



1874-01-25

Letter from [Joanna Muir] to May [Mary Muir], 1874 Jan 25.

Joanna G. Muir

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was so moderate^[43] that I thought
best to come and I am so glad
that I did. I do not know why
but I enjoy myself fifty per
cent. better than last term.
I have another study too. yet
do not have half the anxiety
over my lessons, and yet
I think I stand better in my
classes.

But I must tell you what a
wonderful thing I did. ~~starting~~
last night, you know I am a
member of the Lyceum, so my
first attempt at debating (in
public) came off last night,
and, instead of trembling or
fearing, I was as placid and
calm as an untroubled lake
not even doing that which is
so easy for me to do, turn red.
On taking my seat I was heartily
cheered, and at recess my day,
what congratulations flowed in

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(13)

Dear Mr. Cornell. I am so well, for address no.

Osh. Wis. Jan 25. '74.

Dear Mr. May.

And so I have actually
had the pleasure of hearing from my
lost sister again. I came home Friday
night from school, threw down my
things, sat down by the window and
seemingly exclaimed, Well, I guess the
folks don't care anything about me.
For three weeks have passed, and
not a word. I was ready to weep with
regret. I could not be comforted and
pondered whether or not I would
write to you again. Evening came
and Mrs Cornell, the lady with whom
I board (for I am boarding this term)
announced two young gentlemen.

waiting below to see my roommate and myself, and joyful was I when one of them placed two letters in my hand, one from you the other from Annie. They had kindly enquired for me and also interested spending the evening, it being Friday night, for they were two of our classmates, so I was obliged to sacrifice my anxiety to read my letters, to politeness, and entertain them. But oh! May how glad I am again to hear from you.

Yes I was home Christmas and found everything much as of yore. Indeed it seemed as though they had the same dish rag and that it hung in the same place, that each chair stood on the same spot that Mother had never changed either dress, apron or shoes, or in

fact that there had been a single motion in the house since I left. We had a fine time Christmas. I made a new, calico dress, which has since been the admiration of the whole school. I also remodelled another, so that I was pretty busily engaged. I then returned to school, have a splendid boarding place, the most pleasant I ever had in my life, and only pay \$3.00, per week, and have my washing done too. Certainly I was directed here by an unseen hand, my roommate is a very agreeable little body and I am happy. It was not convenient for me to room this term, as my old roommate left me, and then the weather seemed very cold to do our own work, and this board