



John Muir Correspondence (PDFs)

1903-12-16

Letter from Sarah M[uir] Galloway to Mary [Muir Hand], 1903 Dec 16.

Sarah Muir Galloway

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Seappoose, Oregon.
Dec 16. 1903

Sister Mary

Our last letters crossed again, but you had mine and I had yours. I was very glad to receive it for I had been wearying to hear from you. Yes I know how busy you will be for when all else is done there are those pictures on the sail awaiting you and they require such long careful work and study.

You ask if I know anything about whether the house is sold, all I know is through one of Joanne's letters written about the time I received your last one, she said at that time that she had only one letter from Portage in months, and that was from L. A. Jones, they had thought of buying the old home for a residence but wrote that they had decided to purchase another.

I received a few lines yesterday from John Reid in which he said that Helen Min was close with the money and the Doctor. the letter was dated Dec. 11. He also says that John was in Egypt. I shall be anxious until I hear that she is better.

place instead as the price asked was too much considering how much would be necessary to repair and make it a modern home. I have no correspondent in Portugal but had a letter from Mrs David Allan of Delcorra she wrote asking me if I would be willing to give my sewing machine to a widow who was poor and had five children it was still in the house and Mrs Owen who had seen no chance to sell it would be rather pleased to have it gone, so I told her to give it to the widow, I do not know who it was. In that way I know that the Owens were still there. Mrs Allan said how much she missed David, she said she had been a good deal with her in her work for about two years and said that her place of rest was not forgotten, she had been at the cemetery with flowers several times. I think

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You were also wondering if the lots would be properly cared for. I think there is no doubt of it as David always said to have them attended to, and any time we were there they looked well cared for, I do not think he will neglect ^{them any more}. I had a letter from Mary ^{the} other day, also one a few days earlier. She seems to keep about as she has done, many times weary enough I know but still keeps working away. She sent me a few lines to read that she had received from John # and written on board the steamship "Peninsular" in the Arabian sea about 300 miles east of the Straits of Babelmandel Oct 28 - he said these long sea voyages ^{were} doing him so much good, he was eating better than he had done in fifteen or twenty years. he said tomorrow we expect to be at Oclara

when we change steamers, and four days later to get off at Suez, and from there go to Cairo by rail, he was anxious to learn a little of the Red Sea Country, Egypt and Palestine, then he hoped to start home ward by way of Ceylon, Australia, New Zealand and the Southern Cross, etc. I believe they look for him home about New Year.

Has Dan, or any of the others sent you word of his marriage which took place at Atlantic Iowa Oct 26, to Miss Oveitta Ginar? Mayje sent me a few lines, also a clipping from a news paper which Jessie had sent also a letter from Jessie. I were I were astounded Jessie said Anna Waterman was in Lincoln and having a little time called to see Emma and the girls, the first time since the separation. they were very much pleased to see her and talked over things very freely. they say Dan's wife is

twenty two or three years old. She had been attending the University and was taking treatment of Dan. I had a letter later from Mayje in which she says that Dan, with his wife has been down at Cret visiting at Watermans, they think she looks much like Madel and is nice, they looked like Luther and daughter. she has still one year at the University, they have rooms near his Office. My dear Mary is it not very strange that he could make up his mind so soon to do this under the circumstances. but we do not know it all. He has sent no word to any one of the family.

David was very well when I last heard, but Elte has not been so well, she has been at Auckland taking treatment, she is home now and better, but says she is going to stay at home all winter. kindly write her. perhaps you have heard of Mr Westlake's

death, he died sometime since in
 Oakland, Mrs Westlake has undergone
 an operation and is doing well now.
 she is still in Oakland.

Louie and the girls have been well,
 Helen has been out of school for a few
 days with a cold.

I was glad to hear that your boys
 are getting on so well, I wonder if
 you will all be together on Christmas
 I hope you will and have a happy
 time! You see we are still sojour-
 ning in this far country, Anne
 and the children are well now,
 Marion has not been well for a few
 days but is better, I too had a bad
 cold but am well again. Celia is
 pretty well now, we expect her for
 a short visit soon, Grace you have
 heard from, she tells me. And now
 my dear I wish you and yours a
 happy Christmas and a good and glad
 New year. Lovingly your sister
 Mother. Sarah Dr. Followay

MY POST-OFFICE ADDRESS IS

MY TELEGRAPH ADDRESS IS

MY EXPRESS ADDRESS IS

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
BUREAU OF FORESTRY

Pasadena, Cal., Dec. 17, 1903.

Mr. John Muir,
Martinez, Cal.

My Dear Mr. Muir:-

I have not known whether you had returned from your foreign trip, but am anxious to know, and am also anxious to know if you and yours are well. I sincerely hope nothing happened during your trip to mar your pleasure. I am sure no one could possibly get as much out of such a trip as you, and many thousands of people will be anxious to read your account of it. I don't think you realize how much your writings are appreciated. If you were to turn out a volume every week they would be eagerly devoured by your many admirers. I have been pegging away this summer very busily in the forestry work, and hope I may have the pleasure of meeting you before long and talk over matters.

Trusting I may hear from you soon, and with kindest regards from us all for you and yours, I am

Very sincerely yours,

J. P. Lukens