

*À Madame / Madame Marie Anne / Mozart / à / Salzbourg*<sup>1</sup>

*Verona, 18<sup>th</sup> August, 1771*

My short letter<sup>2</sup> from Botzen<sup>3</sup> will have reached you safely. Now I want to write to you in more detail. The first day of our departure was a perfect jumble. [5] In Kalterl<sup>4</sup> we ate, in standing, a couple of pieces of boiled beef while the *postillion* was giving the horses a little hay, and accompanied it with a draught of truly good March beer.<sup>5</sup> In Waidring<sup>6</sup> we took a soup and accompanied it with a St. Johannis beer which was really not bad at all. In the evening we ate in St. Johannis<sup>7</sup> and dined on the 14<sup>th</sup> at the post in Kundl<sup>8</sup> and in Innsprugg<sup>9</sup> in the evening, [10] on the 15<sup>th</sup> in Steinach at midday and in Brixen in the evening, on the 16<sup>th</sup> in Bozen at midday, in Trent in the evening. At 9 in the morning of the 17<sup>th</sup> we reached Roveredo,<sup>10</sup> thinking we would be in *Verona* in the evening, taking the two Herr *Piccini*<sup>11</sup> by surprise in *Alla*<sup>12</sup> in the afternoon. We would indeed have reached there as planned around noon, but that, first of all, we spent too long at *Baron Pizzini's*<sup>13</sup> in *Rovereto* [15] and did not leave until half past 10 |: since *Dr. Bridi*<sup>14</sup> also joined us at once :, and then we had so many hindrances on the way, since Herr *Lolli*,<sup>15</sup> the famous *violinist*, came in the other direction, and the *postillions* therefore exchanged the horses and, furthermore, the peasants' wagons created hindrances for us on the narrow roads. [20] Accordingly, we did not reach the 2 Herr *Piccini* in *Alla* until 1 o'clock in the afternoon, and I decided, before reaching them, to stay there, because I did not want to risk going to *Verona*, since they close the gates there at *Ave Maria*. In addition, the heat was very severe, and we could go to church in our travelling clothes more comfortably in *Alla* than in *Verona*. [25] In *Alla* we entertained ourselves with music, or, rather, we entertained them, and did not leave until today, at 7 o'clock, for *Verona*, where we alighted at *Sgr. Lugiatl's*<sup>16</sup> house at half past 12 and went to eat at midday at 1 o'clock. Now, after the meal, everyone is having a sleep and I am making use of the time, with a miserable pen and in not inconsiderable heat, to scrawl this letter. [30] With great difficulty, I persuaded Wolfgang to have a sleep too, but his sleep lasted only half an hour. Now I have to tell you that, in my haste, I forgot to take with me some *clavier sonatas* and *trios* for a good friend in Milan, one who has rendered us many services.<sup>17</sup> When Herr

<sup>1</sup> BD: Note (by Frau Mozart? Nannerl?) beside the address: "N: 2 from Verona".

<sup>2</sup> BD: No. 0240.

<sup>3</sup> BD: Bozen/Bolzano, today in Italy.

<sup>4</sup> BD: Kaitl, small place with an inn on the road between Reichenhall and Schneizlreuth.

<sup>5</sup> BD: Beer brewed in the month of March to supply the whole summer; usually stronger in order to keep better.

<sup>6</sup> BD: 10 km west of Lofer.

<sup>7</sup> BD: St. Johann in Tyrol. 25 km from Lofer.

<sup>8</sup> BD: 6 km west of Wörgl.

<sup>9</sup> Innsbruck, 190 km from Salzburg.

<sup>10</sup> Innsbruck – Steinach – Brixen/Bressanone – Bozen/Bolzano – Trient – Rovereto : 23 – 40 – 42 – 60 – 23 km.

<sup>11</sup> BD VII: Pizzini. Two cultured, hospitable brothers in Ala. Also mentioned in Nos. 0259/2-3 and 0265/31: Giovanni Battista (1731-1801) and Pietro (1745-1828).

<sup>12</sup> DB: Ala.

<sup>13</sup> DB: Gian Giulio Pizzini (1719-1779), "barone" from 1754. Presumably related to the first two gentlemen.

<sup>14</sup> BD: Probably Antonio Giacomo Bridi (1721-1799), uncle of the Giuseppe Antonio Bridi who sang in a private performance of *Idomeneo* in Vienna in 1786 and himself a "good clavier player". Giuseppe represented the firm Bridi, Parisi & Co. in Vienna.

