

1274.* GEORG NIKOLAUS NISSEN¹ TO PAUL WRANITZKY(?),² VIENNA

[*BD: This letter belongs between Nos. 1262 and 1263.]

[Vienna, between 8th and 11th November, 1799]³

N. requests the favour, which he will greatly appreciate, that you take the works noted on the enclosed index out of the pack and seal it again. Since Herr *A.*⁴ does not need these works, [5] since they are about to be printed anyway, and the man who is to get them has promised to send them back at once, as soon as he has used them, which will be the case any time now, since they are intended as the very next publication,⁵ *N.* hopes to elicit this favour, which will bring him around 20 fl. without *A.* losing in the least by it, since the latter does not of course wish to publish them, [10] or cannot do so profitably because they are being published anytime now. In return, he is pleased to cede possession of the excess copies packed, and will always be happy to be of service to Herr *A.* The favour in question is very important to him. He would have come himself if he had been dressed.

¹ BD: Georg Nikolaus Nissen (1761-1826), secretary to the Danish Legation in Vienna. Met Constanze at the end of 1797, was either her landlord or cohabitant. Nissen advised Constanze in all business matters from 1798 onwards, especially with the publishers Breitkopf & Härtel and André. The letters, often formulated by him and signed by Constanze, reveal an experienced, if cautious, businessman.

² BD: Paul Wranitzky (1756-1808), composer, music director, musician, Freemason. A friend of Haydn and Beethoven, and almost certainly of Mozart. Witness to Constanze's contract with André.

³ BD: This communication is linked to letter No. 1264, with which Constanze sends "4 numbers" to B & H. As can be seen from No. 1292/25-26, André personally removed them, on the day of his departure from Vienna, from the pack, which had been sealed as outlined in the contract (= No. 1262) of 8th November, 1799. No. 1274 must therefore be dated as "between 8th and 11th November, 1799" and not "before 9th January, 1780".

⁴ BD: = "Herr André": Johann Anton (1775-1842). It was in his first year as head of the firm founded by his father that the contract was concluded with Constanze (8th November, 1799) regarding the music in Mozart's estate.

⁵ BD: For Breitkopf & Härtel's *Cahier VI* of the complete works, cf. No. 1264/13.