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## Letter from Jeanne C. Carr to John Muir, 1867 Apr 15

Jeanne C. Carr

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Madison, April 13, [1867]

Dear Friend.

I was very glad indeed to get your last, and the most welcome news that you could see a little with the injured eye. Dr Carr thinks the liquid you refer to was only a part of the humor - for the unshrunken appearance of the eye indicates that some must remain. Your physician will of course know best. Mr E. L. Holmes of the Rush Medical College Chicago, Dr Carr thinks the best oculist he knows anything about in the west. He says he does not see why if the integrity of vision is not destroyed, in a perfectly healthy bodily condition the wasted humor should not in time be restored. Still he has too little experience to feel certain. Dr Gobbin says the deposition of fibrin ought to be prevented, and that to secure this you need to take Calomel. But at this distance there is no use in entering into particulars. Only an examination of the eye can determine. A nephew of Dr Carr

By Carr, of the Bulletin, and all other papers

Last fall run a pitchfork into his right eye, a little back of your wound -) and for some days Dr. Robbins thought it doubtful about his seeing. Now, after six months rest, you cannot detect any difference and the vision is not much affected. Dr. H. says you can train the left eye to do the other's work.

Yesterday the tolling bells and half hour cannon & flag at half mast testified the people grief over the unforgotten dead, two years ago I lay at the point of death - I felt that I could see that other world - and I was sure that my days in the world were over. I was such a snick of myself when I began to creep feebly around the house - and now I am with years of work in me yet. Who knows but we shall see South America yet? He who weareth the fate of nations and the destinies of the individual will surely lead us, who consciously accept and desire His guidance.

Yesterday I can't bring home two beautiful books, the World seen the Ueluge and the Vegetable World by Louis Figuier.

and I said of the latter "John Muir will enjoy overlooking this. Oh John if we do get a living man to Preside over this Territory we can make these grounds very beautiful. You will gather seeds for us in South America and we will have a Conservatory Band and by and by we will appoint John Muir A. R. B. S. Bot. Prof. and Director of the grounds, and he shall have a little study in the green-house, and live like dear old Currier's - would it be nice? All this if you don't make a minister -

Do you know Spanish? You ought to be picking up a little Spanish if you mean to traverse the beautiful lands. I do believe you will yet carry out your plans.

You ought not to write much. I felt guilty to see how much you had written to me. Vireos, just peeping out of the ground; Robins, Blue birds, full the air with music. Can you not be permitted to sit or lie in the Sun with your head protected. It would do you good to bask. The dear old Mother will hear you just when you get upon



her cap once more.

Henry is having his first coat made, Mr Muir, 'not many years to long coats, and neck ties! Henry is making money too by carrying papers, but his riches do not spoil him. Allie is more of a baby, he is our youngling — and we like to keep him so — He is busy now planning a house to put lady birds in. It is a trial to me to have only 4 or 8 rods of ground to scratch in — and I only content myself by saying 'Well maybe I will get 'presumpt' a small planet' — Get some good friend to read you a description of the Go Semite Valley, and try to realize what Gods landscape gardening is; Oh this home of our Father! I would like to know all its mansions — and often to meet and compare notes with you, who love it with the same fervent love. God morning J. C. C.