



1860-11-29

Letter from Joanna Muir to John Muir, 1860 Nov 29

Joanna Muir

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[Nov. 29, 1860]

Dear Brother John

Decem 1860

Daniel got the letter last night and ^{was} all
 very glad to hear from you I did not intend to write to you
 till I received one from you but as you was so anxious for
 news from home I thought I would write. Pa and Ma and
 Margaret went to Portage and ^{caught a} butternut and Bed and a barrel
 full of dishes and a great many other things for
 Margaret. Has there been any frost or man where
 you are there has been lots of both her Parrot got
 both of his legs broken. we expect Sarah and little Anne
 and little George over to stay with us for a few days
 little Anne can talk pretty well now says George is a pookin
 thing and she calls you the Uncle John and she says
 Uncle John is far away in a big house I expect you
 will come and stay with us a while ~~and when~~
 you go East we will all be glad to see you there is no Sunday
 school in Gramams district now so I go to Midland again.
 David sold a little buck to family Ballentyne. now for
 some things there are a great many mad dogs round and
 it is dangerous to go out and some of our neighbors has
 a wild thair dog is there any mad dogs round where you
 live. on tuesday Pa and David went to Portage and first
 when they had got in there was a man came down the
 streets crying fire fire fire for his house was burn
 ing and all the people run and David drew water
 from a well till it was dry and he says the woman
 looked very much frightened and the house was very badly burned
 and when they ~~were~~ were in Portage they bought a good
 big pig the biggest pig I think that ever came in to the house
 it is about ten inches deep and one of the ^{ears} is ~~seventeen~~
 seven inches broad three hundred and thirty pounds and one
 half weight and it is very fat and Pa brought
 home some wheat for seed too. now John I am sure if
 you are home sick for am John sick for I am sure I am
 wearing very much to see you and so is Mary and Anne
 and we are all wearing for a letter John how
 do you like to live in a city after living
 in the woods so long I would like very
 much to come and see you and all
 of us I hope you will soon write me
 a long letter and tell me how many
 miles you are from home. Margaret ~~finds~~
 thinks a great deal of her little singing book

David and Daniel can sing the tune you marked
and a great many others besides ~~what~~ is a card that
came to Midland Post office for you. and here
is a mark for your Bible which I have sent you
to remember me by. I dont know whether ~~I~~
am going to school this winter or not but I hope I
will so I can get my head a little enlarged with
something what ever it is writing or spelling or
reading or arithmetic so as I can get something
in to my head but they dont know any thing about
who is going to teach yet our folks any way
if these ~~my~~ schools commenced where you are
I think I would like to live in the city so
nicks I wouldnt need to ~~go for~~ walk for
in tram frosty mornings can you see the
school. do you learn in the morning when ever
you get your choir is done tell me all you do
every thing you do in the morning when
you get up. I often dream that you have
come back I have dreamed that four or five time
Mary and Anne has dreamed that you have
come home to me I dreamed I found you
in our bed making a rather close and
a another time I thought I found you
in the barren mending your cloak I thought
you had broke ~~your~~ it and hid some
home to mend it and ~~at~~ I thought
when ever you got it mended you took
bell and nan and the buggy and started of again

Pa and Ma and all the rest sends their love to you
I am finishing my letter on
thanks giving day and Pa
is away at a making and
the boys are Chapping down
trees and what are you
doing to day *

God bless
from your
affectionate sister

Janina