



John Muir Correspondence (PDFs)

---

1888-08-22

Letter from [Annie L. Muir] to Louie [Muir], 1888 Aug 22.

Annie L. Muir

Follow this and additional works at: <https://scholarlycommons.pacific.edu/muir-correspondence>

---

**Recommended Citation**

Muir, Annie L., "Letter from [Annie L. Muir] to Louie [Muir], 1888 Aug 22." (1888). *John Muir Correspondence (PDFs)*. 1781.

<https://scholarlycommons.pacific.edu/muir-correspondence/1781>

This Article is brought to you for free and open access by Scholarly Commons. It has been accepted for inclusion in John Muir Correspondence (PDFs) by an authorized administrator of Scholarly Commons. For more information, please contact [mgibney@pacific.edu](mailto:mgibney@pacific.edu).

And the condition farther<sup>543</sup> down is no better. He gave me an atomizer with which I can send a spray of medicine directly to the parts affected, and he advised me besides to take the oil of Eucalyptus in which he has great faith - He says that the attention of Medical men has of late been directed to the medicinal properties of the eucalyptus tree, which prove to be of great value. He says that a grove of them about a house are sure protection against malaria. I then spoke to him of the Doctor's pond, and he said that surrounding it with this tree was all that was necessary.

I found Maggie feeling very poorly - indeed she had one of her worst spells while I was there. But there is one encouraging feature in the case, namely that they come much less frequently. She has had none before this since last spring - I fear she is worrying too much about their affairs, which are taking no better shape than they did last year - but still they might be worse than they are according to Walter Brown's statement. He says that John could settle all his indebtedness and still have five or six thousand dollars left - provided I suppose that he could sell his land & stock - Maggie thinks of going to him in Kansas soon, and we do hope that the change may prove a benefit to her. Do not think that she is much worse than before for she is not - but she looks weary & anxious. She has a horse & carriage and drives out often - Portage looks beautiful to me - The lawns are fresh & green - the trees have grown very much, and embosom the City in rich green foliage - We all wish most sincerely that you could have

C 13

Portage, Wis. Aug. 22. '88.

Dear Louie and All the family -

I am home

at last - and so glad to be here once more, with so many of those dear & more to me - especially after so long & tiresome & dusty a trip as it looks to me when I look it over - from there to here - but the last day was the hardest, between here & Chicago - as I was very tired and not well, and had several changes to make, and too much baggage to look after. But I arrived safely at last - David met me at the depot looking better & younger than when I last saw him. (He was married in teeth, not gums alone.)

06158

Mother looks somewhat older but is quite comfortable, and able to enjoy heartily this partial reunion of her family. Just think we numbered twelve in the house, until Joanna and her family left us yesterday morning. My visit with her was too, too short - only from Saturday evening until Tuesday morning - but Walter, who has been in N. Y. City for some time, returned, arriving here on Sunday eve. and wished to take them home with him, as the weather is now cool & pleasant. Her children look much as they do in the pictures. Little Bessie is very sweet & quiet in her ways, and Ethel is very energetic & original in hers. She says many funny & unexpected things - Mary's Baby who is but one month younger than Bessie is very much smaller - the tiniest thing -

She was two years old yesterday and weighs only 20 lbs. She is round & plump as a little pigeon, but so little & cunning, wearing a No. 2 shoe which is almost too large for her. Her hair is much longer & heavier than little Helen's. How we have wished that your little Helen was here I think, she, Bessie & little Helen Hand would make the sweetest, dearest little trio in existence - When I was in Lincoln Dan examined my lungs & throat. He agrees with the San Francisco physician in saying that my lungs are entirely well. but he seemed to be surprised at the condition of my throat - which he says is very bad indeed - He looked into the upper part of my throat and found the mucous membrane much thickened & swollen from chronic inflammation