

*Monsieur.*Mainz, 3<sup>rd</sup> Aug., 1763

You will no doubt have received my letters from Ludwigsburg and Schwetzingen.<sup>3</sup> In the first, I wrote to you that you should send your reply to Mannheim, but in the second that you should reply to me in Frankfurt. [5] But before this we once drove on a pleasure trip from Schwetzingen<sup>4</sup> to Heidelberg<sup>5</sup> in order to see the castle and the great tun there. In every way, Heidelberg shows much similarity to Salzburg, to wit, regarding the situation; and the collapsed gates and walls in the castle, which can only be seen with amazement, show the sad fruits of the former French wars. [10] In Holy Spirit Church,<sup>6</sup> which is known from the conflict between the Catholics and the Calvinists and because of which the Electors moved their residence to Mannheim, our Wolfgang played the organ to such admiration that, as a perpetual memorial, his name was elaborately written on the organ there on the orders of the City Dean.<sup>7</sup>

[15] From Schwetzingen, we went with a present of 15 *louis d'or*<sup>8</sup> via Worms<sup>9</sup> to Mainz.<sup>10</sup> We were in Mannheim for 3 days, and there they showed us free of charge everything that is to be seen. We were also given free accommodation in the inn called Prinz Friedrich,<sup>11</sup> named after a French colonel who had served permanently in India. [20] If I were to describe the various rarities that this colonel had with him from these countries, I would have to cover many sheets of paper. Amongst other things, I saw a dress made of paper, and a dress of wood, and also of *stucco*. But you would not realise that until you had plucked out a piece. He honoured Nannerl with a little ring probably worth something more than a *louis d'or*, [25] and Wolfgang with a well-made toothpick case. The City of Mannheim is exceptionally beautiful because of its regularity, but since all the houses are only one storey high, it appears like a city in miniature. On the other hand, there are exceptionally beautiful rooms immediately at the entrances of the houses, and one also finds the finest dwellings under the roofs. [30] At the end of every street you see, simultaneously, the crossing of the 4 main streets, each of which is perfectly like the others in every point. And along all the streets, on both sides between the central roadway and the water run-off gutters on each side, there are painted poles on which lanterns shine in the darkness of the night. Accordingly, there can be nothing more beautiful to see, as can easily be judged, than such an illuminated perspective view, [35] especially in the 4 main streets, since one sees, for example, from the palace or residence as far as the Neckar Gate etc.

Worms is an old-fashioned place and much spoiled by the old French wars. But it is notable because of the old events at the cathedral, [40] and especially the Lutheran church, where Luther appeared before the *Consilio*.<sup>12</sup> We took the evening meal in Worms with Baron

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<sup>1</sup> BD: Original lost. Copyist A; NissenB.

<sup>2</sup> BD: Johann Lorenz Hagenauer (1712-1792), Salzburg merchant. Friend of the Mozarts and their landlord 1747-1773.

<sup>3</sup> BD: Nos. 0053, 0056.

<sup>4</sup> BD: Schwetzingen, summer residence of the Palatine Elector/Count Palatine [Kurfürsten von der Pfalz], otherwise resident in Mannheim. Cf. Nos. 0056/17 ff.; 0057/2 ff.; 0058, 2-3.

<sup>5</sup> BD: Cf. No. 0057/15 ff.

<sup>6</sup> BD: "Heiliggeistkirche", dating back to the fifth century; Heidelberg was a centre of Calvinism from 1564 until the 30 Years War.

<sup>7</sup> "Statt-Decanus".

<sup>8</sup> BD: = approx. 135 florins; the exchange rate varied. 1 *louis d'or* = 7.47 g gold.

<sup>9</sup> BD: Cf. No. 0057/26.

<sup>10</sup> BD: Mainz, cf. No. 0060/3 ff.

<sup>11</sup> BD: Cf. No. 0057/21.

<sup>12</sup> BD: Luther defended himself at the Diet of Worms in 1521.

von Dalberg.<sup>13</sup> This family is so old that they show a letter of rolled-up material,<sup>14</sup> something like tree-bark, on which is found a report by a noble von Dalberg, containing, among other things, [45] news that a carpenter's son, who claimed to be the Messiah, was apparently condemned to hang on the cross. *Credibile est veteres, latro ceu praesul et hospes*,<sup>15</sup> says the Bible for the *Rudimentists*.<sup>16</sup> If you want to try a treacherous road, you must only drive from Worms to Oppenheim. In Oppenheim you also see the saddest relic of the former French wars.<sup>17</sup> [50] From Oppenheim to Mainz it is most pleasant, for on one side one drives close beside the Rhine, and on the left there are fields, villages, gardens, and vineyards. Mainz is, in the centre, a place of densely-packed buildings, at the so-called Bleaching Ground<sup>18</sup> and at the Animal Market<sup>19</sup> it looks better.

N.B. In Mainz I met Count Schönborn,<sup>20</sup> who married there, [55] Count Ostein<sup>21</sup> and Krell, his high steward,<sup>22</sup> also Count Bassenheim.<sup>23</sup> I visited them all. The Wallendorfs<sup>24</sup> are in Koblenz.<sup>25</sup>

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<sup>13</sup> BD: Cf. No. 0057/26.

<sup>14</sup> BD: In 1844 this could not be found in the archive. All that existed was a certified copy of the Hebrew text, supposedly by "Conradus a Cajo Marcello", claimed as progenitor of the family.

<sup>15</sup> BD: "For the ancients it was credible to have a thief as bishop and guest." Leopold misquotes the original from Emmanuel Alvarus' *De institutione grammatica...*

<sup>16</sup> BD: = pupils in the first form at grammar school.

<sup>17</sup> BD VII: Destroyed by the French in 1689.

<sup>18</sup> "Bleiche".

<sup>19</sup> "Thier Markt".

<sup>20</sup> "graf Schönborn". BD: Hugo Damian, Count Schönborn (1738-1817), born in Vienna, married in 1763.

<sup>21</sup> "graf Ostein". BD: probably the cathedral canon Philip Carl von Ostein (1742-1766), cathedral canon in Mainz, Würzburg and Trier.

<sup>22</sup> "Hofmeister".

<sup>23</sup> "graf Bassenheim". BD: Johann Maria Rudolph, Count Waldbott zu Bassenheim (1731-1805). Hereditary official [Erbschenk] in the cathedral and privy councillor [Geheimer Rat].

<sup>24</sup> BD: Cf. No. 0064/56.

<sup>25</sup> Koblenz. BD: Cf. Nos. 0064/46 ff.; 0065/38 ff.