

1286.<sup>1</sup> BREITKOPF & HÄRTEL<sup>2</sup> TO MARIA ANNA,<sup>3</sup> IMPERIAL BARONESS<sup>4</sup> VON BERCHTOLD ZU SONNENBURG, ST. GILGEN

TRANSMITTED ONLY AS A QUOTATION:

[Leipzig, 28<sup>th</sup> February, 1800]

. . . Very many letters<sup>5</sup> in the hand of your magnanimous and noble brother, letters which he wrote to several of his closer friends, and even to his spouse, and which have come into our possession, [5] make us sadly regret in every way that he was not happy in many important things, and that his ever-aspiring mind had to battle with many a hindrance. We shall include in his biography, with gratitude and respect, what we have already learned from you, along with the expressions of your sisterly tenderness for his person and your readiness [10] to support us in both this account of his life and the editing of his works. If only we could do the same where his widow is concerned! Yet the latter appears to prefer a momentary profit to all considerations of the remembrance of her spouse . . .

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<sup>1</sup> BD: Original unknown. Edition Nottebohm p. 139, fn. 2. Mentioned in No. 1293/3.

<sup>2</sup> BD: Founded as "Breitkopf" in 1719. On 1<sup>st</sup> 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.

<sup>3</sup> BD: Maria Anna Walburga Ignatia ("Nannerl"), née Mozart, (1751-1829). After her marriage in 1784 her name was Maria Anna von Berchtold zu Sonnenburg.

<sup>4</sup> "Reichsfreiin".

<sup>5</sup> BD: Presumably included in the packets sent by Constanze on 28<sup>th</sup> August and 10<sup>th</sup> October, cf. Nos. 1256/51 and 1259/36.