

1101.<sup>1</sup> MOZART TO HIS WIFE, VIENNA

Dearest, most treasured little wife of my heart! –

Berlin,<sup>2</sup> 19<sup>th</sup> May, 1789.

Now, I hope, you will surely have received letters<sup>3</sup> from me, for they cannot all have gone missing; – I cannot write much to you this time because I have to pay *visits*; I am only writing to you to tell you about my arrival; [5] – I may already be able to leave by the 25<sup>th</sup>, at least I will if at all possible, but by then I will certainly give you reliable news; but I am quite certain of leaving by the 27<sup>th</sup>, I will be so glad when I am with you once again, my love! – But the first thing for me is to take you by the scruff of the neck: how, then, can you believe, yes, even suspect that I had forgotten you? [10] – how could I ever do that? – For suspecting this, you are to receive a coarse cudgeling<sup>4</sup> on your lovable and kissable little arse right on the first night, you can count on it. *Adieu* –

[15]

eternally your  
only friend, your heartily  
loving husband  
W. A. Mozart.

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<sup>1</sup> BD: Original unknown. Edition Nottebohm.

<sup>2</sup> BD: Mozart reached Berlin on 19<sup>th</sup> May, 1789. Probably stayed with the *stucco* craftsman Sartory, but then with the trumpeter Möser, father of the violinist Karl Möser (1774-1851); there he played viola in one of the six string quartets dedicated to Haydn. 30 years later, Karl Moser notated the first notes of the last movement in Franz Xaver Mozart's house album. It is said that Mozart attended the performance of his *Abduction from the Seraglio* given on the 19<sup>th</sup> May. It was probably here that Mozart met Ludwig Tieck, who recalled the event in his *Erinnerungen* (Leipzig, 1855).

<sup>3</sup> No. 1102 lists the missing letters.

<sup>4</sup> “*Schilling*”. BD: Blows administered as a punishment.