**1 January 1782** Johann Christian Bach dies at his home in Soho, London, aged 46 years, three months and 27 days. As soon as news of his death gets out, creditors begin to force their way into the room where the body lies. A devoted student, Mr. Papendiek, and a coachman are only barely able to fend them off.

*O wond’rous power of inborn worth*, an ode by John Stanley (69) to words of Whitehead, is performed for the first time.

*Colinette à la cour, ou La double épreuve*, a comédie lyrique by André-Ernest-Modeste Grétry (40) to words of Lourdet de Santerre after Favart, is performed for the first time, at the Paris Opéra.

**2 January 1782** Emperor Joseph II issues another Edict of Toleration, granting Jews the freedom of worship and removing many restrictions

**6 January 1782** The earthly remains of Johann Christian Bach are laid to rest in St. Pancras’ Churchyard, London. Neither Carl Friedrich Abel (58) nor Thomas Gainsborough are present. Only four friends attend, none of them musicians. The funeral is paid for by the Queen, but she refuses to make good Bach’s debts. (The graveyard no longer exists. A tennis court occupies the site.)

**7 January 1782** The first commercial bank in the United States, the Bank of North America, opens in Philadelphia.

**8 January 1782** The *Connecticut Courant* of Hartford announces the appearance of a revised edition of Andrew Law’s (32) *Select Harmony*.

**11 January 1782** The Dutch surrender Trincomalee, Ceylon (Sri Lanka) to the British.

The French land 6,000 troops on St. Kitts, capture the town of Basseterre and lay siege to the British garrison at Brimstone Hill.

**13 January 1782** *Die Räuber* (The Robbers) by Friedrich Schiller is first performed, in Mannheim. “The theatre resembled a madhouse: eyes rolling, fists clenched, feet stamping, hoarse screams in the auditorium! Strangers fell sobbing into one another’s arms, women close to fainting staggered to the door. It was a general dissolution as though in chaos, from whose mists a new creation bursts forth!” (Ziolkowski, 23)

**16 January 1782** Three weeks after their famous duel, Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart (25) writes to his father (62) about Muzio Clementi (29). “He is an excellent cembalo player, that is all. He has great facility with his right hand. Apart from this, he has not a farthing’s worth of taste or feeling; he is a mere mechanicus.”

**25 January 1782** *Armida abbandonata*, an opera seria by Luigi Cherubini (21) to words of Vituri after Durandi, De Rogatis and Tasso, is performed for the first time, in Teatro La Pergola, Florence.

**29 January 1782** Daniel-François-Esprit Auber is born in Caen, the son of Jean-Baptiste Daniel Auber, a royal hunt officer, an accomplished amateur musician. His mother gives birth in a stagecoach while travelling to this Norman city.

**31 January 1782** Sinfonia obbligato in D by Samuel Wesley (15) is performed for the first time, at one of the many Wesley family concerts in their London home.

**5 February 1782** Spanish forces capture Minorca from the British.

**12 February 1782** After a siege of over two weeks, the British surrender St. Kitts to the French.

**22 February 1782** French forces occupy the British island of Montserrat.

After six motions to censure the North government fail, the opposition introduces a motion in the British Parliament to end the American war. It loses by only one vote.

**27 February 1782** The British House of Commons petitions the crown to make peace with America.

**28 February 1782** Owing to the defeat of his government yesterday, British Prime Minister Lord North offers to resign. King George refuses his resignation.

**1 March 1782** *Thésée*, a tragédie lyrique by François-Joseph Gossec (48) to words of Morel de Chéfdeville after Quinault, is performed for the first time, at the Paris Opéra.

**3 March 1782** A cantata by Domenico Cimarosa (32), *Le tue parole o padre* to words of Monti, is performed for the first time, under the name *L’ombra, Genio ed Enrico*, in the Palace of the French Academy, Rome to celebrate the birth of the Dauphin.

Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart (26) gives an academy concert at the Burgtheater, Vienna. It is the high point of the season. He plays the Piano Concerto K.175 with a new rondo finale, K.382. This and the entire performance are very successful.

**15 March 1782** A lack of confidence motion in Lord North’s government fails by nine votes.

**20 March 1782** To head off a no confidence vote certain to pass, Prime Minister Lord North goes to King George and resigns his government after twelve years in power.

**25 March 1782** A Clarinet Concerto by Joseph Boulogne, Chevalier de Saint Georges (36) is performed for the first time, at the Tuileries, Paris.

**27 March 1782** Charles Watson-Wentworth, Marquess of Rockingham replaces Frederick North, Lord North as Prime Minister of Great Britain.

**28 March 1782** The Province of Holland recognizes the independence of the United States of America. Other Dutch states will follow soon.

