



John Muir Correspondence (PDFs)

1865-03-05

Letter from John Muir to Mary Muir, 1865 Mar 5

John Muir

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Hickory Dale 1000 ft above
The sea. January, 1871/65

Dear John

We are pretty well but
are fast growing weary
of the many changes which
now seem to be of daily
occurrence. We now live
in a room made in the upper
part of the barn next the
orchard we reach it by an
outside stair. It is hard
carrying up the wood & water
once aloft and fell with an
awful of broken furniture
and sprained my wife's
crown. The cattle live in the
house now - the cows in the
cellar - the horses on the first
floor & the sheep up stairs

Van will not go past
the cellar door but
we do the best we can

The apple trees are dug
up and planted upon the
cold rocky summit of the
observatory where I am sure

They will not grow well
The cattle do not stand
the severe weather well this
winter - they stand drawn to
gether like a dog licking a foot

Frank Sally & married
and Lowdy Graham
has the whooping cough
Wife - soon or sooner
from your son Mary

P. S. Carrie Muir has enlisted
and David is very angry

These many you should put
 some gilt and border that
 kind in your letters
 I only recall that someone
 told me you that these
 small matters which occur
 in the neighborhood which
 you do not think worthy
 of note are still of interest
 to us when so far from
 home I am sorry that
 John & David have had to
 leave home but it is better
 that they go down to enjoy
 in this American Egypt than
 to fight American Philistines
 I trust Mary that you
 are diligently employed in the
 acquisition of knowledge - prepare
 yourself for usefulness as a teacher
 and do not think of marrying
 for long years to come is my advice
 This note will also do for Tim & Jack

March 5th 1858

Dear Sis Mary I would
 give you a kiss each down
 for the satisfaction of seeing
 you I fancy that your
 face is out so lean and
 little bits that I could only
 find it I am sure of your
 last letter with a
 deal of pleasure but it was
 not great enough in any of the
 dimensions minute enough in
 its details or sufficiently
~~charming~~ ^{crisp & snappy} in its
 there is a form for a woman
 letter from your locality
 though so regards style
 I by no means commend
 it to your exact imitation