



1881-06-16

Letter from John Muir to [Louie Strentzel Muir], 1881 Jun 16.

John Muir

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your affectionate husband John Muir
We are drifting in the harbor
among cakes of ice about the
size of the orchard, but they can
do us no harm, the great mounds
forming the walls are covered with
snow yet except on a few bare
spots near their bases & there is
not a single tree scarce a
hint of any spring or summer
have I seen since leaving
San Francisco & the orchard.
I hope you will see Mr. Miller,
you must keep Annie hand & down
stairs or she may fall, & now
my wife & child sister & mother I
must bid goodbye. Heaven bless
you all. Send copies of my Bulletin
letters to my mother. & put this letter
with my papers & notebooks.
You will get many other letters now that the
whalers are returning.

(13)
Plover Bay, Siberia,
June 16th, 1881.

My beloved wife, We leave this
harbor tomorrow morning at
6 o'clock for St. Michael
& then northward. The Carvin
is in perfect condition & since
the season promises to be a
favorable one we hope to find
the Jeanette & get home this
fall. I have not yet seen the
American shore but hope to
see it very thoroughly as everything
seems to work towards my objects.
That the Asiatic & American con-
=tinents ~~were~~ ^{were} once a very short geolog-
-ical time ago is already clear
to me though I shall probably
obtain much more available proof

than I now have. This is a grand fact. While the crystal glaciers were creating Yosemite valley, a thousand were uniting here to make Behring Strait & Behring Sea. The South Side of the Aleutian Chain of islands was the boundary of the Continent & the ocean.

Since the Lorn Pope came into the harbor I have written five Bulletin letters which are for you mostly & therefore I need the less to write any detailed narrative of the Cruise. She will sail at the same hour as we do, & her Captain Mr Millard who has been many times in the Arctic both here & on the Greenland

side has promised to make you a visit, & I will be able to give you much information.

If I could only get a line one word from you to know that you were all well I would be content to wait the end of the voyage with patience & fortitude. But my dear its terrible at times to have to endure in so long a dark silence we will not be likely to get a word before September. No doubt you have already received the six or seven letters that I sent from Conalaska & St Paul, also the two or three Bulletin letters from Conalaska. Write to Bartlett or the office for a doz copies of each & save them for me.