

Milan, 24th August, 1771

On the evening of Wednesday the 21st inst., after 7 o'clock, we arrived here safe and sound. We stayed at *Sgr. Lugiati's*¹ in *Verona* the whole of Monday,² from where I wrote to you, [5] and you will doubtless have received my letter.³ On Tuesday we went to *Brescia*, where, after arriving at 3 o'clock in the afternoon, we had to spend the whole evening at the insistence of good friends⁴ of the *Lugiati* family |: and to whom I brought some hundreds of gulden⁵ from *Lugiato* :|, not leaving for Milan until Wednesday morning, [10] visiting a transport agent of our acquaintance at *Canonico*,⁶ and dining there at midday. I have to tell you that the poetry⁷ has not yet arrived from Vienna. It is awaited with unbearable longing, as otherwise they cannot make clothes and finery for the children and scenery for the *theatre* etc. On the 15th *octobris*, the Archduke⁸ will arrive in Milan, [15] alight at the cathedral and thus at once go in and be wedded, then give the handkiss; afterwards is the grand *supper*, and then goodnight!

The following day the festivities begin, of which I will write in due time. In the meantime, I have seen 20 000 pounds of wax candles which have been laid out ready to illuminate the cathedral, [20] the court etc. and other things on the 15th *Oct*.

Yesterday we dined at the home of *Sgr. Germani*⁹ in the company of the Imperial Quartermaster, Herr *Zinner*,¹⁰ who will return to Vienna in a week and will return here with the Archduke. When you write, you can address the letter simply to me, I will definitely collect it at the post-office, until Herr *Troger*¹¹ comes, [25] at which point you can write: *Al ill.^{mo} Sgr. Pad.^e Colend.^{mo}, Sgr. D. Leopoldo Troger, Secretario Reggio del Governo dello Lombardia à Milano.*¹²

Royal Steward *Ferdinando Germani*¹³ is the personal attendant to the royal couple and will take up this position immediately on the arrival of the entourage. [30] He and his wife commend themselves, as do Herr von *Aste* and *Madame*.¹⁴ Keep well, both of you. We kiss you both many 100 000 000 times and I am, with our compliments to all friends, both gentlemen and ladies, as always

your

Mozart

MOZART'S POSTSCRIPT TO HIS SISTER:

¹ BD: Pietro Lugiati (= Lugiato l. 8) (1724-1788), provincial tax official, of great help to the Mozarts in Italy.

² BD: 19th August, 1771.

³ BD: No. 0234.

⁴ BD: Not identified.

⁵ BD: Of equivalent value to florins.

⁶ BD: Canonica.

⁷ BD: The text for Mozart's commission, *Ascanio in Alba*, had been sent to Vienna for approval.

⁸ BD: Archduke [Erzherzog] Ferdinand, son of Maria Theresa; it was his wedding to Princess Maria Beatrice that was to be celebrated.

⁹ "H: Haushofmeister". BD: Don Fernando (Ferdinandi) Germani, steward/house administrator [Haushofmeister] to Count [Graf] Firmian in Milan.

¹⁰ "Kays: Cammerfurier". BD: Georg Johann Zinner.

¹¹ BD: Leopold Troger, court official to the Governor General [Generalgouverneur] in Milan. Father of Marianne d'Asti von Asteburg, cf. No. 0224/8-9. His sister lived in Salzburg (cf. No. 0160/55), he visited her in 1771.

¹² To the most illustrious, beneficent and honorable Sgr. D. Leopoldo Troger, Royal Secretary to the Government of Lombardy in Milan.

¹³ "H: Haushofmeister". BD: Don Fernando (Ferdinandi) Germani, cf. line 21. Good friends of the Mozarts from the first Italian journey.

¹⁴ BD: d'Asti von Asteburg and his wife Marianne, daughter of Leopold Troger.

[35] My dearest sister!

On the journey, we have borne much heat, and the dust has troubled us constantly and impertinently, so that we would certainly have choked and wilted away if we had been less sensible. Here it has not rained |: say the Milanese :| for a month. Today it began to drizzle a little, [40] but now the sun is shining again, and it is very warm again. Your promise to me |: you know what I mean¹⁵ ... oh, you dear thing! :| – be sure to keep it, I beg you, I will certainly be very grateful to you. Recently, the Princess¹⁶ was very busy with the runs¹⁷ or an increment of ex– –; otherwise nothing new occurs to me. Now you should be the one to write something new. My *compliments* to all good friends, both gentlemen and ladies, [45] and my handkiss to Mama. At this very moment I am panting because of the heat! Now I am tearing my waistcoat open. *Addio*, keep well.

Wolfgang.

Above us there is a *violinist*, below is another one, next door there is a singing teacher who is giving a lesson, in the last room across from us there is an *oboist*.¹⁸ [50] This is fun while *composing*! Gives one plenty of ideas!

¹⁵ BD: A hint of a love-message to be passed on? Cf. No. 0243/60-61.

¹⁶ “Prinzessin”. BD: Maria Beatrice Ricciardi, the bride in the upcoming marriage. Cf. No. 0157/96.

¹⁷ “The running Catharine”. BD: Cf. No. 1017/3.

¹⁸ BD: It seems that all the musicians were staying in the same house, but the address is not known.