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Letter from Mother [Ann Gilrye Muir] to John Muir, 1881 Apr 8.

Ann Gilrye Muir

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Portage 8th April 1881

Dear John

Your letter of 27th March has been duly received, - and I hasten to congratulate you on the birth of a daughter, - and to receive her into my family of Grandchildren, she being the 20th.

I pray Gods blessing will ever rest upon her, and hope she will be spared to be a blessing to her parents and to all around her -

Three days ago I wrote a letter to you - because I thought you were longer in writing than usual - so I felt glad to ^{hear} from you and hope your wife will have a speedy recovery.

I have just had a letter from Mary telling me that she intends being in Portage with her baby - which is nine months old, - about the middle or end of May -

God has dealt very tenderly and kindly with me in many ways, but he has especially blessed me in sparing all of my children to grow up to be useful members of society

- and a great comfort to me - true
 they have nearly all left the old home
 but still I do rejoice in all their
 joys and their happiness - and their
 letters are always gladly received,

It pleases me much to think
 that you have now a home and a family
 of your own - you have much cause
 to thank God for the many instances
 of his kindness in bringing you through
 so many dangers as you have encountered
 in days gone by -

You must have
 your home in a much fairer climate
~~than~~ than ours, as we have still large

-drifts of ~~snow~~ which is gradually
 thawing out making the roads nearly
 impassable some of the streets are full of
 water, and nothing yet can be done
 on a farm, but every thing is more
 backward than usual this spring.

There is still a good deal of scarlet
 fever here, and some diphtheria too
 but it is expected that these diseases
 will all pass away - when the ground
 dries up -

With kind wishes to all
 I am Lovingly
 Matthew