



John Muir Correspondence (PDFs)

1885-08-23

Letter from Louie [Strentzel Muir] to John Muir, 1885 Aug 23.

Louie Strentzel Muir

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scold anybody, since we came, not even Josephus!

Wanda is very well, and enjoys roaming about the orchard with Grandpa, but in the house, she bestows her attention mainly upon Grandma who seems to be, as she promised, getting well because of having the baby near her.

Wanda has just finished her own little letter with a needle, all by herself, and says, "Tell dear papa to hold it up against the light and read how many, many little kisses his own baby, sends to him." O papa, if you knew how much she thinks and talks of you!

Dear husband, do not leave the mountains till you feel well and strong. Good bye. Louie.

Martinez, California
August 23, 1885.

Dear John,

I have given up trying to follow as fast as you travel, and so am going at a comfortable pace to the Yellowstone. Your letter from Shasta came Thursday evening, and I sent you a note to Portland next morning, but of course it could not reach you if you left there Saturday.

I send \$50.00 to Mr. Lison by Express, Saturday morning.

Two letters from Portland came on Friday, but as you did not tell me where to write to you in National Park, I sent to Mr. Borland for a lot of Railroad guides and

maps which baby and I have been poring over, but as there is no Northern Pacific map among them, we do not feel sure of any special station or hotel where we can find a wanderer like you: so we think our messages had better travel on to Portage & there await you, with the Portland note.

"But Wanda begs so often to 'go and see the bonny rivers and fountains and waterfalls, so she can look at them with dear papa;" that I sometimes get excited and feel like starting off right away, just our two selves, for the Yellowstone mountains.

My ride every other day over the home ranch dispels the illusion, however. That has been all I have had strength for these two weeks: with much panting and struggling for

breath betweentimes.

Dr Gibbons says that I will probably get over that trouble in three or four weeks, but that I must rest most of the time: and that it is caused by "undue pressure on the spinal nerves, ect."

The old Doctor came here yesterday morning and will stay until tomorrow: visit going on very pleasantly, though Grandma steadily maintains her own views of affairs. He brought a nice black setter puppy, very playful with which baby is greatly pleased, and she has become quite friendly to the Doctor.

Grandpa always drives with me, and it keeps him busy enough, looking after 2 ranches, but he does not complain, in fact I have not heard him