A Bassoon Concerto by Joseph Boulogne, Chevalier de Saint Georges (36) is performed for the first time, at the Concert Spirituel, Paris.

**6 April 1782** Buddha Yodfa (Rama I) replaces Takhsin as King of Krung Thep (Thailand).

**9 April 1782** The first Théâtre de l’Odéon opens in the place de l’Odéon, Paris.

**10 April 1782** Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart (26) writes to his father from Vienna, “I suppose you have heard that the English [Johann Christian] Bach (†0) is dead? What a loss to the musical world!”

**12 April 1782** Talks between British and American ministers open in Paris.

Pietro Metastasio, author of numerous opera libretti, dies in Vienna after having received the Last Rites from Pope Pius VI who happens to be in the city.

British naval forces engage the French south of Guadeloupe in the Battle of the Saintes. Nine major French ships are lost including the flagship *Ville de Paris*. The action blocks a French-Spanish plan to invade Jamaica and restores British supremacy in the Atlantic.

**16 April 1782** *Adriano in Siria*, an opera seria by Luigi Cherubini (21) to words of Metastasio, is performed for the first time, in Teatro degli Armeni, Livorno.

**19 April 1782** The Estates-General of the Netherlands admits John Adams as minister from the United States, thus beginning the longest friendly diplomatic relations still in existence.

**22 April 1782** A second child is born to Luigia Polzelli, an Italian singer at Esterháza, and her husband, the violinist Antonio Polzelli. It is well known that the actual father is Franz Joseph Haydn (50).

American Minister John Adams is presented to Prince Willem V and his wife Wilhelmina at Huis ten Bosch Palace at The Hague.

**25 April 1782** The British cabinet votes to negotiate peace terms with the United States of America.

**29 April 1782** An exhibition including *The Nightmare* by Henry Fuseli opens at the Royal Academy of Arts, London.

**1 May 1782** 15-year-old Leopold I replaces Simon Augustus as Count of Lippe under regency.

**8 May 1782** A Spanish force from Havana captures the British garrison of New Providence (Nassau), Bahamas.

**17 May 1782** The Treaty of Salbai ends the war between Britain and the Mahrathas in India. The British make modest gains.

**19 May 1782** Prussia declares armed neutrality in the war between Great Britain and the United States.

*Il ritorno di Tobia*, a sacred cantata by Baldassare Galuppi (75) to words of Gozzi, is performed for the first time, in Venice.

**25 May 1782** François-André Danican-Philidor (55) gives his first demonstration of multiple chess games in London at Parsloe’s, a public house in St. James’ Street. He plays two simultaneous games with his eyes closed, losing one, drawing the other.

**26 May 1782** American missionary John Antes (41) reaches Herrnhut from Cairo where he spent the last two years in recovery from beatings ordered by Osman Bey.

Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart (26) performs in the first of a series of Vienna concerts sponsored by Philipp Jakob Martin. He plays the Concerto for two pianos and orchestra K.365 with Josepha von Auernhammer.

**27 May 1782** An opera and ballet performance takes place in London for the benefit of Mrs. Johann Christian Bach, but not enough people attend to meet expenses.

**30 May 1782** Following the sacking of Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart (26), Michael Haydn (44) is named court organist by Archbishop Colloredo of Salzburg.

The British House of Commons votes to call on the British East India Company to remove Warren Hastings as Governor General of Bengal and William Hornby as President of the Council of Bombay for having “acted in a manner repugnant to the honour and policy of this nation…”

**4 June 1782** *Still does reluctant Peace refuse*, an ode by John Stanley (70) to words of Whitehead, is performed for the first time, to honor the birthday of King George III.

**11 June 1782** John Adams obtains a loan of $2,000,000 from Dutch bankers and establishes American credit in Europe.

**13 June 1782** Anna Göldi is beheaded in Glarus Canton, Switzerland. She is the last person in Europe executed for witchcraft.

**19 June 1782** Christian Gottlob Neefe (34) becomes court and court chapel organist in Bonn.

Crewe’s Act receives the assent of King George III. It prohibits revenue officers from voting in parliamentary elections. Also receiving royal assent is the Contractors Act, which prohibits government contractors from being members of Parliament.

**20 June 1782** One day after being appointed court organist in Bonn, Christian Gottlob Neefe (34) leaves on a summer tour. While he is away, his duties will be taken up by his talented student, Ludwig van Beethoven (11).

**21 June 1782** The repeal of the Irish Declaratory Act receives royal assent. The original act gave the King and Parliament the right to make laws for Ireland.

**28 June 1782** Johann Valentin Günther, a private secretary to Emperor Joseph II, is arrested in Vienna on charges of being a Prussian spy, one day after dining with Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart (26). He will be exonerated.

