg.

⁸ BD: It can be surmised that this was a (partial) repayment of a loan advanced by Johann Baptist von Berchtold (cf. No. 0958/73-74). This is the sum mentioned in line 58 below: 200 florins capital and 7 fl. 12 kr. Interest.

⁹ Nannerl's stepson, currently attending a private school in Salzburg.

¹⁰ Heinrich Marchand, son of the theatre director Theobald Marchand; had had board, lodging and teaching in keyboard, violin and composition in the Mozarts' home for three years until 1774. Now employed in Salzburg.

money was distributed to the poor at his house some days ago, at which, before the throng became too big, [35] each person received 24 kr.¹¹ A number of Holy Masses are being read every day.

The esteemed Royal Granger¹² can only part with 1 or 2 lb¹³ of hair, and this would be on Monday – because they have to hand everything over to the workhouse.

Here are the powders from the Royal Apothecary.¹⁴

I will not obtain any candles before next week for the 3 lb I am sending out to you. [40] It is incomprehensible, now candles cost 15 kr ½ kr.

Carry on without worrying about me. If I take a turn for the worse, I will give you news at once.

Herr von *D'Ypold*¹⁵ commends himself. He visits me daily.

Little Leopold¹⁶ is well. He kisses you both, and I am glad that he is now such extraordinarily good friends with Lisel;¹⁷ this way I get along better with Nandl.¹⁸

Joh. Hagenauer¹⁹ has not yet been able to leave the house, consequently he has not yet called on me. He came back with such an *erysipelas* on his leg that his domestic had to carry him from the coach up to his bed.

[50] My esteemed son²⁰ was so kind as to make out an application for an advance payment for me. If Herr Johannes²¹ had come to me during this time, I would have asked him for 50 fl. – I did not want to write to him because every day I hoped I would see him, and it was after all not urgent, – [45] only I wished to be able to give Mitzerl²² 45 fl, which I cannot now do since I do not want to leave myself completely out of pocket because of my great expenses with *medicines*, and I cannot enforce my debt. If my esteemed son happens to have the 50 fl here without having to send it into town specially, I would make use of the kind offer.

The Senior Clerk has just brought the money,²³ 207 fl 12 kr, along with a letter with the most ridiculous heading etc.²⁴ – [60] I will keep the money until the messenger²⁵ comes on Monday, and then hand it over to him.

¹¹ A coin. 60 kreuzers = 1 florin.

¹² “Hofkastner”. BD: In charge of a sovereign estate, especially the barn or grange.

¹³ = lb = pound weight ≈ 0.5 kg.

¹⁴ “Hofapotecken”.

¹⁵ 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.

¹⁶ BD: Nannerl’s son Leopold (born in Salzburg on 27th 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.

¹⁷ BD: Also employed in serving work in Leopold’s house.

¹⁸ BD: Maria Anna Pietschner (1732-1805), Leopold’s servant girl (“child nurse”).

¹⁹ BD: Johann Lorenz Hagenauer (1712-1792), Salzburg merchant. Sometime landlord and friend to the Mozart family.

²⁰ Leopold’s customary form of address to his son-in-law.

²¹ BD: Johannes Nepomuk Anton Hagenauer (1741-1799), eldest son of Salzburg merchant Johann Lorenz Hagenauer and the member of the family most frequently mentioned in the letters.

²² “Jungfer Mitzerl”. BD: Maria Anna Raab († 1788, aged 78), along with “Joly Sallerl” (cf. No. 0062/41) one of the most faithful friends of the family. Rented out the first floor of her house, the “Tanzmeisterhaus” [“Dancing Master’s House”] to the Mozarts from 1773 until Leopold’s death in 1787.

²³ Cf. lines 11 ff.

²⁴ BD: This letter has not come down to us.

Your brother is now living at Landstrasse²⁶ No. 224. But his letter to me gives no reason for this. Nothing at all! Unfortunately, I can guess.

I kiss you both wholeheartedly, greet the children and am, as long as I may yet live, your sincere father

[65]

Mozart mp²⁷

Heinrich commends himself, Herr Marchand from Munich and likewise everyone. Nandl and Tresel²⁸ kiss your hands, I greet Lennerl.²⁹

²⁵ BD: There was no post-coach to St. Gilgen. Leopold therefore sent his letters and packages to Nannerl by a messenger, a carter who came to Salzburg once a week. The “glass-carrier woman” also provided a service on this route.

²⁶ BD: Mozart had moved, for financial reasons, to this suburb of Vienna on St. George’s Day (23rd March), 1787. Picture: Deutsch Bild No. 440.

²⁷ mp = manu propria = in his own hand.

²⁸ BD: Therese Pänckl, servant in the Mozart household in Salzburg for many years.

²⁹ BD: Magdalena, nursery maid at the Berchtolds.