



1861-01-21

Letter from Eveline Merrill to John Muir, 1861 Jan 21

Eveline Merrill

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Prain du Blain

Jan 21, 1861

Dear Friend John,

We were truly
glad to hear from you - at least
I was, and giving expression to
my own feelings, I am sure I
express the sentiments of the
rest of the family - that is the
and Mrs Tilton, and Emily, not
forgetting Bessie (and so on,
(Bessie) "would get a terrible
Rising if you could get hold
of her" O John - John! - that
you - the inflexible one - should
allow so foolish a thing to
enter your thought heart. While
I admire your frankness in
acknowledging your weakness,
I regret that you cannot give
me a practical demonstration

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of your sincerity. As that can
not be. I know of no other way
but to double my diligence,
and kiss her a dozen times
more, ^{than usual} each day for you, which
will not diminish my happiness
in the least, for she is just as true
as ever, and loves me more and
more.

I had hoped you would
escape being lonely, and being
sick. But I feared you would
not. I am only writing a few
lines, just to cheer you a little,
if possible, for I know very well
all about the heart sickness you
feel, in being among cold heart-
ed strangers. I trust you will
soon find good, warm friends
such as you need, and wait.
If you do not - you must con-
fort yourself with the reflection
that you have often been

I know of one who would
enjoy a chat with you in the
my little sitting room. Would
you not like to go to the Bazaar
to church once more? I went
there again a week ago last
Sunday, and heard a good
sermon. I suppose you hear
good preaching every Sabbath
now. Which I know you will
enjoy very much. Would that I
were thus privileged.

I thank you for the good quilt
you left in a gentle hint to
write you, I take it. A word
to the wise is sufficient for
pardon. I hurried up the morning
you left, to bid you "good bye" but
I hunted in vain for you in the
sitting room, parlor, and kitchen -
and will now bid you a pleasant good
bye. The Lord bless you in all your
undertakings, is the desire of your friend
M. J. M.