

Milan, 9<sup>th</sup> November, 1771

I am writing to you in haste to say that I have received the *congratulations*<sup>1</sup> safely with the whole *packet* of letters. Wolfgang will thank you himself at the end of the month, God willing, or in the first days of *December*. I am completely well again,<sup>2</sup> [5] praise God. Yesterday we dined at His *Excellency* Count *Firmian's*<sup>3</sup> in the company of Herr *Hasse*.<sup>4</sup> Both Herr *Hasse* and Wolfgang received fine presents because of their *compositions*: besides what they received in money, Herr *Hasse* was given a *snuffbox* and Wolfgang a watch<sup>5</sup> with inset diamonds.

[10] I have already reminded you, in my last letter,<sup>6</sup> that you should not write to Milan anymore, but to *Verona*. Currently you will receive letters from me from *Verona*, whether we are in *Padua*<sup>7</sup> for some days or just about to leave for home. If a post-day passes without a letter from me, it is a sign that I am on the way and cannot write. *Addio*. [15] We kiss you both many 10 000 000 times and I am as always your  
Mozart mp<sup>8</sup>

MOZART'S POSTSCRIPT TO HIS SISTER

Dearest sister!

My kandkiss to Mama. My compliments to all friends, both gentlemen and ladies. In the meantime, I pass on my thanks, in the greatest haste, to all have who have congratulated me; I will be able to give thanks better in person. Keep well.

[20]

Wolfgang.

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<sup>1</sup> BD: No. 0254b, lost.

<sup>2</sup> BD: Cf. No. 0254/4 ff.

<sup>3</sup> "S": Ex: Gr: 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.

<sup>4</sup> BD: Johann Adolf Hasse (1699-1783). Leopold Mozart heard his opera *Demetrio* in Mantua in 1770 (cf. No. 0158/22). Wrote the opera for the marriage celebrations in Milan.

<sup>5</sup> BD: Probably a gift from Maria Theresia. A history of the watch is given in BD V, p. 311.

<sup>6</sup> BD: Cf. No. 0254/12 f.

<sup>7</sup> BD: Cf. No. 0239/21-24, especially lines 23-24.

<sup>8</sup> mp = manu propria = in his own hand.