

0237. JOHANNES WIDER¹ TO MARIA ANNA MOZART, SALZBURG

Madame

[Venice, 15th March, 1771]

As I have had the honour, for a month now, of placing my inadequacy at the service of your esteemed dear husband and your dearest esteemed son, I can take no other course than to allow myself the liberty of informing you [5] that I have also had the pleasure, along with a large part of my family, of accompanying both of these persons, my dear acquaintances and good friends, as far as *Padua*,² where we had to take leave of each other yesterday morning – with everyone well and healthy, praise God. Tomorrow evening they should arrive in *Verona*, where they will not stay long, but continue the journey towards our dear native land. [10] May our loving God then be their escort everywhere and bring these good and dear friends home happily and safely, the report of which event I anticipate, in due time, with exceptionally great longing. For the present I beg you to excuse graciously the liberty I have taken in permitting such a poorly conceived communication to be conveyed to your person. [15] On the other hand, I propose to ask yet more of your kindness, namely that I may most emphatically offer you my feeble services in all circumstances in the confidence that you may indeed recognise how, with the most obedient respect, I, together with my dearest spouse, remain, with all devotion, [20] also towards your most treasured *Mademoiselle* daughter etc.,

Madame,

Your most devoted, true servant,

Johannes Wider

*V.S.V.P.*³

[25] Venice, 15th March,
1771

P.S. At this very moment I have received via Herr Hagenauer,⁴ to whom I ask that my compliments be given at your convenience, a communication⁵ for your dearest, most esteemed husband, which I will forward to them⁶ in *Verona* tomorrow evening.

¹ BD: Giovanni Wider (Wieder) (1707-1797), merchant, previously in Salzburg, now in Venice. Host to the Mozart in Venice. The Mozarts certainly had a letter of recommendation from Johann Lorenz Hagenauer, who did business with him.

² BD: By boat on the river, cf. No. 0236/8-10, 14.

³ = “Vale salve vestra persona” (?) = “farewell, health to your person”.

⁴ BD VII: Ignaz Joachim Hagenauer (1749-1824), fifth son of the Salzburg merchant Johann Lorenz Hagenauer, in charge of the Trieste branch of the business.

⁵ BD: No. 0236a, lost.

⁶ BD V, p. 301 corrects from “him” to “them”.