

*Monsieur!**Paris, 9th Juin, 1766*

Has anyone in your house perhaps had *sciatica* or *rheumatism*?

For over 2 to 2½ years I have not had the least hint of it. [5] And just as I receive your letter³ of the 29th *Maii* on the 7th, *rheumatism* simultaneously befalls me on the upper thigh of the right leg, with the pains causing me to pull the strangest faces.

I hope it will not persist long, or even get worse, since we want to go to *Versailles* again⁴ in the coming week, [10] where we were for 4 days only 12 days ago. I am starting to write this letter on 9th June, on the day on which we departed from Salzburg 3 years ago. When I am to finish will be shown at the end of the letter.

I have been able to write as far as here, and no further. I was hindered, [15] and up until today, the 13th, as I write this, I have had 4 sleepless and painful nights, and the days were no better, as the custom is. An ill man, a poor man! – I received your esteemed letter of the 29th safely at midday on the 6th *Junii*. I do not doubt that the present letter will be in your hands on the 22nd, the day on which, by all appearances, [20] we will be in *Versailles*. If you write on the following 23rd, I will receive the letter on the 1st *Julii*; if you write it on 26th *Junii*, I can rely on having it on the 4th *Julii*, which is still time enough, since we will not be able to leave here before 6th or 7th *Julii*.⁵ On this date, on the other hand, we will be either entirely gone, [25] or else beginning with our accommodation again for 15 days and consequently again having to pay 3 *louis d'or* and 3 *livres*.⁶ But this will not happen, unless something exceptional forces it on us – we hope it will not. I am very pleased to hear that you are all in the best of circumstances. God will hopefully give us the pleasure of seeing each other again in good health. [30] My dearest Herr Hagenauer, I do not know how I should go about the matter: just reflect a little on the matter. I also have a servant with me. But he is not a stodgy slowcoach⁷ or a bad chap at all, but rather someone I am not thinking of parting with, unless a gentleman wants to take him as a valet. [35] I will have to provide a living room for him outside the house, and I feel sorry about that because I would not like him to get into bad company by chance. Although he is no child, you also know that temptation and opportunity transform even angels into devils. You love fine and orderly people. You will like him at first sight. [40] I will not tell you where we are going after here. It seems to me it will come out more pleasingly when the first written characters in the next letter reveal it to you. In the meantime, we had the privilege of receiving His Highness the Hereditary Prince of Brunswick.⁸ He is a very pleasant, handsome, friendly gentleman and, on entering the room, asked me if I was the author of the book on the *violin etc.* [45] He will soon set off on travels, and *en passant* will see the fortresses at *Mez*⁹ etc., Strasbourg etc., and then go to *Turin* via Geneva and through Italy.

¹ BD: Original lost. Copyist A; NissenB.

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

³ BD: No. 0108a (lost).

⁴ BD: They were there 25th May – 1st June, 1766; there is no information as to whether this planned second visit took place.

⁵ BD: It took place on the 9th.

⁶ BD: ≈ 25 florins.

⁷ Leopold writes “S=Magen” = Saumagen = heavy dish consisting of stuffed pig’s stomach. It is not clear whether this is the servant Potivin or Porta (cf. Nos. 0082/38-39; 0086/26). Leopold had in any case got rid of him before the arrival in Munich, cf. No. 0112/80.

⁸ “Erbprinzen von Braunschweig”. BD: Karl Wilhelm Ferdinand (1735-1806). A distinguished and courageous military leader and exceptional violinist. Concerning Mozart he wrote that “many music directors, having perfected their skills, die without having learnt what this boy is capable of at the age of nine years.”

⁹ Metz.

They are always saying that the reigning Duke of Zweibrücken¹⁰ is to come to us. A little time will show whether it comes true.

[50] You did not write anything more to me about the new gate?¹¹ – and perhaps about a new suburb, and nothing at all about the strengthening of the riverbank, or, more correctly, the new stone protective walls? In the room and presence of His Excellency Count Spaur,¹² a certain man alleged that this latter project, presented to the Count by myself, was impossible.

[55] He now sees that it is not the soil where the strengthening was to be done that is without foundation, but rather his objection and opinion.

I gather that plots for house building outside the New Gate are being assigned. But I also hope that they will draw up a design to which all the new houses have to be built, so as to achieve an attractive uniformity, [60] at least in the height of the houses and the storeys. Inspection can also show whether one should perhaps lay out an avenue of trees here or there. My first wish would be for the Ofenlochberg¹³ to disappear in order to gain a fine level stretch. According to the description I received, the entry to the New Gate from the town cannot be big, because the entire wall in the Schwemme, [65] on which the horses are painted, is left standing. I had pictured something completely different here: I had namely imagined that they would take the entire wall down, had attempted to set up the gate so that anyone entering the town would have the Schwemme straight ahead of him and could then choose to turn right or [70] left around the Schwemme. That seemed to me a freer way, open and more comfortable for avoiding each other, more impressive and magnificent. But perhaps it is better this way. I only want to describe the concept I had formed in advance.

I regret the death of honest, meritorious *Dr. Agliardi*.¹⁴ [75] Did the supervisor of the *Edlknaben*¹⁵ not have a stroke recently?

The *bassoonist* Roth¹⁶ must have been an old man.

