

Custodia Vannicelli (born Cordeschi)

1788 - 1871

Birth May 6, 1788

Death December 14, 1871

Parents

 Angelo Maria Cordeschi Circa 1738 - 1796	 Bernardina Cordeschi (born Rocchi) Circa 1740 - Deceased
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Siblings

 Giuseppe Maria Cordeschi 1781 - Deceased	 Margherita Palumbo (born Cordeschi) 1784 - 1853
 Maria Irene Cordeschi 1786 - Deceased	 Massimo Maria Cordeschi 1790 - Deceased

Spouse

 Paolo Vannicelli 1788 - Deceased

Children

 Giocondina Vannicelli 1810 - 1826	 Generoso Vannicelli 1813 - 1850
 Fortunato Sabatino Vannicelli 1815 - Deceased	 Cristina Pace (born Vannicelli) 1819 - Deceased
 Gian Bernardino Vannicelli 1820 - Deceased	 Domenico Vannicelli 1824 - Deceased
 Nunzio Vannicelli 1826 - 1826	 Nunzio Vannicelli 1828 - Deceased
 Nunzio Vannicelli 1832 - Deceased	 Angelantonia Sciascera (born Vannicelli)

Circa 1835 -
Deceased

Biography

Custodia Vannicelli, born Cordeschi, was born on May 6, 1788, to Angelo Maria Cordeschi and Bernardina Cordeschi, born Rocchi ^[1]. She had four siblings: Giuseppe Maria, Margherita, Maria Irene, and Massimo Maria ^[1].

At the age of 21, she married Paolo Vannicelli on September 9, 1809 ^[1]. The couple was blessed with ten children: Giocondina, Generoso, Fortunato Sabatino, Cristina, Gian Bernardino, Domenico, Nunzio (three times, indicating possibly that two of them died young), and Angelantonia ^[1].

Custodia passed away on December 14, 1871, at the age of 83 ^[1].

Historical Context

Custodia Vannicelli (née Cordeschi) was born in 1788, a time when Europe was on the cusp of monumental change. The French Revolution had begun the previous year, setting off a chain of events that would lead to the rise of Napoleon Bonaparte. By the time Custodia married Paolo Vannicelli in 1809, Napoleon had solidified his control over much of continental Europe, including Italy. This period saw the dissolution of old social orders and the spread of revolutionary ideas about democracy and governance, although these were often accompanied by war and conflict.

Throughout Custodia's life, the Italian peninsula was characterized by political fragmentation and foreign domination. The Congress of Vienna in 1815 reshaped Europe after Napoleon's defeat, restoring many former rulers but also planting the seeds for future nationalistic movements. In Italy, this led to the Risorgimento, the movement for unification and independence from foreign rule. Although Custodia lived through the early stages of this movement, it would not be until after her death in 1871 that Italy would become fully unified as a nation-state in 1871.

Custodia's marriage to Paolo Vannicelli and their ten children reflect common family structures of the 19th century. Large families were typical, partly due to the lack of reliable birth control and the high infant mortality rate; the fact that Custodia named three sons Nunzio suggests she may have experienced this loss firsthand. Family life during this era was also shaped by the socio-economic context, with industrialization beginning to alter traditional ways of living and working, though its effects were more pronounced in northern Italy than in the rural south where agricultural lifestyles persisted longer.

When Custodia passed away in 1871, she witnessed the final throes of the Papal States, which ceased to exist that same year with the capture of Rome by Italian troops. Her lifetime spanned an era of profound transformation within Italy and Europe at large, from the upheavals of the Napoleonic Wars to the dawning of

national consciousness in Italy. Her personal history is intertwined with these larger historical currents, offering a glimpse into the experiences of individuals who lived through times of great change.

Last Name Origins

The surname Cordeschi is likely of Italian origin, derived from a nickname or a place name. The root 'cord-' could be related to the word 'cuore' in Italian, meaning 'heart', suggesting that the name might have originally been given to someone with a notable personality trait such as courage or sincerity. Alternatively, it may also derive from a place name associated with the term 'corda', which means 'rope' in Italian, possibly indicating a location where ropes were made or sold. However, without specific historical records linking the name to its origins, these interpretations remain speculative.

The last name Vannicelli is an Italian surname, which is patronymic in nature, indicating descent from an ancestor named Vanni. The name Vanni itself is a diminutive form of Giovanni, the Italian equivalent of John, meaning 'God is gracious'. Therefore, Vannicelli can be interpreted as 'little descendant of Vanni' or 'son of little Giovanni'. This type of surname was common in Italy, where diminutives and patronymics were often combined to create family names. The suffix '-celli' implies a diminutive, thus giving the sense of a lineage from a person called Vanni who was perhaps known for being younger, smaller, or less prominent than other individuals with the same name.

Consistency Issues

1. The records list three children named Nunzio. It is unusual and might indicate either an error in the records or repeated naming after deceased infants.

Citations

1. Source: [Lucoli Web Site, amministrato da Luca Sponta](https://www.myheritage.it/person-1501249_124594591_124594591/custodia-cordeschi-vannicelli)
https://www.myheritage.it/person-1501249_124594591_124594591/custodia-cordeschi-vannicelli