

1408. GEORG NIKOLAUS NISSEN¹ TO JOHANN ANTON ANDRÉ,² OFFENBACH

An den Herrn / Herrn Hofrath J. A. André / Offenbach am Mayn

Salzburg
2nd March,
1826.

Most honoured, esteemed Court Councillor,³

[5] From your response to the communication of 2nd Feb.⁴ I noted with regret that, on the note I had enclosed with it, I had failed to let you know the address of Herr von Piquot.⁵ I beg your forgiveness for this and inform you now that he lives and is active in Vienna. According to the Austrian State Calendar,⁶ his complete title is as follows:

[10] Knight of the Russian Imperial Order of St. Anne, 2nd Class, and of the Order of the White Falcon of the Grand Duchy of Saxony-Weimar, Canon of St. Martin in Minden, Royal Prussian Privy Legation Councillor and Resident Minister of the Grand Duchy of Saxony-Weimar at the Imperial and Royal Austrian Court.⁷

Otherwise I can tell you that in the meantime I had grounds to write to Herr v. P. myself on 23rd Febr. [15] On that occasion I commended to him the content of the communication⁸ that he would probably receive from you, and begged his forgiveness for erroneously misleading you into addressing him simply as *Chargé d'affaires*. This would then be prevented by today's information from me if it arrives early enough to be used. [20]

I made sure of sending off 3 pieces of music⁹ with the post-coach which left on 28th Febr.; and, because you might wish to know their degree of authenticity precisely, I wrote my attestation and my signature on them. Do not go to the trouble of writing to me about this, [25] except in the almost impossible case that the pieces do not reach you within 3 months. The receipt I was given at the post office here is for me an adequate guarantee of their safe arrival at their destination.

I look forward greatly to the *thematic* catalogue.¹⁰ – My wife sends greetings. –

Most obediently,

[30]

Nissen.

¹ BD: Georg Nikolaus Nissen (1761-1826), secretary to the Holstein Legation in Regensburg and then 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. Cf. No. 1224 for longer note.

² BD: Johann Anton André (1775-1842), publisher. He was the third son of Johann André (1741-1799), composer, music director (from 1766), founded the music publishing business in Offenbach in 1784. It was thus in Johann Anton's first year as a publisher that the contract was concluded with Constanze (8th November, 1799) regarding the music in Mozart's estate.

³ "Hofrath".

⁴ BD: From Constanze; No. 1406, lost.

⁵ BD: Representative of Saxony-Weimar-Eisenach in Vienna 1806-1831. Otherwise nothing is known about Nissen's relationship with von Piquot. BD VI, p. 726: Nissen's purpose in passing on the address of the Prussian Legation Councillor [Legationsrat] Peter von Piquot to André becomes clear from the latter's letter to Georg Johann Daniel Poelchau on 4th May, 1730: "*Just shortly before his death, Herr von Nissen wrote to me asking to make enquiries from von Piquot, at that time Privy Secretary, later Privy Legation Councillor in Vienna, where these 3 manuscripts had ended up, but this likewise turned out unsuccessful.*" The 3 manuscripts mentioned are KV 118 (74c), KV 125 and KV 246, mentioned in the declaration by Jacobi, Baron [Freiherr] von Kloest on March, 1792 (No. 1207).

⁶ "oesterreichischer Statskalender".

⁷ "Ritter des russ. kais. St. Annenordens 2ter Klasse und des G. H. Sachsen weimarschen weißen Falkenordens, Kanonikus zu St. Martin in Minden, kön. preussischer Geheimer Legationsrath und G. H. Sachsen weimarscher Minister=Resident am k. k. oesterr. Hofe."

⁸ BD: No. 1407a, lost.

⁹ BD: Not identified.

¹⁰ BD: Cf. No. 1403/40-41.