One should not forget to preserve valet Allmayr's *allonge* periwig, as worn *pro festis Pallii*¹⁷, in an antiques collection.

It is a pity about Rossenegger:¹⁸ the poor man had certainly earned [80] many a hundred guildens during his life and brought them into the country, and was a skilled man in every way.

And has *Madame Muralt*¹⁹ also died? Did the medicines have no effect anymore? The dear children will have had little *blessur*²⁰ over this. What then is your esteemed son²¹ doing? [85] Has he not in the meantime paused in many countries? Now he will surely soon marry.

¹⁰ Regierender Herzog von Zweibrücken, mentioned in No. 0050/4, 31, 70.

¹¹ BD: The “Neutor” city gate in Salzburg was opened by Archbishop Siegmund Christoph on 26th June, 1766, but not made available to the general public until 1774. The building project, with tunnel through the Mönchberg, has been mentioned in numerous letters from Leopold.

¹² BD: Ignaz Joseph, Graf Spaur (1727-1779), cathedral canon in Salzburg from 1755 to 1776, 1778-1779 Bishop of Brixen/Brissano.

¹³ Another of the mountains in the city of Salzburg, today known as the Rainberg.

¹⁴ BD: Dr. Peter Anton Agliardi(s) (1691?-1766), from Padua, personal physician to the Archbishop of Salzburg.

¹⁵ BD: Dr. Ignaz Johann Kuchardeck (1711-1768), in charge of an archdiocesan school for pages.

¹⁶ BD: Johann Jakob Roth, servant in the antechamber from 1718, named as bassoonist in the court music 1724-1766.

¹⁷ For the Feast of the Pallium. The Pallium, a special papal gift, was worn only on special liturgical occasions. BD VII: Mozart probably wrote a sonata “pro festis Pali” in 1777: KV 278 (271e). Cf. No. 0323/30.

¹⁸ BD: Probably Lorenz Rosenegger, state employee in the salt mines and noted for the invention of various mechanical apparatus for the theatre.

¹⁹ BD: Maria Cordula Marult († 1766), a merchant's widow and proprietor of a silk and cloth business in Salzburg.

²⁰ BD: “Blessur” (wound) instead of “plaisir” (pleasure); in line 83 “pausiert” (paused) instead of “passiert” (passed through); in line “jealousie” (jealousy) taken to mean “taste”: possibly parodying the confusion of foreign words characteristic of the Marult family.

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.

But there will also be doubt whether he will find anyone in Salzburg matching his jealousy.²² One more thing! *Madame Brex*²³ is also dead, and old *Madame Joly*²⁴ has also had to overcome many chagrins. To my amazement, I found *Dr. Brex*²⁵ here in *Paris*, [90] but also to my joy, since he told me the reason for his sojourn. Another good idea put into action |: I thought to myself :|, one which I have heatedly supported for some years now. But I must at the same time honestly confess to you that I broke out in ringing laughter when he told me his salary, namely 300 florins from the country estate and, [95] if I am not mistaken, 150 florins as a councillor: thus 450 florins. Dearest Herr Hagenauer, if I had the patience to write out a description of the most necessary expenses that this man absolutely must cover, you would see that he must part with 50 to 60 florins per month at the very least. And with that his proper expenses are only starting. [100] Whenever he is present at a birth, *à l'Hôtel de Dieu*, he has to hold the child at the baptism and consequently incur an already fixed charge. Enough, I do not want to start telling you everything! The General Estates and the Council have never lived in *Paris*. The good *Dr. Brex* has to set out at 7 o'clock every morning and walk roughly as far as the Fronburg courtyard, from there to Mülln by 10 o'clock, [105] and then walk back to the *Caietaniums*²⁶ by midday. Such is the length of his circuitous routes. He needs the money for soup, not for a *fiacre*²⁷ or coach. He will be affected by heat, walk until he gets himself consumption, and then one has lost everything in order to save a few hundred guildens.²⁸ Believe me, I am speaking the truth. And, if I were Archbishop, he would have to get out of Count *van Eyck's*²⁹ house. [110] That is no place for him! My wife and children commend themselves, sir, and are waiting for a prompt answer. Farewell to you all, I am yours as always.

What, then, is the name of the new *violoncellist*?³⁰ The *violone* player, I hear, has left again.³¹

²² BD: In the sense of "taste".

²³ BD: Josepha Maria Anna Antonia Prex, née Joly, married to the personal valet and subordinate silver chamberlain ("Untersilberkämmerer") Ferdinand Leopold Prex; mother of Dr. Johann Nepomuk Prex.

²⁴ BD: Maria Anna Therese Joly, née de Butelli, mother of Rosalia, the "Saller!" frequently mentioned in letters, and of Josepha Maria Anna Antonia Prex.

²⁵ BD: Dr. Johann Nepomuk Prex, Physician to the General Estates ("Landschaftsphysicus").

²⁶ BD: A palace, a suburb and a Theatine monastery in Salzburg: total distance around 9 km.

²⁷ BD: A coach for hire for single trips or short periods.

²⁸ Guildens and florins are practically equivalent.

²⁹ BD: Where gaming was currently known to be on the increase.

³⁰ BD: Ignaz Küffel, mentioned in the Hofkalender for 1767 and 1768.

³¹ BD: Not identifiable.