



1878-02-14

Letter from W. H. Trout to John Muir, 1878 Feb 14.

William H. Trout

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Recommended Citation

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Our shop is on the time again this winter all over our country there seems to be few mechanics to do the work of one

I am not certain that I mentioned anything about father's death in my previous notes. It occurred on Dec 2d 1873 his illness lasted near three months his death was not untimely or unexpected his labor was done and he was awaiting the rest that remaineth for the people of God. I send you a pamphlet with a notice about a month since one of my aunts died 3 day after father's death Mrs Trout's brother died and two weeks ago we attended her father's funeral. Altogether makes up quite a record of family mortality in quite a short time. If this letter is more than usually reflective the reason is obvious. Since father's death I have been receiving good letters from absent sisters hinting very plainly that I ought to come to the front and occupy the breach where once stood the fallen in the army of Christ. The one who best could have best filled it has fallen earlier in the fight that is John whom we all miss much more than father Edward only partially fills his place father is still vacant and may remain so but each of us will according to his own ability and his own way will work for the cause of the Redeemer and the good of humanity. Well John I have written quite lengthy but am not much nearer the end than when I began so I may as well stop for this time. Hoping to hear from you soon I remain as ever your friend Wm H. Trout.

Peterboro Feb 14th
1878

Dear Friend John

You will find enclosed Draft for \$92.00 my half your account. Charles wrote me about a week ago that he had been trying to make up his for some time past but had not succeeded and did not see any very immediate prospect of doing it: advised me to send on which I am ^{now} at length doing. Dating this letter suggests to my mind the fact this is the last day of my 44th year tomorrow being my 45th birth day also that it is 12 years the latter part of

in all she has 8 sons and
 lately
 she is a brick
 father has had another daughter
 two daughters
 since we had the last of your
 personal acquaintance which you
 may depend has been appreciated
 none the less for the lapse of time
 some of the liveliest and brightest
 spots in life's memory are the
 scenes of that old Hollow and
 the recollections connected with your-
 self and Dan The time seems
 to have sped swiftly I have not
 much to mark its passage nor
 does it seem to have left its
 impress heavily on me Am
 occasional grey shining in my
 beard a few crow feet near
 the angles of the eye and a form
 slightly more stooped from application
 to work are the only visible changes
 since you last saw me The changes
 with you are I think even less

When shall we ever see each other
 to correct our observations as you
 scientific men would say and compare
 notes of life's journey There is
 no thoroughly absent friend or relative
 that I would rather wish to see
 However the chances I think are small
 There "not much I suppose to bring you
 back to Old Canada and there is no
 great probability of my seeing your
 country but I may be rather fast
 you are not a Californian strictly
 and solely you are a citizen of the
 world a cosmopolite the broad
 domain of science is your estate
 but you can't occupy it when it
 would lead you out among the
 stars you must stay on Terra Firma
 so in your perambulations may
 be Canada and old friends will come
 in for a turn