

0681.¹ MOZART TO HIS FATHER, SALZBURG

*À / Monsieur / Monsieur Leopold Mozart / maitre de la Chapelle de
S: A: R: / l'archeveque de et à / Salzbourg.*

*Vienne ce 31 de Julliette
1782*

*Mon très cher Père!*²

[5] You see that my will is good; but if one cannot, one cannot! – I do not like dashing things off onto paper. – I therefore cannot send the whole symphony³ before next post-day. – I could have sent you the last piece, but I would prefer to send you it all together, that way I pay only once; – what I have sent has cost already 3 guldens⁴ anyway. –

[10] Today I received your letter⁵ of the 26th, but such an indifferent, cold communication, one I could never have expected in response to the news⁶ I had sent you of the good reception of my opera. – I thought |: to judge by my feelings :| you would hardly be able to open the *packet* simply in your eagerness to examine a work by your son |: which did not just blandly please in Vienna :| but is causing such a rumpus that people do not want to hear anything else at all, and the theatre is always packed. – Yesterday it was staged for the 4th time and it will be performed again on Friday.⁷ – But – you did not have that much time – – – The whole world⁸ maintains that I have made enemies of the *professori* of music [20] and other people as well by my bragging and criticising! –

Which world? – probably the Salzburg world; for anyone who is here – can see and hear enough to the contrary; – and let this be my answer to that. – In the meantime you will have received my last letter;⁹ – nor do I in the least doubt that I will receive your consent to my marriage with your next letter; [25] – you cannot have any kind of objection to it – nor do you really have one! – this is what your letters show – for she is an honest, orderly girl, of good parents, – I am in a position to provide her with her daily bread – we love each other – and want each other; – everything else that you have written to me and could conceivably yet write to me [30] – would be nothing – except pure well-meant advice! – which, however fine and good it may be, is nevertheless not suitable for a person who has already reached such a stage with a girl; – here there is nothing that can be postponed. – Instead, now get one's own affairs into order – and be an honest fellow! – God, then, will always reward that; – I do not want to have to reproach myself for anything. [35] –

Now I wish you well in every way, I kiss your hands 1000 times and am, sir, eternally your

Most obedient son,
W: A. Mozart

P.S. I embrace my dear sister from the bottom of my heart.

[40] Adieu.

¹ BD: Original lost. NissenB.

² = “To Monsieur Leopold Mozart, Music Director to His Royal Highness the Archbishop of and in Salzburg. / My very dear father! / Vienna, this 31st day of July, 1782.”

³ BD: KV 385; cf. No. 0677/35.

⁴ Guldens and florins have effectively the same value.

⁵ BD: No. 0679, lost.

⁶ BD: No. 0676, lost.

⁷ BD: The performance planned for “Friday” (2nd August) was postponed to the 3rd August, cf. No. 0680/12.

⁸ BD: Quotation from No. 0679 (lost).

⁹ BD: No. 0680.