



1881-09-29

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

Louie Muir

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### Recommended Citation

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

It <sup>will</sup> 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 Fount-  
ain 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!

Lorin's Letter to Mother C15

Martinez, California  
Sept. 29<sup>th</sup> 1881.

Dear Mother, *Muir*

Glorious news to-day  
from the far, far North!  
Our beloved wanderer is com-  
ing 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

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  
<sup>days</sup> 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 <sup>lightning word</sup> 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.  
Landscapes in all the wide world there  
will be no woman more blessed than  
I when I have <sup>one more</sup> my husband and our  
baby safe and well by our own  
fireside.

Dear, dear Mother, if  
only you could be here to welcome  
your son beloved son!

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I can almost see <sup>and intense joy</sup> this ~~gaze~~ of  
joyful surprise <sup>and intense joy</sup> if he could  
look upon your face when first  
he leaves the sea icy waves  
California is only a five days  
journey from Wisconsin.  
Dad & Mom sometimes think of  
coming <sup>in our glorious summer</sup> to ~~behold~~ <sup>the wonderful</sup>  
Yosemite 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 giving to me  
the precious gift of your son  
who has brought joy and steadfast  
blessings to my heart and life.

However ~~bad~~ 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 <sup>he new</sup> felt the  
charm of ~~the~~ <sup>fresh wilderness</sup> and  
the exquisite water-lilies. <sup>how</sup>  
the blue eyes of baby Annie  
Wanda will shine over their  
snowy chalices!

2 that have been denied to California-