

Roma, 21st aprilis, 1770.

Your letters² of the 2nd and 6th are, as far as I can surmise, the answer to my two letters³ from *Bologna*. In the meantime, you will already have in your hands one from Florence and my first from Rome;⁴ [5] in the latter I hurriedly described to you the bad weather and laborious journey, but forgot to tell you that we arrived around midday in thunder and lightning, and that, fully an hour outside Rome, the weather received us with crashes and flashes, like great men being received with the firing of heavy artillery, and accompanied us to Rome. [10] Until now, the weather has always been rainy, and today is the first day on which we could be sure about taking a look at one thing or another. We have met an astonishing number of Englishmen here, including *Mister Beckfort*, who knew us from *Lady Effingham's*⁵ in *London*, and with whom we went walking for a few hours this morning, in the company of other Englishmen, in the garden at the *Villa Medici*, [15] which belongs to the Grand Duke⁶ of Florence. We have changed our first accommodation, and Herr *Marcobruni*,⁷ who returns his compliments to you, has put us in the house of *Sgr. Uslenghi*,⁸ the Papal courier, on the *Piazza del Clementino*. Here it is good for us, and his wife and daughter⁹ cannot do enough to serve us. The gentleman is in Portugal, [20] and they regard us as the master of the house. We eat together, have a large room which is very healthy because of the morning sun. If friends come to us, we are masters of all the other rooms and, since the daughter is a beginner on the *clavier*, we are not without a keyboard either. There are already some reports to be read concerning our stay in *Bologna* and Florence etc., [25] but it is tedious for me to send any more things of this kind. Yesterday I received the letter¹⁰ from His Excellency the Royal High Steward.¹¹ It has therefore arrived before the letter which His High Princely Grace¹² has most graciously ordered to be written to me and which I have not yet seen and about which I have enquired in vain at Herr *Crivelli's*,¹³ the agent. You can thank His Excellency, [30] with our most obedient compliments, at the next opportunity. The pleasure of hearing that the eminent Royal Chancellor¹⁴ is better is as great as was my sadness at hearing of his severe and dangerous illness. Please say to the esteemed Court Councillor¹⁵ von M \ddot{o} lk, with my compliments, that I do not doubt that he will have remembered my words¹⁶ a few times under these sad circumstances. [35] I commend myself especially to Herr

¹ BD: Original postscript last seen 1937; NissenB.

² BD: Nos. 0172a, 0174a, both lost.

³ BD: Nos. 0170, 0171.

⁴ BD: Nos. 0173, 0174.

⁵ BD: Beckfort, Effingham: cf. No. 0099/74. William Beckford and his sister, widow of Baron Howard of Effingham.

⁶ "Grossherzog".

⁷ BD: Cf. No. 0170/57, 60. Director of the post office in Rome; he had at one stage studied in Salzburg.

⁸ BD: Stefano Uslenghi († 1777).

⁹ BD: Margherita, cf. No. 0183/17.

¹⁰ BD: Nos. 0176a, lost.

¹¹ "Sr: Ex: Obersthofmeister". BD: Franz Lactantius, Count [Graf] von Firmian (1712-1786), Salzburg Royal High Steward. member of a very extensive and influential Tyrolean family (cf. BD V, p. 8).

¹² "Sr: Hochf: Gden". BD: Siegmund Christoph von Schrattenbach (1698-1771), Prince-Archbishop [Fürsterzbischof] in Salzburg from 1753 following long association with the cathedral; Leopold's employer.

¹³ BD: Giuseppe Dionysio Crivelli, clergyman, Rome agent of the Prince-Archbishop of Salzburg.

¹⁴ "T: H: HofCanzler". BD: Franz Felix Anton von M \ddot{o} lk (1714-1776), Privy Councillor and Court Chancellor [Geheimrat & Hofkanzler] in Salzburg.

¹⁵ "H: Hofrath".

