

Firenze,¹ 3 d'aprile, 1770.

On the evening of the 30th March we arrived safely in Florence.² On the 31st we stayed in bed the whole day, and Wolfgang until the midday meal, [5] because he had developed a little *catarrh* due to the rain and strong wind we encountered in the mountains. I had him take tea and violet juice and let him sweat a little. On the 1st of *April* we drove, at 10 o'clock in the morning, to His Excellency Count von Rosenberg,³ who immediately admitted us into his presence, although over 50 persons were in the *antechamber*, because we had a letter from His Excellency Count *Firmian*,⁴ and because he had already heard about us from Count Joseph von Kaunitz,⁵ [10] who arrived a day before us and is staying with Count Rosenberg, but dined with us at His Excellency *Pallavicini's*.⁶ Count Rosenberg sent us at once to Duke *de Salviati*⁷ at court with the request that he should present us to the Grand Duke.⁸ In the chapel there we heard the sermon and Office, and after the Office we had the audience. [15] The Grand Duke was exceptionally gracious and immediately enquired about Nannerl. He said his wife was very desirous of hearing Wolfgang and spoke with us for fully quarter of an hour. Yesterday evening, on the 2nd, we were taken to the castle outside the town and stayed there until after 10 o'clock. The business went as always and the astonishment was all the greater because His Excellency *Marchese Ligneville*⁹ [20] |: who is the director of music |: is the greatest master of counterpoint in all Italy, and consequently presented Wolfgang with the most difficult *fugues* and confronted him with the most difficult themes, which Wolfgang played and completed at once like eating a piece of bread. *Nardini*,¹⁰ the good *violinist*, accompanied. This afternoon we will call on *Manzoli*,¹¹ [25] with whom we spoke in the street yesterday, and who commends himself to both of you. The *castrato Nicolini*,¹² who was

¹ BD: Florence, at that time capital of the Grand Duchy of Tuscany, involved in a complicated settlement with Poland and Lorraine in the Peace of Vienna, 1735.

² BD: Departure from Bologna on 29th March; distance 107 km.

³ "S^c: Ex: dem Grafen v Rosenberg". BD: Franz Xaver Wolf, Graf (later Prince [Fürst]) Orsini-Rosenberg (1723-1796), administrator in Vienna, later "General Director of Spectacles" in Vienna.

⁴ "S^c: Ex: gr: Firmian". BD: Karl Joseph, Count [Graf] Firmian, studied in Innsbruck, Salzburg and Leyden before becoming a diplomat. Governor general of Lombardy. A reliable supporter of Mozart in Italy; noted for his learning and intellect.

⁵ "Graf Joseph". BD: Joseph Clemens, Count [Graf] Kaunitz (1743-1785), Imperial Chamberlain, Privy Councillor and Court Councillor [kaiserlicher Kämmerer, Geheimer Rat, Hofrat] in Vienna, a son of State Chancellor [Staatskanzler] Wenzel, Prince [Fürst] Kaunitz.

⁶ "S Ex: Pallavicini". BD: Giovanni Luca, Margrave [Markgraf] Pallavicini-Centurioni (1697-1773), from 1731 in the service of Austria, from 1754 Field Marshal. The Mozarts had been recommended to him by Count [Graf] Firmian, governor general of Lombardy. The persons in lines 5-8 are all associated with him.

⁷ "Duca di Salviati". BD: Senior Chamberlain.

⁸ "grossHerzog". BD: Peter Leopold (1747-1792), the third son of Maria Theresia and Francis I. He later succeeded his brother Joseph, in 1790, to become Emperor Leopold II. He had known the Mozarts since 1762.

⁹ "S^c: Ex: der Marchese Ligneville". BD: Eugenio, Marquis of Ligniville, Prince [Fürst] of Conca (1730-1778), from 1758 member of the Accademia Filarmonica in Bologna, in 1761 court valet [hofkammerherr] and post-office director in Florence, later court music director and also composer. Wolfgang copied out 9 of his 30 canons (KV¹: Anh. 238; KV³: Anh. 109 II; KV⁶: Anh. A 17) and took them as the basis of his *Kyrie a 5 con diversi canoni* KV 89 (73k). Cf. No. 1212/237-250.

¹⁰ BD: Pietro Nardini (1722-1793), pupil of Tartini. Toured 1716-1762. Subsequently employed in Stuttgart and then Florence, where he met Leopold and Wolfgang again in 1770 (cf. No. 0174/9).

¹¹ BD: Giovanni Manzuoli (1725?-1780?), soprano castrato from Florence, in London since 1764, met the Mozarts there. 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.

¹² BD: Carlo Niccolini, castrato, met the Mozarts in Vienna in 1762.

in Vienna with *Guadagni*,¹³ is also here. I am very saddened that we already have to leave here on the coming Friday in order to reach Rome. I would wish for you to see Florence yourself and the whole region and situation of this town. You would say that one should live and die here. [30] In these few days I will see everything that can be seen. We commend ourselves especially to *Madame Rosa*¹⁴ and would let her know that I have often heard that there are people who have no father; at least, they do not know him, but I have never heard of anyone not having a mother. And I must very much regret that *Madame Rosa* has no mother. [35] I wanted to pay her my respects, but she sent me a message that she knew nothing about any daughter in Salzburg, yes, that she had never had any children. And if I had not been told by everyone that she was the very person who had accompanied her daughter to Salzburg herself, and if I had never seen her portrait, I would have believed that she really was not her mother, so fiercely did she deny her person. [40] Why? That I cannot guess.¹⁵ It vexed us somewhat, because we could not imagine that anything of this kind would ever happen. I must close, the post is just leaving. Wolfgang and I commend ourselves everywhere, we kiss you 1000 times and I am as always your
Mozart

For my grey woollen suit from Holland with the gold braid you will find there are 2 *camisole* sleeves. [45] If you could give them, with my most obedient compliments, to *Mademoiselle Troger*¹⁶ so that she could bring them with her to Milan, it would be doing me a great favour, for my trousers are beginning to tear, such things are necessary for me to make repairs.

¹³ BD: Gaetano Guadagni (c. 1725-1792), male contralto, sang *Orfeo* in the Vienna première of Gluck's opera in 1762 and was later a court singer in Munich.

¹⁴ BD: The Italian portrait painter Maria Rosa Barducci married court sculptor Johann Baptist Hagenauer in Salzburg Cathedral in November 1764.

¹⁵ See note on No. 0194/50. BD: Leopold obviously discovered the reason before writing No. 0182/19-20.

¹⁶ BD: Cf. No. 0160/55. Sister of Leopold Troger, Secretary to Count Karl Firmian, governor general of Lombardy. In 1771 he visited her in Salzburg, where she had married Michael Gruber in 1749.