

1277. CONSTANZE MOZART¹ TO BREITKOPF & HÄRTEL,² LEIPZIG

Vienna / To / Messrs. Breitkopf & Härtel, / Leipzig

Most highly honoured sirs,

Vienna, 22nd Jan., 1800

I must express my thanks to you for Volume 5,³ which I received safely with other pieces of music in the original as per your consignment note of 20th Dec. last year. I am also exceptionally obliged to you for kindly taking care of the items from Schramm & Kerstens.⁴

For the sake of better order, I am listing here the originals received back from you on the occasion mentioned and which are therefore to be removed from the complete list which I recapitulated for you in the appendix to my letter of 30th Nov.⁵ last year, namely:

- | | | |
|---------------------------------------|---------------------|------------------------------|
| 1. the March | which I sent you on | 25 th Febr. 1799, |
| 2. all the songs | ----- | 25 th Mar. — |
| 3. a song: das Veilchen | ----- | 25 th May — |
| 4. The glass <i>harmonica quintet</i> | ----- | 8 th July. — |
| [15] and 5. the 4 music numbers | ----- | 11 th Nov. — |

I had hoped to be able to thank you on this occasion for your friendliness in sending Volume 6 as well: so it will not have been published yet.

You seem to have overlooked the fact that you have not sent me the second song, the Trennungslied, which I sent you on 25th May:⁶ [20] I must therefore ask for this along with the other remaining originals as well.

Concerning the pieces about which we are still negotiating and which are listed at the end of the appendix to my letter of 30th Nov. of last year as mentioned above, I can justifiably assume that you are purchasing them from me because you have not sent them back to me and have now had enough time to think about it, [25] since they were sent to you on 10th Oct., 18th Oct. and 30th November last year. I would therefore request you to be so good as to send me the remittance demanded for it as soon as possible, and at the same time graciously to bear in mind the account presented in my letter of 20th November.⁷ I ask you to go through that point by point yourselves: [30] regarding any as yet indefinite demands noted there which go against your convictions, I am willing, out of respect for you and in order to avoid protraction, to drop them. I did not invoice anything against my convictions, and even believed I had documented all relevant details.

So there was no letter to me in your last packet? [35] I found nothing except a little note about the pink envelope.

There is surely no further need for me to refer to the first point in my letter of the 28th of last month?

I have the honour to be, with the most distinct respect,
[40] nobly born sirs,
your most obedient servant
Constance Mozart

¹ BD: Nissen's handwriting, Constanze's signature. Nissen: cf. note No. 1224.

² BD: Founded as "Breitkopf" in 1719. On 1st November, 1795, Christoph Gottlob Breitkopf concluded a contract of partnership with Gottfried Christoph Härtel (1763-1827). This was followed in 1796 by a secret contract of sale in which the entire Breitkopf business was made over to Gottfried Christoph Härtel. The latter was also declared universal heir by Breitkopf shortly before his death in 1800.

³ After sending numerous reminders, e.g. No. 1271/30.

⁴ Personal items belonging to Constanze, sent on from Hamburg. BD: cf. Nos. 1258/74-76; 1259/56-65; 1267/123-126.

⁵ BD: Cf. No. 1270/15 ff.

⁶ BD: Cf. No. 1270/22.

⁷ 17th November.