

1149. MOZART TO MICHAEL PUCHBERG,¹ VIENNA

Pour / Monsieur de Puchberg. / Chez Lui²

[Vienna, between 21st and 27th April, 1791]

I hope Orsler³ has brought the keys back again; it was thus not my fault. I also hope that he made a request to you in my name for one violin and 2 violas temporarily for today [5] – this has to do with an *à quattro*⁴ at Greiner's; ⁵ this is important to me, as you know anyway. – If you want to attend this music-making in the evening, you are, sir, most courteously invited to it by both him and myself. –

Mozart mp⁶

P.S. I beg your forgiveness that I did not return that certain item,⁷ although I had given my word, but Stadtler,⁸ who should have gone to the *paymaster* in my place |: because I have so much to do |: , forgot it during the whole 20th April – I must therefore now wait a further week.

[NOTE BY WM. SPEYER:]⁹

From *Carl Mozart* as a keepsake.

Milan on 1st October 1818.

W^m Speyer

¹ BD: Johann Michael Puchberg (1741-1822), 1768-1777 in charge of a factory and wholesale business for finished and semi-finished silk layers, velvet, ribbons, cloth and gloves. He resumed this activity in 1785 in association with his brother. The landlord of the premises on the Hoher Markt in Vienna was Franz, Count [Graf] Walsegg-Stuppach, who commissioned the *Requiem* from Mozart in 1791. Member of various Masonic lodges from 1773 onwards. It was probably in Masonic circles that he met Mozart. He was also in contact with Joseph Haydn, who wrote to him in January, 1792, in connection with Mozart's death. He represented Constanze for a time regarding Mozart's estate. Mozart dedicated to him the string trio divertimento in E^b KV 563 (cf. No. 1094/23; No. 1121/11) and perhaps also the piano trio in E KV 542 (cf. notes on No. 1077/50 and No. 1083/18). Puchberg died in poverty in 1822.

² = "For Monsieur Puchberg, at his home".

³ BD: Probably Joseph Orsler, cellist in the court music in Vienna 1772-1806.

⁴ = "quartet".

⁵ BD: Franz Sales von Greiner, Court Counsellor [Hofrat], member of the Masonic lodge "Zur wahren Eintracht" ["At the Sign of True Concord"].

⁶ mp = manu propria = in his own hand.

⁷ BD: Mozart's promise in No. 1148/4.

⁸ BD: The clarinettist Anton Paul Stadler (1753-1812), his younger brother was Johann Nepomuk Franz (1755-1804). They both probably played in Mozart's Serenade in B^b KV 361 (370a) in Mozart's concert of the 23rd March, 1784. Both brothers were Freemasons in Vienna. Stadler worked constantly on extending the range of his instrument. The inventory of Mozart's estate contained a note (marked "lost") claiming the return of a loan of 500 florins from Stadler.

⁹ In DME.