



1881-07-13

Letter from J[ohn] M. and [Lena ?] Vanderbilt to [Louie Strentzel Muir], 1881 Jul 13.

John M. Vanderbilt

Lena Vanderbilt

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Sitka Alaska July 13/81.

Dear Mrs. Muir

We received a letter from your husband written on the eve of his departure by the steamer "Corwin" for the polar regions, it was a great surprise to us as we hoped that he would pay us a visit this summer and bring you with him, we now look forward to a pleasant visit from you next season. We cannot wonder at Mr. Muir availing himself of so rare a chance to see the beauties of that ever spoken of grand region & knowing his deep love for the work in which he has devoted a life of study. It must be very hard for you both to part for so long a time but the knowledge of ever faithful love helps us in a measure to bear up under such trying circumstances, we sincerely sympathize with you.

The voyage will be a grand one, full of rare, new study and one we would

think possessed of no great danger,
nothing like what it is represented
to be by newspaper & common theory,
no more we imagine than a summer
trip through these inland channels
in a canoe which although
attended with some dangers is
very delightful & charming. We
do not think the risks are as
great in this country, away from
the inventions of the age, as they
are in every day life in civilization.

We have written Mr. Muir a
long letter by this mail to Alaska
which we hope will reach him. He
did not mention how long he would
be away nor have we heard.

We sincerely trust that he may
be with you & your sweet babe this coming
fall & winter.

Please accept our best wishes.

faithfully your friends

Mr. & Mrs. J. M. Vanderhies