

missed it. Arrived at Teresa's
at seven o'clock - frozen.
The trip up had been very nice
after we left the Po valley & started
to climb. There was a heavy
frost still on all the land &
branches of trees & bushes. Where
sun had melted frost it was
green.

Sat. to am. Express to cash check
- check for mail. Then after dinner
to a damis to repack baggage took
me 2 hrs. Dinner with Teresa
& then across hall to Pontà for New
Year ~~even~~. Sig & Signora - friends of T.
just the four - watched mediocre T.V.
not very loud until 12 - Champagne
& Panatone. Bed 1.30. Wonder what
1961 holds for me.

Sunday - New Year 1961
To S. Ambrogio - old Norman
church. Bishop of S. Ambrogio celebrated
Mass. Blessed all children by laying
both hands on head of each child.
Then to T. Brother-in-law for dinner. Linda
& Mario Souvent and 15 year old son
Giorgio. Good food - But again watched
T.V. Had. will be glad to get out
of Milano. T. insisted on getting me a
small panatone & bottle of Liqueur.

Have her white hand worn scarf from Betty

Train left 10:10

Monday Jan 2

Awake early, after coffee, late
left for Adonis White Tension got taxi &
come to pick me up at Via Tortona with
my bags off to station. Am. Ex. had
made a mistake & given me a ticket for
Jan 2 but seat reservation for Jan 1.
Again a mob. people in aisle, luggage
all over the place. But we were early
& the fates found me a seat. A colon
put my luggage off the train when we
reached Firenze. The whole country
from Milano & beyond Modena was
covered with snow. Sky grey, but
after Modena, Sun was seen & after
the passage thru the tunnels when we
crossed the Apennines no more snow
arrived in Firenze at 3 o'clock. Walked
to Am. Express where letter from
Cortiere Magnani saying I
could visit either 4 or 5th of Jan.
So will go on Wed. 4 & leave for Roma
on 5th. Then started search for room.
Am. Ex. recommended Anglo Am. d.
2500 complete but thought of the Chiara
on Via Calzavola where we stayed in 1951.
They are still there & I got a room for 1000
a night. Its clean & very central.
Had dinner at the same restaurant where
we used to eat. The Borgello since
has gone up a bit, but I was very hungry
150 with wine. Twice as much.

Thursday

Sun shining but beginning to cloud up + ended by raining. Bought mother purse at Straw market - best price as I had shopped around yesterday. Then along the Arno, into Alinari where a prospector on a 3 vol set of Italian book bindings 1st vol now available only \$2.2400! They did not have a copy so I went to their plant on Via Nazionale 6 to see it. Real nice. Then to St Lorenzo Church & the Library design by Michelangelo beautiful script + illumination - but there are so many in England. Then to Fiesole, very windy, overcast + cold. ate my beer + some salami I had bought, while walking. Then had coffee went to Bandini Museum & Church. Back to Fresco + Ricciardi palace. To station to buy tickets to Pescia for to-morrow. Walked + walked, looking for bargains in baby dresses but none - would like to bring something for Collette + Aynia. But guess I won't. Was also looking for a cheaper restaurant but couldn't find one so back to Borgo. Am now in bed, very tired. Sightseeing is tiring!

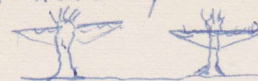
Title of Book at Alinari
La Legatura Artistica in Italia
nel secolo XV + XVI
by
Tommaso de Marinis
in 3 vols \$225⁰⁰

1st vol. ready now contains bindings
from Naples, Roma, Urbino, Firenze

Wednesday

Up at 6:30 to catch 8:10 train to Pescia
had been raining but sun shone with
clouds drifting by. Town is about 1 mile
from RR Station could have walked if I
had known where it was. Arrived at
Castello Magnum & greeted by son
who is a director, very courteously but told
the plant is not working - no demand
for hand made paper. The vat man
had died, they had found a couple
of young men to train but not very
successfully. I might have saved
myself a trip if I had known. But
he showed me books printed on their
paper - samples, pictures of plant (taken
by Jack Stauffacher) was given a package
of hand made letter paper, must send
a piece of it to Remy Green. Magnum
also gave me a pamphlet about the
history of paper making in Tuscany.

Grape vines are planted at foot of tree & trained up with brackets extending each side of tree to support vines



After the hour spent with Sig Magnoni wandered about the town which is situated at the foot of hills covered with olive trees & a rather swift river running through the town. I had 2 hrs to wait for train. ate the lunch I had brought, panettone, figs, chocolate & orange. In afternoon on returning to Firenze went to Leo S. Olshki antiquarian library on Lungarno Guicciardini 17. Spacious rooms full of neatly shelved books. I wandering around town trying to keep out of rain which was now pouring happened on an exhibition in the Strozzi Palace of the 100th year beginning of Leonia S. Olshki. So had two views of the Olshki brother tools (There are 3 of them) one in Roma, the third in Genova.

