

*À Madame / Madame Marie Anne / Mozart / à / Salzbourg. / par
Mantua / Insprugg.*¹

Milan, 28th November,
1772

[5] Today I received your letter² of the 20th safely. You want me to write a lot. But what am I to write? – that we are both well, praise God, is the most essential thing, and the best. There is nothing new here, and many of the people, yes, most of them, are still in the country, and they only come back to town towards Christmas when everything starts with the opening of the theatre. [10] Even the Archduke³ is out of town.⁴ As far as my headache is concerned, it only happens to me occasionally, and I sometimes notice the dizziness for some moments when I turn over in the night or raise myself up.

Otherwise I have a good *appetite*, and if I eat I am the healthiest of men. But we only eat once a day, which is at 2 o'clock in the afternoon. [15] At night we have an apple, a piece of bread and little glass of wine.⁵

I am writing from *Madame d'Asti's*,⁶ who commends herself. *Msr. d'Asti* asks me to tell you that he is consternated that you do not send him a compliment as well, for I opened your previous letter there as well and read it out loud. Count *Sauerau's*⁷ becoming *Cathedral Dean* brought infinite joy to all of us. [20] We did not expect it, of course, because we did not think he would accept it. To music director *Lolli*⁸ I send, with my compliments, my thanks for the *Cecilia* money.⁹ I had not expected it. It would have been enough for all of us that a poor soul from the monastery has been delivered. Things of this kind will now happen increasingly.¹⁰ As far as the pieces of music are concerned, you acted correctly. [25] Our esteemed music director¹¹ will certainly compose *symphonies*. I send thanks to all good friends, both gentlemen and ladies, for the kind good wishes¹² and commend myself most obediently.

As far as the itinerant hunting horn player¹³ is concerned, I have already written to

¹ BD: Innsbruck. Note (by Frau Mozart? Nanner!?) beside the address: "N:° 5 from Milan".

² BD: No. 0266b, lost.

³ "Erzherzog". BD: Ferdinand; Wolfgang wrote *Ascanio in Alba* KV 111 for his wedding celebrations in 1771.

⁴ BD: In the d'Este palace in Varese, cf. No. 0256/5.

⁵ BD: Cf. No. 0267/25.

⁶ BD: Marianne d'Asti von Asteburg, daughter of Leopold Troger, cf. No. 0224/8-9. Leopold Troger was a court official to the Governor General [Generalgouverneur] in Milan. His sister lived in Salzburg (cf. No. 0160/55), he visited her in 1771.

⁷ "S^r: E: graf Sauerau". BD: Cf. Nos. 0128/46, 0248/10 f. Joseph Gottfried, Imperial Count [Reichsgraf] von Saurau (1720-1775). Cathedral canon, cathedral dean, privy councillor in Vienna.

⁸ Cf. note on No. 0036/60-61. Giuseppe Francesco Lolli (1701-1778), from Bologna, initially employed as a tenor, mentioned as such in the *Salzburger Hofkalender* of 1741. 1752-1763 deputy music director in Salzburg; from 1763 music director. Composed some oratorios, masses and vesper psalms as well as music for a stage play.

⁹ BD: Saint Cecilia's Day was 21st November. Presumably this was a special gift to members of the court music.

¹⁰ Leopold frequently complains about the state of the church and its selection processes, e.g. No. 0108/84 ff.

¹¹ "H: Capellmeister". BD: Surely Wolfgang is meant.

¹² BD: Leopold's birthday and then name-day were on 14th and 15th November.

¹³ "waldhornist". BD: Joseph (incorrectly Ignaz) Leutgeb (Leitgeb) (1732-1811), horn player, one of the few people mentioned throughout the almost 30 years of correspondence (1763-1791). The large number of works written for him by Mozart (KV 371, KV 412 + 514 (386b), 407 (386c), 417, 447, 495) speak for his musical abilities. Mozart made contact with him in 1781, shortly after arriving in Vienna. Leutgeb lived in a large house outside town; Mozart stayed there occasionally when his wife was taking spa treatment in Baden in 1791. In

him, a few days ago; our *compliments* to him. It is not cheap here. One must simply live accordingly. [30] We have to pay 36 kreuzers of our good money per head at midday, and thus 1 florin 12 current for two persons. On the other hand, we only eat once a day, but well. Today, *de Amicis*¹⁴ will set off from Venice and therefore be here in couple of days. Then work will really start properly; so far not much has happened. Wolfgang has written no more than the first *aria*¹⁵ for the *primo uomo*,¹⁶ [35] but it is incomparable and he sings it like an angel. *Addio*, keep well. We kiss both of you many 100 000 times and I am as always your
Mzt mp¹⁷

MOZART'S POSTSCRIPT TO HIS SISTER:

Both of us send congratulations to Herr von *Amann*,¹⁸ and I wish to let him know that I am vexed that he has always made a big secret out of it whenever I have said anything to him about his esteemed bride.¹⁹ I thought he was more forthright. [40] I have to pass on compliments from Herr and Frau von *Germani*,²⁰ they are also sorry that they cannot be with you. One more thing: I would say to Herr von *Amann* that if he intends to have a proper wedding, then he should be kind enough to wait until we come back, so that what he promised me can come true, namely that I should dance at his wedding. [45] Keep well, my handkiss to Mama. To all good friends, both gentlemen and ladies, my compliments. ²¹<Say to Herr Leutgeb he should boldly come to Milan, for he would certainly do honour for his name, but soon>.²² Tell him this, I beg you, for it is important to me.

1773 his wife borrowed a sum from Leopold Mozart (cf. No. 0293/31-32; No. 0297/30); this was still outstanding in 1782 (cf. No. 0673/56 ff.).

¹⁴ BD: Anna Lucia de Amicis, met the Mozarts in Mainz and Naples, cf. Nos. 0060/29-31; 0188/54; 0269/19.

¹⁵ BD: Presumably No. 2 in *Lucio Silla*, "Il tenero momento".

¹⁶ BD: Venanzio Rauzzini (1746-1810), soprano castrato, in Vienna since 1766. Cf. No. 0117/10. In 1772 he sang in the première of *Lucio Silla* KV 135 (cf. No. 0266/23-24). Mozart wrote KV 165 (158a) for him (cf. No. 0279/36-37).

¹⁷ mp = manu propria = in his own hand.

¹⁸ BD: Optatus Basil von Amann (1747-1785), Court Chamber Councillor [Hofkammerrath], member of an influential Salzburg family. No. 0162/27 hints at mental instability. He and his wife bought the estate Aigen near Salzburg and furnished it luxuriously. He went mad in 1783. Later (No. 0838/4 ff.) he took money from the Royal Brewery in Kaltenhausen; the missing amount was taken from his father's estate.

¹⁹ BD: Maria Franziska Polis, daughter of Lorenz Joseph Polis von Moulin (c. 1720-1794), merchant, later agent for the Archbishop of Salzburg. They married on 26th November, 1772. Cf. note on No. 0041/50.

²⁰ BD: Don Fernando (Ferdinandi) Germani, steward/house administrator [Haushofmeister] to the Governor general, and his wife Therese. They were often hosts to Leopold and Wolfgang in Milan. Cf. No. 0158/59.

²¹ Family code.

²² BD VII: Lines 47 to 49 are in Leopold's hand, not Wolfgang's.