



1888-12-24

Letter from [John Muir] to David [Gilrye Muir], 1888 Dec 24.

John Muir

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01330
Martinez Dec. 24 1888

Dear Brother David. In you & yours I wish with all my heart a merry & happy New Year & Christmas. May you make plenty of money for all the honey you may need to strengthen & sweeten your own life, & your wife's, & childrens, & a few cents & dollars more for friends & neighbors, so that, however faint & diluted, all the world may be made a little better, a little sweeter from your having lived in it. This you know is a figure of speech & does not mean what it says. But a merchant will understand what is meant in referring to all the grace & goodness of life as money without being drawn too rudely & far from the beloved ledger.

Since your ^{2^d} marriage you have maintained a grand dignified (or stupid) silence too happy for words I suppose or letters & only through others have I heard that you were well & prosperous. I too I am afraid have sinned in this matter of silence drifting on in streams & whirls of business care & pleasure