¹⁶ BD: The words are not known.

von Schiedenhofen¹⁷ and I am most grateful to him for making Nannerl practise the *clavier* more frequently. I will certainly write to him personally in the near future. I do not want to write anything to you about our tasks here, for I am tired. The deeper we came into Italy, the more the astonishment grew. Nor is Wolfgang marking time with his skills, [40] but is growing from day to day, so that the greatest experts and masters cannot find enough words to express their amazement and make it public. 2 days ago, we were guests of a Neapolitan *Prince St. Angelo*.¹⁸ Yesterday it was *Principe Ghigi*,¹⁹ where, among others, we met the so-called *Re d'Inghilterra*²⁰, or *Pretendent*,²¹ and the *Secretario di Stato, Cardinal Pallavicini*,²² was present. [45] We will soon be presented to His Holiness.²³

Before closing, I must tell you of a charming little occurrence.

In Florence we found a young Englishman²⁴ who is a pupil of the famous violinist *Nardini*. This boy, who plays beautifully and is of Wolfgang's size and age, came to the house of the learned poetess *Sgra. Corilla*,²⁵ [50] where we had come on the recommendation of Herr *Laugier*.²⁶ These 2 boys performed in alternation during the whole evening, constantly embracing each other. The next day, the little Englishman, a very dear boy, had his violin brought to us and played the whole afternoon; Wolfgang accompanied him on the violin. The day after, we dined with *Msr. Gavard*,²⁷ [55] the Grand Duke's²⁸ financial *administratore*, and these 2 boys played in alternation the whole afternoon, not as boys, but as men! Little Thomas accompanied us home and cried the most bitter tears because we were leaving the next day.

But when he learned that our departure had been fixed for midday, [60] he came at 9 o'clock in the morning and gave Wolfgang, amidst many embraces, the following piece of poetry, which *Sgra. Corilla* had had to write for him just the previous evening, and then accompanied our coach as far as the city gate. I wished that you had seen this scene. I close with this, with compliments to all friends, and am as always your

Mzt

We kiss you both 1000 times.

POSTSCRIPT FROM MOZART TO HIS SISTER:

Cara sorella mia,

¹⁷ BD: Johann Baptist Joseph Joachim Ferdinand von Schiedenhofen made a successful career in the state administration of Salzburg. Married Anna Daubrawa von Daubrawiack in 1778. The Schiedenhofens were in frequent contact with the Mozarts, offering mother and daughter accommodation in Schloss Triebenbach during the travels of Leopold and Wolfgang.

¹⁸ "Prinzen". BD: Not identified.

¹⁹ "Principe" = Prince. BD: Prince Agostino Chigi.

²⁰ = "King of England".

²¹ = "Pretender". BD: Charles Edward Stuart (1720-1788), living in exile in Rome under the name The Count of Albany. His wife Luise cohabited with the poet Vittorio Alfieri (1749-1803).

²² = Secretary of State. BD: Lazaro Opizio Pallavicini (1719-1785), Cardinal/Secretary of State. The Mozarts had been recommended to him by Count Gian Luca Pallavicini, a distant relative.

²³ BD: The audience did not take place until 8th July, 1770.

²⁴ BD: Thomas Linley (1756-1778) studied with his father, with Boyce in London, and then with Nardini. He returned to England at the beginning of the 1770s as a composer and violinist. Cf. No. 1212/251 ff.

²⁵ BD: "Corilla": Maddalena Morelli-Fernandez, known as Corilla Olimpica (1727-1800). Improvisatory poet and court poet, 1765-1775 at the court in Florence.

²⁶ BD: Alexandre-Louis Laugier (1719?-1774), personal physician to Maria Theresia.

²⁷ BD: Cf. No. 0174/10.

²⁸ "Grossherzog:".

*Io mi rallegro vi ha piaciuto quell menuetto che vi mandai da Bologna, che ballo il sig. pick à Milano. Spero che riceviste quella contradanza che vi mandai nella prima lettera di Roma, scrivetelomi poi tutto, come vi piacque...*²⁹ [70]

Please find the Arts of the Art of Arithmetic,³⁰ for you wrote them down yourself, and I have lost them, and therefore know nothing about them anymore. So I ask you to copy them for me, along with other arithmetical examples, and send them to me here.

