

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

Dexter Edge

Musikalisches Wochenblatt, xi, ?12 Dec 1791

[87]

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[translation:]

8. Deaths.

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



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 military 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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