



1878-10-20

Letter from Mother [Ann Gilrye Muir] to John Muir, 1878 Oct 20.

Ann Gilrye Muir

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I think it is a great blessing
that your health continues good
and that you so much enjoy
the glorious and wonderful
scenery that continually surrounds
you. I think very few can
appreciate and understand
the wonders of that part of the
world as you do - and you
have suffered a great deal
in your explanations -
though we have not seen
much about the new valley -

Now dear John I hope you
will be careful about exposing
yourself to danger -

May God bless you and keep you
and be your protection in every
trying time and bring you safely
through is the sincere prayer of your
affectionate Mother -

Dear John

I hope this will
find you well. It seems
long time since I have had
news from you - perhaps this
is on the way. I am
delighted with the
message from the branch of
from Locksdown - how
very kind of your friend to
send it to you. We have
also had the pleasure of a
visit from Mr. Edwin Hewitt.
He told us he had been in Cal.
and had met you in the
Mariposa grove, and he gave
me two very large cones, and two

small ones that he said grew
 in the largest tree, he wished
 to see David - but he had
 gone off for a week's visit
 Last week I had a letter
 letters from my sisters daughter
 Mrs. Leman, she is now married
 and lives in the same house with
 her daughter and has the old garden
 she sent me the likeness of her
 daughter and also one of the
 my cousin the architect in Liver-
 pool, and also sent a piece
 of thyme from the old garden
 I enclose a spring for you

Dear Joanna is still
 a sufferer although she is slowly
 improving - Mary is there with
 present on a visit at Racine

David has also been at Racine
 and says that Joanna looked
 better ^{than} he expected to see her -
 most of our friends are
 their usual health -
 John Hunt has been out
 business and in coming
 he went to see the Niagara
 falls and thence to Hamilton
 to see your father and found
 him well and comfortable -
 he thought your father looked
 the same as when he left Portage
 Anne is teaching her school
 hours are from 9 until four -
 as I have a very quiet time -
 Maryt often calls for me to
 go out and ride with her
 which is very pleasant -

Portage, Oct. 20th, 1878.

Dear John,

I hope this will find you well. It seems a long time since I have had a letter from you. Perhaps there is one on the way for me now. I am delighted with the bouquet from the banks of Loch Lomond - how very kind of your friend to send it to you.

We have also had the pleasure of a visit from Mr. Calvin Hewitt. He told us he had been in Cal. and had met you in the Mariposa grove, and he gave me two very large cones, and two small ones that he said grew on the largest trees. He wished to see David, but he had gone off on a week's visit.

Last week I had a kind letter from my sister's daughter, Mrs. Lunam. She is now a widow and lives in the same house with her daughter and has the old garden. She sent me the likeness of her daughter and also one of Mr. Hay, my cousin, the architect in Liverpool, and also sent a piece of thyme from the old garden. I enclose a sprig for you.

Dear Joanna is still a sufferer, although she is slowly improving. Mary is there at present on a visit at Racine. David has also been at Racine, and says that Joanna looked better than he expected to see her. The rest of our friends are in their usual health.

John Reid has been east on business, and in coming home he went to see the Niagara Falls, and thence to Hamilton to see your father, and found him well and comfortable. He thought your father looked the same as when he left Portage.

Anna is teaching. Her school hours are from 9 until 4, so I have a very quiet time. Margaret often calls for me to go out and ride with her, which is very pleasant.

I think it is a great blessing that your health continues good and that you so much enjoy the glorious and wonderful scenery that continually surrounds you. I think very few can appreciate and understand the wonders of that part of the world as you do, and you have suffered a great deal in your explorations. As yet we have not seen much about the new valley.

Now, dear John, I hope you will be careful about exposing yourself to danger. May God bless you and keep you, and be your protection in every trying time, and bring you safely through, is the sincere prayer of your affectionate

Mother.