Thursday

8:35 train to Ravenna. It promised to be nice in Firenze but became cloudy as we traveled toward Ravenna. Soon began climbing in the hills. Mostly Grape vines, with ground between just faintly turning green. Everything very neat & trim. As we got higher in to the hills, less cultivation, a few isolated houses, more

small streams + water falls, cataracts
 dashing, foaming in steep ravines.
 Rocky + sparsely covered with small
 trees. Rather lonely feeling, that
 is the hills + lack of habitation
 gave a lonely feeling. It is
 a three hour ride from Firenze
 after going thru many tunnels
 + just when the sky appeared
 brighter + I had hopes for sun
 the last tunnel opened up into
 a dense fog, which increased
 as we went down, down to
 the marshes where Ravenna
 is situated. Not only fog but
 cold. So I started out toward
 the center of town + saw everything
 one should see with the exception
 of S. Apollinare in Classe. I had
 thought of walking there but it was
 so cold + foggy, was afraid of getting
 lost. Then the possibility of taking
 a taxi there + back - 1000 Lira.
 But gave up around 4:00 + headed
 for the station + Firenze. At least
 the room is warm! So now in bed
 resting my weary legs. I was
 walking! Saw S. Vitale, was surprised
 had thought the Mosaic of Theodora + Justinian
 much larger. They are almost life size.

S. Vitale, & Mausoleum of Galla Placidia.
S. Apollinare Nuovo, Mausoleum of
Theodoric, Nicotrian Baptistery (did
not like much, overdone). Dante's Tomb,
from outside, & S. Giovanni Evangelista.

Friday

Epiphania - feast day. La Befana comes
to good children with candy - coal for
bad children. Everything closed - heavy
fog covering city - so couldn't even
go up to the square - look down on the
city. Very raw & cold. Went to station
& took baggage out of deposits & had
it checked to Rome. Then to the Duomo
where a high mass was being sung. A
boys & mens choir sang beautifully.
Was so cold had to come back to my
room to warm up. Then to Bargello
for mid-day meal. Tried walking
along the Arno but again was so
frozen that at 3:30 came back afraid
of catching cold. Staying & getting
to bed early. Am reading "Cantiere
Toscane" that Sig. Magnani gave
me. It's slow work.

Saturday

Uneventful trip from Firenze. Last night
thought I was coming down with a cold
so took 2 aspirin & to bed at 7:30 slept until
7:30 this morning. It's raining & so not

as cold. Had coffee & beer then to office.
The other wing is now in use & some of the
paintings that were in the 1st wing in 1950
have been moved. Tried to find Real estate
agent recommended by Am. Ex. to ask about
rents of apts in Firenze. But it was raining
so time for departure getting short so gave
it up. Will write from Rome. As we
passed through field recently plowed, every-
thing seemed soggy & small puddles stand-
ing about. Looks like Italy has also had
too much rain for earth to absorb. On
arriving in Rome went to S. Maria del S. Elia
on Via dell' Olmata 4, Near Station & S. Maria
Maggiore, also near Istituto. But they were
full up & so sent me to a private
family near by. Seemed alright left
my string bag & set off to eat at
the small place in Via del Babuino.

Then walked back. Was tired & decided
to get to bed. There is no heat, a bathtub
but no hot water! Will look to-morrow
for another place. The dinner was
not too good & Hardly slept. Had no
Mills of M. Tobis - everything in suit cases at
station. At times like this wonder why I
ever left home.

Sunday

Sun shining - Couldn't sleep last night
food indigestible. Couldn't eat breakfast

only coffee. So started out trying to
keep in sun + warm up. To S. Maria Maggiore
then to station then bus to S. Peter. Many
babies being baptised. Singing. Masses
being said all over the place. Outside
+ was sitting in sun on the V.d. Council
iazione when a young girl came + sat
next to me. I thought she was Italian.
Then the loud speaker broke out saying
the Pope would give a blessing at 12:00
but neither of us could make out what
it was so in this manner began to talk.
She was from Uruguay of Italian parentage
2 generations away. Could speak a little
German, French + Italian so between
these we had a nice half hour
explaining what we were doing.
We parted she to visit St. Peter + I
to look for other lodgings. Found
what I think will do. A large hotel
known as the International Student Center
on Piazza della Rovere 83 facing the
Tevere + a few blocks away from
S. Peter. A bus near by goes to the
Via Nazionale where I can get off for
the Istituto. It's a row of single rooms
with toilet ^{wooden} somewhat like a motel. Not
pretentious but not too bad. A few
trees + some sky. Might stay. Will see
what mail this is + what Istituto says.

Monday

26 letters at Am. Express. Only three from Grandmere. Many are Christmas cards so won't have to be answered. Pictures from Roger Powell of Book of Kells. Two letters from Doris who seems in a low mood + wants to return to SF with me! Check from Tito. Then to Bank of Am. to cash checks (Boys Christmas present) and to Institute where I was received with friendly enthusiasm & all were interested in picture of Book of Kells that I found in the mail from Roger Powell. Nice guy, mustn't forget that I'd like to come to California if sponsored. Decided room too damp + exposed built right on the ground + any one could come right in from outside without going through lobby. Wall paper coming off - rather depressing. So I'm taking the next best. 1700 a day complete with heat. Room is so high all heat goes to top. Could really build another story of 8 or 9 ft. This room is in main building facing large courtyard must be rather pleasant in summer. Have a shower - I could do without it - but then nothing else. Went to station + got suit cases + book. Toxie + all installed.