



1880-04-19

## Letter from Mary [Muir Hand] to [John Muir], 1880 Apr 19.

Mary Muir Hand

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My dear Far-away Brother!  
Did you not receive any of my last letters. I judge not; as I have rec'd no answer from you. Perhaps you did not know where to find me. If so, here I am up among the pine woods and stumps, in Phillips. Write to me soon and I will then write you another long letter. Reasoned thoroughly this time with the "Linnæus". We were all delighted as well as relieved to hear from you again after your long absence. Glad to know that your rather hazardous trip had proved both a success and a pleasure to you. Your Affectionate Sister Anne

Phillips Dis.  
Apr. 19. 80.

My dear Brother  
"Highland Mary"  
received your letter most gladly - It is so long since I had heard from you directly that I began to think that my letters to you had been lost. It will be a happy day indeed for us - when we see your dear good self coming to us - and I trust that the "downright Scotch persistence" and persuasion here - will prevail upon you to make us quite a visitation. You ask me

to tell you all about  
our village and little  
home - Annie or Willis  
will do that. And the  
best way to tell about  
"the guide man" is to  
send you a photo. which  
I do, he is the "greatest  
man" I ever knew. I  
also send my photo. which  
is not very good. Annie  
says "is not good at all" -

Our home is sunny and  
I am happy but am not  
feeling very well today and  
am tired - so will cease  
writing -

Success in  
your work must be a con-  
tinual comfort to you - I  
have been cragging and fencing  
some of late.

Heaven bless you dear John -  
Affectionately Mary,

Dear Brother,

Mary has left a page  
for me to fill so I will write  
a few lines. She says perhaps  
will tell you <sup>all</sup> about Phillips. I can  
not in a few lines, but will give  
you an outline. Population 250;  
County seat of Puce Co.; buildings  
good and tasty; situated on Elk  
Lake which covers 200 acres or  
more. Elk river flows thro' the  
lake and much timber is cut on  
the river either way. No mill  
here so the logs pass to mills  
on Chippewa and Missis. Logging  
is the source of nearly all business  
done in town. People are generally  
rough and uncultured; a very few  
however in the village, are good, tem-  
perate and religious. We hope for better  
things. We shall rejoice to see you here  
before very long. Cordially Yours Bro,  
Willis Hand.