

Verona, 7<sup>th</sup> January, 1770

I am very sorry that I have not received your first letter.<sup>1</sup> It will probably be lying in the post office in Botzen.<sup>2</sup> I will find out, for it will have gone there from Insprugg.<sup>3</sup> We are well, praise God! – [5] to be sure of telling you right at the beginning. You would have done well if you had written telling me how many letters you have received from me, for I wrote one to you from Wirgel,<sup>4</sup> one via the hired coachman, then one from Insprugg by post, and one from Botzen. Now I have to tell you first of all that you should inform Herr Ranftl,<sup>5</sup> with my compliments, that we were given the greatest honours at Herr Stockhammer's<sup>6</sup> and were entertained very lavishly; [10] there I also met my old acquaintance Herr Stickler<sup>7</sup> again. To Herr Kerschbaumer,<sup>8</sup> with my compliments, say that Herr Semelrock<sup>9</sup> received us with all courtesy and, furthermore, gave us a letter of recommendation for *Bologna*. We were in Botzen for only one and a half days. [15] We had hardly reached *Roveredo*<sup>10</sup> when a certain *Cristani*,<sup>11</sup> who had played the woman in the comedy |: Cato's Child :| in the *Collegio Rupertino*, at once came to us and presented, in the name of his brother, an invitation to eat at midday the next day. And who was this brother? – – the same *Nicolaus Cristani* who was in Salzburg at *Consistorial* Counsellor *Cristani's*,<sup>12</sup> the supervisor of the Edlknaben,<sup>13</sup> [20] and was my pupil on the *violin*. He is the principal person in *Roveredo* and the whole area, namely the District Governor,<sup>14</sup> present here in the name of Her Majesty the Empress.<sup>15</sup> You will surely still remember him, he stayed with the Edlknaben. As soon as we reached his home, he said that Wolfgang looked like you, he could remember your appearance perfectly. And whom did we find there? – – [25] *Sgr. Count Septimo Lodron*,<sup>16</sup> *Consistorial* Counsellor *Cristani*, a certain *Pilati, Vesti*,<sup>17</sup> etc. The first 2 came from *Villa*,<sup>18</sup> an estate belonging to Count *Lodron*, for news reached *Roveredo* in advance from Insprugg that we would be arriving there. You can easily imagine how happy we were to be together, seeing each other for the first time for 19, 20 and more years, [30] and that this was a merry midday feast. During the meal, Herr von *Cosmi's*<sup>19</sup> valet arrived and invited us to dine the following day. That was another joyful dinner table! All the more so because Herr von *Cosmi*, as a widower, was in the last days of his engagement to a very presentable bride and got married a few days after our departure. [35] There I met his esteemed aged mother and 3 sisters. If we had stayed in *Roveredo* longer, we would have had to stay with him. If we come that way again, we must

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<sup>1</sup> BD: No. 0153c (lost). Leopold later found this letter, as he anticipated, in Bolzano.

<sup>2</sup> Bozen, Bolzano.

<sup>3</sup> Innsbruck.

<sup>4</sup> Wörgl.

<sup>5</sup> BD: Matthias Ranftl, established merchant in Salzburg. His sons were Franz Ranf[f]tl, merchant, and Rupert Ranf[f]tl, Benedictine priest.

<sup>6</sup> BD: Stockhammer: a well-based family in Bolzano.

<sup>7</sup> BD: Cf. No. 0151/20.

<sup>8</sup> BD: Kerschbaumer, a merchant family in Salzburg.

<sup>9</sup> BD: Cf. No. 0151/21.

<sup>10</sup> BD: Rovereto.

<sup>11</sup> BD: Carlo Andrea Cristani.

<sup>12</sup> "H: Consistorial Cristani". BD: Johann Andreas Cristani von Rall, in charge of the "Edelknaben".

<sup>13</sup> BD: A special archdiocesan school for the training of pages.

<sup>14</sup> "CreisHauptmann".

<sup>15</sup> "Seiner Mayst: der Kayserin". BD: Maria Theresia.

<sup>16</sup> BD: Max Septimus, Graf Lodron (1727-1796), cathedral canon, dean of Villa Lagarina.

<sup>17</sup> BD: Pilati, Festi, cf. No. 0151/39, 37.

<sup>18</sup> BD VII: Villa Lagarina, north-west of Rovereto.

