Dear Smith,

I have received your stuff very safe which is of very great service both to me & Mr Frelsch, for our other stock of Scotch was just out; when your kind present came in to supply the want of it. Capt. Spence is now on the road toward you; he set out, I think it was on Sunday; we had the mortification to meet Mr Fielding on the road, whose company he hoped to have enjoyed for a few days at least at Rome. Mr Fielding, tho' not well, is the better for his journey hither; he rode as well of the journey as he could, you know, if you saddle you know, is the seat of health on this side of the Alps as well as if you don't. Dr Shaw too has brought all his body hither safe, & looks as comfortable as an orthodox cur.

I am very glad that Monsignor Joquet's beard is not unknown to you: you'll find him a man all made up of that, & goodness. Your eager in speaking the French tongue will enable you to learn much more from him than I could, of a Nation that all ye world is proud to know something of, & as to all ye world is still to a great degree in the dark. You will be so good now & then in your letters, as to let me hear how our dear friends the Chinese do. No body is more communicative than the Bishop; & to be sure, no European can know more of them.

I have been plagued these two days with the tooth-ache, & write to you now with a mouth full of pain; but I was resolved not to lose a Post. The teeth in my head were in a civil war against me. I assure you I did not catch it a Masquing; for our Carnival is come out a stuff diverting thing than we expected. There is no permission yet for Masquing
In my next I shall trouble you with a good number of marks for myself, but at present I have a favour to beg of you for Mrs. Toddler. You know, by a common thing everywhere to give too much for a printing of a book. Among others, Mr. Frolick whilst at Rome had a valuable Terence from Pagnanini (a bookseller in the Piazza di S. Maria della Pace) for a use of which he was to pay 3 Scudi. A little before I came away he gave 3 Scudi to Terence, to Andrea Morelli, his agent, and afterwards 3 Scudi to Pagnanini, for the book which he was to give to you. The latter, as you now know by a letter of Mr. Toddler’s from London, has sent to him a book which he has sent to you. It has been for some time in the hands of the bookseller, and I have been told by the latter that if it is not received within a month, he will pay the bookseller. I have been told by the bookseller that if it is not received within a month, he will pay the bookseller.

I have all your letters, and I have been directed to write to you. I am going to see Mr. Toddler, and I hope to see you soon.

Yours most ob.

Florence Jan. 17.

J. Spencer.
Monsieur Smith, Gentilhomme Anglais,
Récédé à Monsieur Maceroni
Banquier, à
Rome.
Dear Smith

I wrote to you lately, which I thought I had have been my last to you from Florence: but as our house is protracted on here to the 13th instant, I find myself at full leisure to have a little more chat with you from Ivia Gelato, the Pope. As to our Fraternity, Mr. Daines Beyond himself the last evening, & Mr. Hugh Smithson was elected Master in his Lordship's room, The new Master named Dr. Steeple, I say Godward for Wardens, so that I am become a very Plebeian again in the Society. We have I believe a very Honorable Candidate that petitioned since the new Regulation: I mean a Gentleman You will be glad to hear is well. I can't count. I think nearly 80. His Lordship is every thing you said of him, & something more if possible. I hear Mr. Bowman too is a Gentleman Member of these, become one most Honorable Florence Lodge.

In a former to you, if I don't mistake, I desired you when at Venice to enquire after F. Archie, monument, Epitaph, in S. Lucie's Church there. If so, a mistake that had fallen into after a great many others. I own I had hunted S. Lucie's for myself, without any success. I believe it to be S. Lucie's, where I am told not only Archie but Atanagi, Cicco d'Adria, Ruscelli, d'Obli are all buried! won you are in the Church, if by an OX morning with you, do be so good as to transcribe 'em all.

There's two things that I have had reason since to be met that I neglected to do at Rome. The Stamps of the Statues are sometimes incorrect; it must often be defective. This makes them photographically specious to one. Had I seen as sincerely felt in ye Statue Thames at Rome, as I have been since, I would certainly have bought Raphaël Statues earlier; & whenever I went to see any of the Statues in his collection, nothing we here had been earlier than to have carried the Plate with me to compare 'em to ye Original. I to have wrote on ye back with a Pencil, position, etc. The Negatives, in such & such particulars, where they are defective; one might add many remarkable particulars: for instance, as ye apples Belvidere, & ye Lacoone are represented only in ye Front-view
not to be known by the Prinicia whether I make to his Curios
on his shoulder, or Cascoom, M.W. on his head. But if you are
not perhaps so Critical as I am myself, it might be a
needless trouble for you.