**1 July 1782** The Proscription Act is repealed. Scots are now allowed to wear the tartan and carry weapons. The Act was passed as a result of the uprising in support of Bonnie Prince Charlie in 1745.

British Prime Minister Charles Watson-Wentworth, Marquess of Rockingham dies in London at the age of 52.

**4 July 1782** William Petty-Fitzmaurice, Earl of Shelburne replaces Charles Watson-Wentworth, Marquess of Rockingham as Prime Minister of Great Britain.

**11 July 1782** British forces evacuate Savannah, Georgia.

**12 July 1782** Jan Ladislav Dussek (22) gives a concert in Hamburg where he meets Carl Philipp Emanuel Bach (68).

**16 July 1782** *Die Entführung aus dem Serail* K.384, a singspiel by Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart (26) to words of Stephanie after Bretzner, is performed for the first time, in the Vienna Burgtheater. It is very successful and will be his most performed opera during his lifetime. On this day, Mozart decides to proceed with a marriage to Constanze Weber.

**21 July 1782** Duke August Friedrich of Saxe-Meiningen dies, ending the joint rule with Duke Georg I. Georg continues to rule in his own right.

**23 July 1782** Tsarina Yekaterina II decrees that choristers from the Imperial Kapella be included in all operatic productions at the Russian court.

**24 July 1782** Portugal declares armed neutrality in the war between Great Britain and the United States.

**26 July 1782** This is possibly the date of the birth of John Field in Dublin, eldest of six children born to Robert Field, violinist at the Theatre Royal, and Grace Marsh.

**27 July 1782** Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart (26) writes to his father from Vienna, “I must ask you...to give me your permission to marry my dear Konstanze.--Do not suppose its just for the sake of getting married, if that were all, I’d gladly wait.--But I can see that it is absolutely necessary for the sake of my honor and that of my girl, as well as for the sake of my health and state of mind. My heart is restless and my head confused--how can anyone think or produce any sensible work in these circumstances?” (Abert, 695)

**29 July 1782** Symphony K.385 “Haffner” by Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart (26) is performed for the first time, for the ennoblement of Sigismund Haffner in Salzburg.

**31 July 1782** Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart (26) writes to his father Leopold (62) asking his consent to marry Constanze Weber.

**2 August 1782** Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart (26) and Constanze Weber take communion together.

**4 August 1782** Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart (26) marries Maria Constanze Caecilia Josepha Johanna Aloisia Weber, daughter of a singer, in St. Stephen’s Cathedral, Vienna.

**5 August 1782** Leopold Mozart’s (62) consent for his son to marry arrives in Vienna.

**7 August 1782** Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart (26) writes to his father, “My opera (*Die Entführung aus dem Serail*) was given yesterday--and that too at Gluck’s (68) request. He has been very complimentary to me about it. I am lunching with him tomorrow.” (Marshall, 326)

**8 August 1782** Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart (26) dines with Christoph Willibald Gluck (68) in Vienna.

Less than forty British soldiers manning Fort Prince of Wales on Hudson Bay (Manitoba) surrender the fort to three French warships. The French then destroy the fort.

**13 August 1782** *L’eroe cinese*, a dramma per musica by Domenico Cimarosa (32) to words of Metastasio, is performed for the first time, in Teatro San Carlo, Naples.

**18 August 1782** The equestrian statue of Peter the Great is unveiled in St. Petersburg on the 100th anniversary of his enthronement.

**19 August 1782** At Blue Licks, Kentucky, rebels (including Daniel Boone) attack loyalists and Indians, but are repulsed. The rebels lose 70 out of a company of 182.

**24 August 1782** *Figura: Canticum in tono peregrino*, an oratorio by Michael Haydn (44) is performed for the first time.

**25 August 1782** Yegen Haci Mehmed Pasha replaces Izzet Mehmed Pasha as Grand Vizier of the Ottoman Empire.

**29 August 1782** *HMS* *Royal George* accidently capsizes and sinks at Spithead. 900 lives are lost, including Admiral Richard Kempenfelt and 360 women and children.

**31 August 1782** *Ihr werdet mit Freuden* for chorus and strings by Johannes Herbst (47) is performed for the first time.

**4 September 1782** Andrew Law (33) receives a Master of Arts degree from Rhode Island College.

**5 September 1782** John Field is baptized in St. Werburgh’s church, Dublin (he was born sometime in July).

The arrival of Pasquale Anfossi (55) in London is reported in the press. He is to take up an engagement as composer at the King’s Theatre.

**8 September 1782** Luigi Cherubini’s (22) opera *Mesenzio, rè d’Eturia*, to words of Casorri is performed for the first time, in Teatro La Pergola, Florence.

**13 September 1782** The British garrison at Gibraltar repels a combined French-Spanish naval attack, but the siege is not lifted.