<sup>19</sup> BD: Giovanni Battista de Cosmi. Cf. No. 0152/33-34.

break our journey there. *Baron Pizzini*<sup>20</sup> and the eminent Count *Lodron*, to whom we had been recommended by His Excellency the Chief Royal Marshal,<sup>21</sup> honoured us with all imaginable courtesies. [40] The nobility held a *concert* in the house of *Baron Todeschi*.<sup>22</sup> And who was this *Baron Todeschi*? That gentleman whom Herr *Giovanni*<sup>23</sup> once brought to us in Vienna to hear Wolfgang play. Perhaps you can still remember him. It is superfluous to write about how much honour Wolfgang won for his name. The next day, we went to the *organ* of the main church<sup>24</sup> in the afternoon and, [45] although only 6 or 8 principal persons knew that we would be there, we found indeed that the whole of *Roveredo* had gathered in the church, and our own strong fellows had to go ahead of us to make a way through to the choir, where we then had our hands full for three quarters of an hour getting to the *organ* because everyone wanted to be next to it. We were in *Roveredo* for 4 days. [50] This place is not large, and was once a very basic settlement, but, by the diligence of the inhabitants, has been thriving more and more, as long as anyone can remember, since most of them live from vine cultivation and the silk trade. At the moment, there are many prosperous houses there, and they are very courteous towards strangers.

In *Verona*,<sup>25</sup> it was only after we had been there for 7 days that the nobility arranged a *concert*, or *public recital*,<sup>26</sup> [55] to which we were invited, for there is *opera*<sup>27</sup> daily. The gentlemen to whom we were first recommended<sup>28</sup> are *il Marchese Carlotti*, *il Conte Carlo Emilei*,<sup>29</sup> *il Marchese Spolverini*, *il Marchese Dionisi dei SS. Fermo*, *il Sgr. Conte Justi del Giardino*, *il Sgr. Conte Allegri*. We were given an open invitation by *Marchese Carlotti* as well as by Herr *Locatelli*.<sup>30</sup> We dined twice with *Marchese Carlotti*, [60] then with *Comte Carlo Emilii*, twice with *Comte Justi*, who has a beautiful garden and *arcade*. You will perhaps find things of this kind in Kaysler's<sup>31</sup> travel accounts. Then we dined yesterday with Herr *Locatelli*, and today there was utter confusion which I have to relate in more detail. For today we were invited to the house of a certain honest man, Herr *Ragazzoni*.<sup>32</sup> [65] The General Master of Revenues for Venice, *Sgr. Luggiatti*,<sup>33</sup> had asked the noble gentlemen to request me to allow Wolfgang's portrait to be painted.<sup>34</sup> This happened yesterday morning, and he was to sit for a second time today, after church, and we were also to eat there. *Sgr. Luggiatti* went to Herr *Ragazzoni* personally and asked him to let us go with him. [70] The latter was obliged to let this happen, although most reluctantly, because *Luggiatti* has great influence in Venice. We were accordingly to come to Herr *Luggiatti* this morning after church in order to sit for the painter once more before the meal. But again a stronger, or greater, person came, the Bishop of *Verona*, of the house of *Giustiniani*, who wanted, via Herr *Locatelli*, [75] not only to have us with him, but also to have us dine. But when he learned that we were just on the point of having Wolfgang's portrait done and that we wanted to set off, although he did permit us to go ahead and dine with Herr *Luggiatti*, he held us back at his

<sup>20</sup> BD: Gian Giulio Pizzini (1719-1779), "barone" from 1754.

<sup>21</sup> "Obersthofmarschall". BD: Nikolaus Sebastian, Graf Lodron.

<sup>22</sup> BD: Giovanni Battista Todeschi (1730-1799), "barone", mayor of Rovereto.

<sup>23</sup> BD: Possibly Johannes, son of the Salzburg merchant Hagenauer.

<sup>24</sup> BD: San Marco.

<sup>25</sup> BD: Rovereto to Verona = 69 km.

<sup>26</sup> "Academie" – a term used interchangeably with "Konzert". BD: Programme included a "sinfonia" by Mozart, a harpsichord concerto by an unknown composer played at sight, Mozart's latest sonatas and also a trio by Boccherini.

<sup>27</sup> BD: Probably *Il Ruggiero*, by Pietro Guglielmi (1728-1804).

<sup>28</sup> BD: Most of the persons named were members of the Accademia Filarmonica.

<sup>29</sup> BD: Conte Giovanni Carlo Emilei (1705-after 1772).

<sup>30</sup> BD: Michelangelo Locatelli, merchant, (\* 1715), cf. No. 0154/9.

<sup>31</sup> BD: Johann Georg Keyssler, *Neueste Reisen durch Deutschland*, ..., Hannover, 1751 and 1752.

