



John Muir Correspondence (PDFs)

1862-06-08

Letter from David? Muir to John Muir, 1862 Jun 8

David Muir

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City of Portage

June 8th.62

Dear brother John

I have only to inform you of fine weather Pleasant swimming a good School and getting along first rate &c the weather though sometimes pretty warm does not at all bother me in the schoolroom which is generally very comfortable, and I go in swimming about every day. I think I am getting along pretty well with my Studies now the longer I study I think I get along the easier it ^{don't} take me more than half as long to get a lesson now as it did in winter, in all I feel pretty well. The subject of friction I liked very well for a composition I handed in the composition last Tuesday but it is not yet read I did not write a very long one for fear of not guessing right in all cases however I ended by saying that the sand would run into ocean till it was the same height there as here and if the sand was the same height there as here the water would be the same height here as there and we would be all drowned &c the truth of which you may judge but John I hope you will excuse all of these blunders for I am very sleepy and my pen is poor please turn over

Gas

I D. Muir can make gas on short notice
and bust any oyster can under the sun.
I tried very hard yesterday to make carbonic
acid gas I took a bottle put in a lot of
powdered marble and water enough to cover
it well, I then commenced slowly to pour in
sulphuric acid which made it boil violently
up out of the top of the bottle which started
me after gas in a hurry to stop the flood
I made another attempt and got some gas
but found it easiest to put out a candle with
the breath of my nostrils as the gas really
seemed lighter than air instead of heavier

John doo please write soon and tell me
how to make curious experiments with
sulphuric acid or any thing else easy to
be gotten and some composition subject
and tell me how you get along now
especially with Latin and when
you will be home and also of every
that pertaineth to Madison

be sure and write soon
from D. Muir
Good-bye