



Curia 18th 11.86

Sir,

I thank you very much to have advised me to go to Curia to see the Exhibition especially the artistic one which deserves indeed to be visited; for I had not fixed intention to go there having many works of commission to do.

Now it is three days that I am at Curia and I am satisfied for the advantage that can procure me the sight of the beautiful works of so many artists that my fine Italy possess.

I shall remain at Curia till the 20th in which day the Exhibition will be definitively shut. Till that time I shall constantly look at those magnificent pictures, at the ceramics at the artistic bronzes. I would



be rich, very rich to say the fine
productions of art and have them
always under my eyes, at my house,
in my little studio, in my bedroom.
At Bolzano among the beautiful Alps
looking at the magnificence of nature
I thought with disdain at the art
of men; to day that these works
in Berlin seduce me so much, I
think with melancholy to me, to
me alone, to my art to my future.
... Could my hand do all
what feels and comprehends my heart
and my soul!

At Berlin I am not alone; another
person who feels and comprehends as
I do, an artist, in fact, accompanies
me. You, Sir know this person, this
artist. When for the first time you
came into my studio, you, who spoke
English had for interpreter a young
lady, who thinking that our relation
of affairs would be limited only at
the purchase of some watercolours
for your own profession for excessive
reserve qualified herself for my sister
whilst she was my bride and to-day
my affectionate wife. When Miss
Fanny Berlin is to-day Mrs. Minerva
and the watercolours made at Bolzano
and purchased from you, were made
in the first days of our happiness.
I beg you Mr. Smith, and Mrs. Smith
to pardon my Fanny's lie and

think what an embarrassment she
would have proved in telling you
personally that she is my wife
whilst once innocently she told you
to be my sister.

Together with my Fanny I send
you our best compliments, and our
respectfully shakehands and beg
you, Sir, to remember us most
kindly to Mrs Smith

I am, Sir

Respectfully yours

R. Mainella

NOV. 11 / 84, TURIN



Fig. 2

W. Smith

Casa Garzetti - Piazza degli Schiavoni

Venezia