<sup>32</sup> BD: Francesco Maria Regazzoni (c. 1713-1779), a rich merchant, cf. No. 0154/12.

<sup>33</sup> BD: Pietro Lugiati (1724-1788), provincial tax official, but not for Venice.

<sup>34</sup> BD: Deutsch Bild No. 8.

home until after 1 o'clock in the afternoon. Then the filling out of Wolfgang's portrait was continued, and we did not go to eat until after 3 o'clock. [80] After the meal, we drove to the church of *St. Tommaso* in order to play on the 2 organs in this church and, although this decision was only made during the meal and was communicated to *Marchese Carlotti* and *Comte Pedemonte* by means of a couple of notes, such a crowd of people had however gathered before our arrival at the said church [85] that we hardly had room to alight from the coach. The press was so great that we were forced to go through the monastery, to which so many people ran in an instant that we would not have found room there if the *reverend fathers*, who were waiting for us at the monastery door, had not taken us into their midst. When it was over, [90] the uproar was even greater, for everyone wanted to see the little *organist*. As soon as we were in the coach, I had us driven home, locked the door to the room and started to write this letter. I had to sever myself from everyone by force, otherwise they would not have left us in peace long enough to write a letter. Tomorrow, with Herr *Locatelli*, we drive to the *amphitheatre*<sup>35</sup> and to other curiosities of the town, [95] then we dine with him. Afterwards, we will drive to make our farewell visits, pack on the following day and, on Wednesday evening, with God's help, travel to *Mantua*,<sup>36</sup> which, although it is near, is a little winter day's journey away because of the muddy roads. Have no letters come from Herr Lotter<sup>37</sup> saying whether he has received the money safely? – – [100] Has Herr Breitkopf<sup>38</sup> in Leipzig not written to say whether he has received the 100 books safely? – – Have the books been sent to Vienna, and has Herr Gräffer<sup>39</sup> reported receiving them? You need only report such things to me in a few words. Was the weather fine during the days of Christmas in Salzburg, too, and not cold? – – But now we have had fierce cold for almost a week. [105] And, just imagine, wherever we eat, there is neither a fireplace nor a heating oven in the dining room. One's hands become atrociously black-blue-red. I would rather eat in a cellar. More details about this, which is the greatest cross we bear, another time. You could briefly write saying how the hand poultice is made; perhaps we will need it. In the meantime, [110] put 12 copies of the *violin school*<sup>40</sup> together and send them to *Joseph Wolff's*<sup>41</sup> bookshop in Insprugg. The person who looks after this shop in Insprugg spells his name, if I remember correctly, *Felicius* or *Felicianus* Fischer. You can find out at Mayr's<sup>42</sup> the book printer. You should simply enclose a short letter, roughly as follows: You receive herewith 12 copies of the violin school for which my husband, writing from Verona, has instructed me to send to you. [115] Please keep them on commission, as agreed, and sell them at 2 florins 15 kreuzers per copy in Tyrolean coins and reimburse my husband 1 florin 45 kreuzers per copy sold in the coins mentioned. Advertise them in the newspaper, and in this case send the bill to my husband. Now I have run out of paper. Farewell. I am as always your Mzt.

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<sup>35</sup> BD: The Roman amphitheatre, dating from the first century B.C.

<sup>36</sup> BD: Verona to Mantua = 37 km.

<sup>37</sup> BD: Johann Jakob Lotter (the Younger, 1726-1804), son of the eponymous founder of the firm (c. 1683-1738), printer and bookseller in Augsburg. Under his management, the business grew, especially the music side. He printed Leopold Mozart's *Versuch einer gründlichen Violinschule* (1756) of which there were three impressions. He also printed Leopold's collection of keyboard music *Der Morgen und der Abend...* (1759), containing works by Leopold, Eberlin and Eberl.

<sup>38</sup> BD: Either Bernhard Christoph Breitkopf (1695-1777), or his son Johann Gottlob Immanuel Breitkopf (1719-1794).

<sup>39</sup> BD: Rudolph Gräffer published two songs by Mozart (KV 52/46c and 53/47e) in Stephanie's *Neue Sammlung zum Vergnügen und Unterricht* in 1768.

<sup>40</sup> BD: Leopold's violin school, lying unbound at home.

<sup>41</sup> BD: Joseph Wolff, respected bookseller and publisher in Augsburg with a shop in Innsbruck. Probably acquainted with Leopold.

<sup>42</sup> BD: In Salzburg.