If you buy y Virgil-Prints at it Papaleg Magnivel, it may
possibly be worth while to compare em with yr original in the
Vatican, or to mark down what you immediately before you
each plate. Take the Plaikes that no let a man than y can.
Albatross was at the trouble of taking, Burne Chester Bewry
that they are either of the Antiquary age, or copied very near
to their others that were so. He is so farre from y Marbler of
the declared to be of that age. This is made out of a Govern-
ment authority.

You know what a rout we made together in talking of
the shape of the Antique, Tho. I was told there's one in
Braggs, in Kicher's Collection at y request: which I was
much of a better of. As never to go to see whiles I was at Rome.

Whether you took upon all these articles as many accu-
sations of myself, or so many understandings before you, I am
resolved to add one thing more: That it is my hope to get
some of my sence into A Babo Relievo Friends of my
in any body else, which I am not sorry in the
least that I did not go through a regular course of
figuring you all by confronting one with another, but if
done in some of the more considerable, will certainly have
been very worth while.

In reading over your latter again, I find you are at a
loss for directions to Lord Dorn in. I generally incline my
letters to him to Mr. Brouncker; but I have sent those
direct to him, at ye. Of London, by person; which
must have found him out.

Here I hope you yet a great, affection that has felt on
myself, your sister, sent you word some time ago, that I was
in Oxford, and you have been at ye last year. But my
share of the rest of way was a lecture on occasion a
Lecture on Plato, & a Copy of Verses. That time too much for one
man, as that (as more) is 

Statuarium, alias Anonmorum vetustis, in Parad. Princ. capiciadus. I may eminently call it my letter from Italy, for
my own sake of Poetry & Vertue, and I believe his going & the
write of Thought to Statuets & Antiquities which they called easi-
lon gave me that I have troubled you with several of these
particulars in ye former part of this hearing Epiyle. So on
ready too long; so with all lovely to all friends, I am
Your affectionate
Jo. Spence.
à Monsieur
Monsieur Smith
cher frère, Rizzi & Macroni, Banquiers
à Rome.
Dear Smyth,

As to the affair of our Freemason Medal, we have cast off 50 silver ones, there are to be some copper ones struck off. There has not been any gold one struck off, it would be very expensive, especially to have a single one of that metal for you. The silver ones come to 17 Pounds a half each. I thought it might be better to get you three of these; or two silver & two copper ones, which you please. I shall with pleasure get a silver one for each of the Gentle men with you, but I beg you to send me purchases by name of each who desires one. There's another difficulty behind you know there was 36 sequins to be paid for the mould; all these have paid down another sequin apiece, & there remains seven yet to be paid. Collins was ordered by the lodge to mention this in a letter to Mr. Trumbull about three weeks ago. As there has been no answer, the last Lodge night I had orders to mention it to you & to beg you to mention it to your brothers about you. I should be glad to hear from you soon, because we shall leave Florence in 3 weeks time. Whatever you order me to get, I will get immediately & send it to Mr. How. & if I will choose to have orders to some banker here to pay me, I that will be as convenient to you & to us Gentlemen who are pleased to order anything to be sent em.

Yesterday I had the pleasure of a letter from Bob Downes, as there's a long paragraph in it relating to your worship, I shall write it for you. "Mr. Brandon told me circumstances the other day's circumstance that gives me great pleasure, because
My Lord desires his services to your Excellency, and your very humble servant shall send you a little, out of my very humble... I shall send you a little, out of my very humble... I shall send you a little, out of my very humble. . .

Florence
March 2, 1733, No.

Yours most affectionately,

J. Spencer.

2. W. their Grisani's Epitaph at Loreto.
2. W. They know nothing at Rome of an inscription which was engraved by Christoforo Neroi (40s, fama...
à Monsieur
Monsieur Smith
Gentilhomme Anglois,
à la Poste

Naples

2 Mar 53
JOSEPH SPENCE (1699-1768): three autograph letters, written from Florence when serving as companion to Charles Sackville, later Duke of Dorset, to Arthur Smyth, later Archbishop of Dublin, who was at that time accompanying Lord Harcourt in Rome and Naples.
January -- March 1733

Fine lively letters, from one young clerical chaperon to another, full of antiquarian and other gossip, discussing the book trade in Rome, the carnivals in Florence and Venice, and describing the organization of the Masonic lodge in Florence and the circumstances in which Lorenzo Mattei's fine medal of Lord Sackville as Masonic Master was produced.
44.30-31

BOWLES, WILLIAM LISLE: Autograph manuscript, signed, addressed to John Bough Nichols.
1835 Nov 6

A heavily worked manuscript, with much crossing out, of a vehement response by Bowles to an attack upon him and his attitude to Byron.

Bowes (1762-1850) was admired as a poet by Coleridge and Lamb, but attacked by Byron for the critical tone of his Life of Pope. Bowles responded with several pamphlets and the exchange formed an interesting debate upon the nature of poetry.