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Letter from John Muir to Louie [Strentzel Muir], 1888 Aug 7.

John Muir

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August 7<sup>th</sup> 1888

Dear Louie.

We returned to Seattle last evening after spending five days on the upper waters of the Snoqualmie. The rides & walks through the grand primeval woods were very interesting & exciting & telling, & the roughness & wetness of snags logs & constant rain were as nothing to the soul though something to bones & flesh. Most of that however is rusted away leaving only the living immortal beauty in vivid relief.

Tomorrow morning at 4.45 we start for Mt Rainier by way of Yelm Prairie. When we will procure pack animals. There will be eight in the party - most of whom will attempt to reach the summit. The weather is stormy & unsettled & far from inviting to such mountaineering so that I hardly think any of us will triumph. The summit snows I don't mean to try. Lacking the old confidence & strength, I have been sorely disappointed in hearing so little from home - only Wanda's letter.

Here are some Snoqualmie mosses & a Linnæa for Wanda & Helen. I suppose Anna has gone home. Love to you all. In ~~two~~ weeks may be in Portland. John Muir