



John Muir Correspondence (PDFs)

1881-09-29

Letter from [Louie Muir] to [Ann Gilrye Muir], 1881 Sep 29.

Louie Muir

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precious gift, your son who has brought joy and steadfast blessedness to my heart and life.

It However it be, I trust that before many months we shall all meet in the delight of a grand reunion: parents and children and grandchildren. I long to see that lovely Mountain Lake where John first knew the charm of the fresh wilderness: and the exquisite water-lilies: how the blue eyes of baby Annie Wanda will shine over their snowy chalice!

Lorn's Letter to Mother C15

Martinez, California
Sept. 29th 1881.

Dear Mother, *Muir*

Glorious news to-day from the far, far North! Our beloved wanderer is coming home! Safe and well, through all the perils of the Arctic seas and storms and terrible ice-fields—he comes with rejoicing, for he has looked at last upon that wild mysterious realm of the Ice King, Wrangel Land; and now he is satisfied to come again to the clear sunshine of his Southland home. Perhaps before October is half gone, he will be here: and

06099

then how gladly I shall send to you the swiftest lightning-word, that your heart also may be comforted.

Two of John's letters to the "Bulletin" have just now come, and there may possibly be another to-morrow evening, which I will at once forward to you. Afterward when the extra copies come, I will send to the others of John's family.

O what a burden of dread has been lifted from my heart by these letters. How beautiful the world seems again, and there is no shadow in the future that I can now see. Surely, in all the wide world, there will be no woman more blessed than I

when I have my husband and our baby once more safe and well by our own fireside.

Dear, dear Mother, if only you could be here to welcome your beloved son! I can almost see his look of surprise and intense joy if he could look upon your face when first he leaves the icy waves. California is only a five days' journey from Wisconsin: do you not sometimes think of coming, in our blossom-time, to behold the wonderful Yosemite, and the beautiful Sierra forests that John loves so well?

How glad I should be to give you a true home-welcome, and to thank you in more than words for the

C13 ~~Wednesday~~ Sept. 29, 1881

Dear Mother,

Glorious news to day from the far, far North! Our beloved wanderer is coming home! Safe and well, through all the perils of Arctic seas and storms, and ~~and ice~~ terrible ice-fields - he comes with rejoicing, for he has looked at ^{long} upon that wild mysterious realm of the Ice-King, Wrangel Land and now he is satisfied to come again to the clear sunshine of his South land home. Perhaps he will be here before October is half gone, and then how gladly I shall send to you the swiftest ^{lightning word} message, that your heart also may be comforted.

Two of John's letters to the "Bulletin" have just now come, and there may possibly be another to-morrow evening, which I will at once forward to you. Afterward, when the extra copies come, I will send to the others of John's family. ~~And~~ what a burden of dread has been lifted from my heart by these letters.

" " Now beautiful the world seems again and there is no shadow over the future that I can now see. I wish in all the wide world there will be no woman more blessed than I when I have ^{one more} my husband and our baby safe and well by our own fireside. Dear, dear Mother, if only you could be here to welcome John your beloved son!

06099

I can almost see ^{and intense joy} ~~the~~ ^{gaze} of
joyful surprise ^{and intense joy} if he could
look upon your face when first
he leaves the ~~the~~ icy waves
California is only a five days
journey from Wisconsin.
Daddy and sometimes think of
coming ^{in our blossoming time} to ~~behold~~ ^{the wonderful}
Yosemite ^{and the} ~~that~~ ^{lovely} ~~loves~~ ^{as well?}
well? How glad I should
be to give you a true home-
welcome, and to thank you in
more than words for giving to me
the precious gift of your son
who has brought joy and steadfast
blessings to my heart and life.

However ~~it~~ be I trust that
before many months we shall
all meet ^{together} in the delight
of a grand reunion: parents and
children and grandchildren.
I long to see that lovely Mountain
Lake where John first ^{to see} the
charm of ^{the} ~~the~~ ^{fresh} ~~the~~ ^{water-lilies} and
the exquisite water-lilies. ^{how}
the blue eyes of baby Annie
Wanda will shine over their
snowy chalices!

2 that have been denied to California-