[75] *Manzuoli*³¹ is under contract to Milan to sing in my *opera*.³² For this reason, he sang four or five *arias* in Florence, including some of mine, which I had to write in Milan, because they had not heard any theatrical pieces by me, so that they could see from that I am capable of writing an *opera*. *Manzuoli* wants 1000 ducats. [80] Nor are they know if *la Gabrielli* is really coming. Some say that *de Amicis*, whom we will see in Naples, will sing it. I would wish that she and *Manzuoli* would sing. With that we would have two good friends that we know well. The libretto is not known yet. I have recommended one by *Metastasio* to *Don Ferdinando* and to Herr von Troyer.³³

[85] At this very moment I am working on the aria “*Se ardire e speranza*”. — — —

DRAUGHT OF THE PRECEDING POSTSCRIPT:

Cara sorella mia,

Io mi rallegro vi ha piaciuto quell menuetto che vi mandai da Bologna, che ballo il sig. pick à Milano. Spero che riceviste quella contradanza che vi mandai nella prima lettera di Roma, scrivetelomi poi tutto, come vi piacque. [90] *Dite al sig. de Schiedenhofen che verro sicuramente di mangiar con lei un weixelcuchen: io vi manderei certo I Minuetti del sig. Heiden, ma non avendo tempo quasi, di scrivervi una lettera, non posso ne scriber un altro mio amico.. ne tradorre I Minuetti per il clavicembalo . . Je say dir veramente nihil mehr di scribere, und dessentwegen Je faisois un piccolo quodlibet...*³⁴

[95] *Manzuoli* is under contract to Milan to sing in my *opera*. For this reason, he sang four or five *arias* in Florence, including some of mine, which I had to write in Milan, because they had not heard any theatrical pieces by me, so that they could see from that I am capable of writing an *opera*. [100] *Manzuoli* wants 1000 ducats.³⁵ Nor are they sure if *la Gabrielli*³⁶ is

²⁹ “My dear sister, I am glad you liked the menuet I sent from Bologna, which was danced by sig. Picq in Milan. I hope that you have received the contredance which I sent you in the first letter from Rome. Then write to me about everything as you like...”

³⁰ BD: “Künste der Rechenkunst”: There is evidence of Mozart's talent and interest in arithmetic from earliest childhood onwards; cf. Nos. 0184/92; 1210/40-42.

³¹ BD: Giovanni Manzuoli (1725?-1780?), soprano castrato from Florence, in London since 1764. He gave Wolfgang singing lessons free of charge, cf. No. 0099/76. He sang the title role in the première of *Ascanio in Alba* KV 111.

³² BD: *Mitridate, Rè di Ponto* KV 87 (74a). In fact, neither *Manzuoli* nor the *Gabrielli* and *de Amicis* mentioned in lines 80/81 sang in the première in Milan on 26th December, 1770.

³³ BD: It is not known which text is meant here. The two gentlemen mentioned were certainly not the best addresses for such suggestions, unless they pass the suggestion on to Count Karl Firmian, the governor.

³⁴ “My dear sister, I am glad you liked the menuet I sent from Bologna, which was danced by sig. Picq in Milan. I hope that you have received the contredance which I sent you in the first letter from Rome. Then write to me about everything as you like...” [Then continuing in a mixture of Italian, French, German and Latin, a “quodlibet”, although one which he did not use in the final form of the letter] “Say to Sig. von Schiedenhofen that I will certainly come to eat a Perfumed Cherry Cake with you. I will certainly send you the minuets by sig. Haydn, but, having almost no time to write you a letter, I can neither write another, my friend .. nor transcribe the menuets for harpsichord .. I really do not know what else I can write and therefore I have written a little medley ...

³⁵ BD: 4,500 florins.

³⁶ BD: *Caterina Gabrielli*; cf. No. 0170/25, 28.

coming. Since she let the *Bolognese* down,³⁷ it is believed that she will also let the Milanese down. Some say that *de Amicis*, whom we will now see in Naples, will sing it. I hope that she and *Manzoli* sing. With that we would have two good friends that we know well. The libretto is not known yet. [105] I have recommended one by *Metastasio* to *Don Ferdinando* and to Herr von Troyer. ... At this very moment I am working on the *aria* “*Se ardire e speranza*”.

³⁷ BD: Cf. No. 0171/40-42.