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A report of Mozart’s death (12 Dec 1791)

Dexter Edge

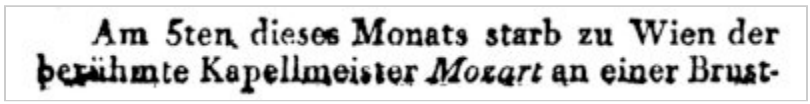
***Musikalisches Wochenblatt,* xi, ?12 Dec 1791**

[87]

8. Todesfälle.


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Am 5ten dieses Monats starb zu Wien der berühmte Kapellmeister *Mozart* an einer Brust-


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[translation:]

8. Deaths.

On the 5th of this month, the famous composer, Kapellmeister Mozart, died in Vienna

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from *Brustwassersucht* at 35 years of age, to the most profound sorrow of all friends of art.

Commentary

Deutsch (*Dokumente*, 380) includes a report of Mozart's death published in *Musikalisches Wochenblatt* in the issue following this one (XII:94); that report, dated 12 Dec, comes from a correspondent in Prague. However, Deutsch omits this earlier report of Mozart's death from issue XI of the *Wochenblatt*. The cause of death listed here is "Brustwassersucht" (sometimes equated with the modern term "hydrothorax"). The cause of death listed in the Viennese records, on the other hand, is "hitziges Frieselfieber" (usually translated as "severe miliary fever"; see *Dokumente*, 367–68).

Notes (⇧)

Schwob (2015, 191) includes the notice transcribed above, without reference to its publication on our site in 2014.

Bibliography (⇧)

Schwob, Rainer J. ed. 2015. *W. A. Mozart im Spiegel des Musikjournalismus, deutschsprachiger Raum 1782–1800.* Beiträge zur Mozart-Dokumentation, vol. 1. Stuttgart: Carus Verlag.

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