



1897-10-15

Letter from John Muir to [Margaret (Hay) Lunam], 1897 Oct 15.

John Muir

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Martinez, California Oct. 15, 1897

My dear Cousin. I should have written you before. But I was away in the Rocky Mountains & Alaska. I hurried back earlier than usual & it was well I did so for our good Mother Strentzel was very sick, & about two weeks after my return she died at the age of 76. How small our little family now seems you will know.

I am much surprised to hear of the sudden death of Mr Dick. How different from that of my mother-in-law, who was an invalid more than 40 years.

My Sister Mary is now with us. She has been here more than three months on a visit but is now about to start for her home in Nebraska. Maggie is quite poorly at times but is not now worse than

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usual. David² is quite well; his two daughters from Wisconsin paid him a visit this summer. & all the rest of our family were in usual health when I last heard from them.

Possibly Mrs M. & the girls may visit Scotland after Helen is a little bigger. She is now 11 years old & very bright. I'm working away with my pen but making slow progress I'm writing some more forestry articles & a little book on Alaska. Did you see my articles in the August & September Century Magazine & in the August Atlantic Monthly, if not I'll send copies.

Remember me to Mr Buchanan, Mrs Kelly, Susan, Cousin Mather, & Mr Notman.

I trust this will find you & Maggie in good health & that the coming winter will be easy with you. Ever affectionately
Your Cousin
John Muir

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