**16 September 1782** Carlo Maria Broschi (aka Farinelli) dies in Bologna at the age of 77.

A hurricane strikes the Atlantic coast of North America killing about 3,000 people. The Royal Navy ships *HMS Ramillies, HMS Centaur*, the *Dutton* and the *British Queen* are lost off Newfoundland along with the French prizes *Glorieux*, *Ville de Paris*, *Hector*, and *Caton*. Over 3,500 hands go down with them.

**17 September 1782** *Le feste della Tessaglia*, an allegorische Oper by Johann Rudolf Zumsteeg (22) and three other composers, to words of Verazi, is performed for the first time, in Stuttgart.

**19 September 1782** The President and Fellows of Harvard College vote to create a medical school.

**20 September 1782** Johann Adolph Hasse (83) makes out his will in Vienna.

**22 September 1782** *Le delizie campestri o Ippolito e Aricia*, an opera by Johann Rudolf Zumsteeg (22), to words of Verazi, is performed for the first time, in Stuttgart.

**25 September 1782** The *Wiener* *Zeitung* announces the publication of three keyboard sonatas op.7 by Muzio Clementi (30).

**26 September 1782** *Il barbiere di Siviglia, ovvero La precauzione inutile*, a dramma giocoso by Giovanni Paisiello (42) to words after Beaumarchais, is performed for the first time, at the Hermitage, St. Petersburg.

**27 September 1782** Formal peace negotiations between Great Britain and the United States begin in Paris.

**5 October 1782** With a new commission which states that he is empowered “to treat with the commissioners appointed by the colonies under the title of 13 united states,” British negotiator Richard Oswald begins formal negotiations with the representatives of the United States in Paris.

**6 October 1782** *La ballerina amante*, a commedia per musica by Domenico Cimarosa (32) to words of Palomba, is performed for the first time, in Teatro dei Fiorentini, Naples. It is a great success.

**8 October 1782** A treaty of Amity and Commerce is concluded at The Hague between the Netherlands and the United States, signed by American minister John Adams.

**27 October 1782** Nicolò Paganini is born in Genoa, the third of six children born to Antonio Paganini, a cargo handler and shipping clerk, and Teresa Bocciardo.

**4 November 1782** Elias Boudinot replaces John Hanson as President of the Congress of the United States.

**10 November 1782** Americans defeat Shawnee at Chillicothe (Ohio).

**12 November 1782** In York, 19-year-old deaf British astronomer John Goodricke observes an abrupt change in the magnitude of Beta-Persei (Algol). From this he will postulate that the light from the star is interrupted by another body orbiting it, an eclipsing or occulating variable star.

**26 November 1782** André-Ernest-Modeste Grétry’s (41) comédie lyrique *L’embarras des richesses* to words of Lourdet de Santure after d’Allainval, is performed for the first time, at the Paris Opéra.

**30 November 1782** A preliminary peace agreement is signed in apartment of the British negotiator Richard Oswald in the Grand Hôtel Muscovite, Paris between representatives of Great Britain and the United States. Britain acknowledges the complete independence of the United States. The various diplomats then share a dinner at Franklin’s residence in Passy and in the evening, Franklin goes to Versailles to tell Vergennes that the United States has concluded a separate peace.

**6 December 1782** *Orlando paladino*, a dramma eroicomico by Joseph Haydn (50) to words of Badini and Porta, is performed for the first time, at Esterháza Palace to celebrate the name day of Prince Nicolas Esterházy.

**7 December 1782** Haider Ali of Mysore dies and is succeeded by Tipu Sahib.

**14 December 1782** British forces evacuate Charleston, South Carolina.

Publication of Muzio Clementi’s (30) three keyboard sonatas op.8 is announced in the *Journal de Paris*.

**17 December 1782** Benjamin Franklin writes to the Comte de Vergennes apologizing for concluding a peace with the British without the consultation of France. He argues that there is nothing in the agreement contrary to the interests of France, and that peace between the US and Britain will not be concluded until there is peace between Britain and France. He then asks for another loan.

**19 December 1782** *Il trionfo della costanza*, a dramma giocoso by Pasquale Anfossi (55) to words of Badini, is performed for the first time, in King’s Theatre, London.

**21 December 1782** André-Ernest-Modeste Grétry (41) makes a triumphant return to his birthplace, Liège.

**26 December 1782** Friedrich Wilhelm Baron of Westphalia replaces Wilhelm Anton, Count von der Asseburg as Prince-Bishop of Paderborn.

*La Circe*, a dramma per musica by Domenico Cimarosa (33) to words of Perelli, is performed for the first time, in Teatro alla Scala, Naples.

**31 December 1782** Halil Hamid Pasha replaces Yegen Haci Mehmed Pasha as Grand Vizier of the Ottoman Empire.

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