

*À Madame / Madame Marie Anne / Mozart / à / Salzbourg*¹

Verona, 18th August, 1771

My short letter² from Botzen³ 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 Kalterl⁴ 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.⁵ In Waidring⁶ 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. Johannis⁷ and dined on the 14th at the post in Kundl⁸ and in Innsprugg⁹ in the evening, [10] on the 15th in Steinach at midday and in Brixen in the evening, on the 16th in Bozen at midday, in Trent in the evening. At 9 in the morning of the 17th we reached Roveredo,¹⁰ thinking we would be in *Verona* in the evening, taking the two Herr *Piccini*¹¹ by surprise in *Alla*¹² 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*'s¹³ in *Rovereto* [15] and did not leave until half past 10 |: since *Dr. Bridi*¹⁴ also joined us at once :, and then we had so many hindrances on the way, since Herr *Lolli*,¹⁵ 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. Lugiat*'s¹⁶ 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.¹⁷ When Herr

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

² BD: No. 0240.

³ BD: Bozen/Bolzano, today in Italy.

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

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

⁶ BD: 10 km west of Lofer.

⁷ BD: St. Johann in Tyrol. 25 km from Lofer.

⁸ BD: 6 km west of Wörgl.

⁹ Innsbruck, 190 km from Salzburg.

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

¹¹ 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).

¹² DB: Ala.

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

¹⁴ 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.

¹⁵ 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.

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

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

Troger¹⁸ 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*,¹⁹ and one *ex C*, with the name *Wagenseil*²⁰ on it, *N.B.* with *variations*, and the one by *Adlgasser ex G*,²¹ the little *cassation* by Wolfgang *ex C*,²² and diverse good *sonatas* by *Rutini*,²³ for example in *E^b*, 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*²⁴ 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,²⁵ 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 Hefner²⁶ good fortune on his journey on my behalf; [55] ask him if he might perhaps have seen little Annemie?²⁷

Addio, keep well. My handkiss to Mama.

Nice handwriting!

Wolfgang.

¹⁸ 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.

¹⁹ BD: Op. IV, no. 1?

²⁰ 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 24th January and on 6th February, 1761.

²¹ 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.

²² BD: Lost.

²³ 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).

²⁴ "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.

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

²⁶ 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.

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