



[John Muir Correspondence \(PDFs\)](#)

1873-11-14

Letter from John Muir to Sarah [Muir Galloway], 1873 Nov 14.

John Muir

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Yosemite Valley

Nov 14th 1873

Dear Sister Sarah, Have just got down the mtn side from my long trip & find a large pile of letters. One from you with Annas photo. It is very good indeed, she is developing splendidly & you say "Get another Galloway". What a thicket of underbrush is growing up around you. How truly rich you & David are in all that is worth having. Children love & land, Tell David not to work too hard, one gets into the habit of it - & soon comes to believe that everlasting high pressure labor is absolutely necessary. If we could accomplish ten times as much we would still be apt to work at the top of our bent - driven by the same species of necessity. Be economical & learn to do without things & gain leisure to look up, there is a sermon for you.

I have traveled over a thousand miles in this last excursion, Climbed more mtns than I hoped to climb. Have had a very instructed trip in every way. Reached the highest mtn top in the range, perhaps the highest in North America 14,900 feet.

If I could be near you I could tell you many
a story of trial & enjoyment connected with this
our grand ramble. Will sometime,
am always glad to hear any word from Mrs
Galloway give her my heartfelt regards
I am glad to be remembered by her

I am glad Maggie is so well,
It is a very great blessing for so many
of you to be together greater than you know
Make the most of each others love, which is
the only true wealth

I suppose I must go into society
this winter, I would rather go back in
some undiscoverable garner beneath the
rafters of an old garret, with my notes
& books & listen to the winter rapping &
blowing on the roof. May start for Oakland
in a day or two. Will probably live in
Proffers family
Heaven bless you & David & all the dear
little ones. Ever lovingly John W. W.