<sup>15</sup> BD: Antonio Lolli (c. 1730-1802); Mozart's met him in August, 1771, cf. No. 0241/17. Possibly the same violinist as played in Salzburg in 1775, cf. No. 0319/17-18.

<sup>16</sup> BD: Pietro Lugiatl (1724-1788), provincial tax official, but not for Venice. Helped greatly during the first Italian journey. Cf. No. 0152/65, 68 etc.

<sup>17</sup> BD: Possibly for Fer(di)nando Germani, house steward to the governor in Milan.

Troger<sup>18</sup> comes to Salzburg, then, please ask him to take these with him, [35] and in the meantime get these ready suitably. Nannerl, therefore, should look out the 2 *trios*, one by *Joseph Haydn ex F* with one *violin* and *violoncello*,<sup>19</sup> and one *ex C*, with the name *Wagenseil*<sup>20</sup> on it, *N.B.* with *variations*, and the one by *Adlgasser ex G*,<sup>21</sup> the little *cassation* by Wolfgang *ex C*,<sup>22</sup> and diverse good *sonatas* by *Rutini*,<sup>23</sup> for example in *E<sup>b</sup>*, in *D*, etc. Nannerl does have these, [40] if she wants to play them herself, for they are in the engraved *Rutini sonatas* from Nuremberg. Commend us to Herr *Troger* and ask him to present you both to His Excellency Count *Firmian*<sup>24</sup> so that you can pay him your *compliments*. We are very obliged to him, and do not neglect to do this. As soon as possible, I will write from Milan. Keep well. We kiss you both 100000 times and I am as always your [45]

Nicely written!

Mzt.

My compliments to all friends, both gentlemen and ladies!

MOZART'S POSTSCRIPT TO HIS SISTER:

My dearest sister,

I did not sleep for more than half an hour, for I do not enjoy sleeping after a meal. [50] You can hope, believe, think, be of the opinion, be steadfast in the hope, find it good, picture to yourself, imagine, live in confidence that we are well,<sup>25</sup> but I can definitely inform you of it. I must hurry. *Addio*. My *compliments* to all good friends, both gentlemen and ladies. Wish Herr von Hefner<sup>26</sup> good fortune on his journey on my behalf; [55] ask him if he might perhaps have seen little Annemie?<sup>27</sup>

*Addio*, keep well. My handkiss to Mama.

Nice handwriting!

Wolfgang.

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<sup>18</sup> BD: Leopold Troger, secretary to Karl Joseph, Count [Graf] Firmian, governor general of Lombardy. Troger's sister lived in Salzburg, where he visited her in 1771.

<sup>19</sup> BD: Op. IV, no. 1?

<sup>20</sup> BD: Georg Christoph Wagenseil (1715-1775), music teacher to the Empress Maria Theresia and her children. His compositions for keyboard were familiar to Mozart from the notebook Leopold compiled for Nannerl; he learned to play two scherzos by Wagenseil in a short time on 24<sup>th</sup> January and on 6<sup>th</sup> February, 1761.

<sup>21</sup> BD: Anton Cajetan Adlgasser (1729-1777), pupil of Eberlin. Salzburg court organist and composer. He married three times; Leopold was a witness at two of the weddings. The work mentioned is not known.

<sup>22</sup> BD: Lost.

<sup>23</sup> BD: Giovanni Maria/Marco/Placio Rutini (1723-1797), pupil of Padre Martini, member of the Accademia Filarmonica of Bologna, one of the most important composers of the day for keyboard. The works mentioned could be from *Sei Sonate per Cembalo*, op. VI, published in Nuremberg by Haffner (cf. No. 0056/62).

<sup>24</sup> "Sr: Exc: H: graf v 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. He had travelled to Vienna in connection with the impending marriage which Mozart was to write *Ascanio in Alba* KV 111 and visited his relations in Salzburg on the way.

<sup>25</sup> BD: This accumulation of synonyms recurs in the "Bäsele" letters, cf. No. 0364/13 ff.

<sup>26</sup> BD: Heinrich Wilhelm von Hef(f)ner († 1774), son of Franz Friedrich von Hef(f)ner († 1769), the city legal adviser in Salzburg. At school and university he had acquitted himself well onstage.

<sup>27</sup> BD: Anna Maria, a so far unidentified (but perhaps admired) girl in Salzburg.