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1881-05-04

**Letter from Joanna [Muir Brown] to [John Muir & Louie Strentzel Muir], 1881 May 4.**

Joanna Muir Brown

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Phillips Wis.  
May 4, '81

Dear Brother and Sister:-

By way of Mother,  
I have heard of the new happiness  
which has come to you and  
without waiting longer for di-  
rect intelligence, I offer my  
joyful congratulations.

May the small maiden long  
be the comfort and sunshine  
of your home and your hearts.

Please do write to us too  
and inform us concerning  
name, age and personal  
charms, you know you have  
not written for many a day  
and I have long looked  
for an answer to my last.  
I am very anxious for a  
little word.

00995

The flower on  
for my new  
niece, I put  
a kiss among  
the petals of  
one of the  
Hydrangeas for  
her, I hope  
she will find  
it some day.  
Much love  
to your Mother and  
regards from  
Walter.  
Emma.

00995

Anna who has spent the winter  
with us has just returned  
home to Mother, who has remain-  
ed home, keeping, accompanied  
by Mary and her boy for a visit,  
and as Walter expects to start to-  
morrow for Arkansas on a busi-  
ness trip I shall soon have Phillips  
all to myself as far as kindred  
are concerned, but as I have  
the best husband, the most faithful  
hired girl, the nicest little teacher  
to board with us, the coziest home  
and the happiest heart in America  
I certainly have nothing of which  
to complain. There, if that assertion  
seems extravagant just reconstruct  
it to your ideas of propriety, but  
that is the way it seems to me.

Our lake has awaked out of  
sleep and is as beautiful as ever, we  
had our first boatride of the season  
yesterday.