

1089.¹ MOZART TO HIS WIFE, VIENNA²

My dearest little wife!

Budwitz³ [8th April, 1789]

While the Prince⁴ is busy negotiating over horses,⁵ I seize with pleasure this opportunity to write to you, little wife of my heart. – How are you? – Are you perhaps thinking of me as often as I think of you? – [5] I look at your portrait every moment – and weep – half in joy, half in suffering! – For my sake, take care of your health, which I treasure so much, and may life treat you well! – Have no worries on my account, for on this journey I am experiencing no adversities – no consternation – nothing except your absence – which, since there is no other way it can be, cannot be changed; – [10] I write this with tears in my eyes; – *adieu* – I will certainly write more to you from Prague, and more legibly, because I will not need to rush so much – *adieu* – I kiss you most tenderly millions of times and am eternally

as long as I shall live, your most faithful str.⁶

W: A: Mozart *mp*⁷

[15] Kiss little Carl⁸ in my name – all imaginable good wishes too to Herr and Frau von Puchberg⁹ – more soon.

¹ BD: Original of lines 1-9 unknown; lines 9 ff. privately owned. Facsimile auction Galerie Gerda Bassenge, Berlin, 1969. Edition Nottebohm.

² BD VI, p. 376 supplies corrected text from the autograph from line 9 to the end. This partial autograph also bears a text by Dr. Daniel Schutte of Bremen recollecting the warm welcome in Mozart's house in Vienna and Mozart's keyboard improvisations until late in the night.

³ BD: Mährisch-Budwitz, c. 50 km north-west of Vienna.

⁴ "Fürst". BD: He set off for Berlin on 8th April, 1789, with Prince [Fürst] Karl Lichnowsky, who was later, from about 1795-1806, a patron of Beethoven. In 1789 he married the daughter of Countess [Gräfin] Wilhelmine Thun, who was also closely associated with Mozart.

⁵ BD: The routine changing of horses.

⁶ BD: Str. = *Serviteur* = servant.

⁷ *mpa*: = *manu propria* = in his own hand.

⁸ BD: Born 21st September, 1786, thus 4 years old.

⁹ BD: Cf. note on No. 1067/5; he was not ennobled until 6th November 1792.