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Shearman, J.

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My dearest uncle, in place of a father.¹ [...] I am certain that you will understand that now my circumstances will change, for as of today I have amassed in Rome three thousand gold ducats and 50 gold scudi on credit, because His Holiness the pope has appointed me director of the building of St. Peter's, with a salary of three hundred gold ducats, which I will get as long as I live [...] And on top of this I will be paid for any other work I do in my own right, and I started to paint another room [in the papal *Stanze*] for His Holiness and that will add up to 2,000 gold ducats so that, my dearest uncle, I will do honour to you and to all of our relations and to our city. [...] And don't be cross with me if I don't write to you, and know that indeed I am cross with you since you hold your pen in your hand all day and you let six months pass between your letters.

¹ Raphael's father Giovanni Santi died when Raphael was a young boy.