

1368. MARIA ANNA,¹ IMPERIAL BARONESS² VON BERCHTOLD ZU SONNENBURG, TO
BREITKOPF & HÄRTEL,³ LEIPZIG

A / Monsieur / Monsieur Breitkopf et / Haertel. / à / Leibzig

Most nobly born!

Most highly estimable sir!

Salzburg, 6th 10^{ber},⁴

1804.

I finally received your valued communication of 25th 9^{ber}⁵ yesterday, the 5th. [5] I would have thought that one would surely have been able to make a copy of this profile *portrait*⁶ within a period of 4 to 5 months, and if you had simply informed me of the safe arrival of this portrait, I would certainly have lent it to you for some time, but your silence made me anxious, I did not know whether you had received it or whether it had been lost. [10]

You write to say that you have handed over the Bethoven *Variations* and *Marches*⁷ to your agent for shipping. Why did you not send it by post to the address I sent you, since the esteemed *Baron* von Bleul – Court Chancellor⁸ here – receives his post free,⁹ and then you would not have had to worry about the high postal charges. [15] You must therefore be so good, if the items are still at the agent's, to ask for them back, for otherwise I would have to pay the postage and you surely cannot demand that.

As early as the 25th 7^{ber},¹⁰ I sent you the letter in which I placed the order for the Bethoven *Variations*, and I still have not received them. [20] If you had sent them by post immediately, I would not have been plagued all this time because it still has not arrived. I therefore implore you to send such items postage paid, and to write at the same time telling me the price so that I can charge for it. I remain, with great respect,

Your

devoted

[25]

Maria Anna, Baroness von
Berchtold zu Sonnenburg mpra¹¹

¹ BD: Maria Anna Walburga Ignatia (“Nannerl”), née Mozart, (1751-1829). After her marriage in 1784 her name was Maria Anna von Berchtold zu Sonnenburg.

² “Reichsfreiin”.

³ 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.

⁴ = December.

⁵ = November.

⁶ BD: Cf. Nos. 1364/42; 1365/5-6, 12.

⁷ BD: Cf. No. 1366/19-20.

⁸ “Hofkanzler”. BD: Johann Heinrich Bleul (1765-1807), occupied various leading positions in Trier and then, from 1799, in Salzburg.

⁹ Postal charges were usually paid by both sender and recipient.

¹⁰ = 25th September. BD: Actually 20th September.

¹¹ “manu propria” = in her own hand.