



John Muir Correspondence (PDFs)

1895-07-23

Letter from Joanna [Muir Brown] to John Muir, 1895 Jul 23.

Joanna Muir Brown

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Portage, Wis.

July 23rd 93.

My dear brother John:-

Sarah came in yesterday and gave me quite a surprise in the form of twenty five dollars from yourself. She said you had been minded to send the same by a letter you had seen of mine. - Now I did not realize that there was anything in that letter to Maggie (for I have not written to any one else in Cal.) which would bring forth such results; but when we were children at

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used to be ~~so~~ an inveterate, and the time
did come. So now I often wonder if that
will ever come when I can look serenely
back to the time when I was in such straits
because of poverty, and I think of that time
does come, and ~~it~~ ^{surely} ~~it~~, about, I will
think of some way to show my appreciation
of your present kindness to myself and
the children, other than simply by thanks.

However this may be you will have
your reward for there is one greater than
we, who had promised that "so ye measure
to, others it shall be measured to you again."
May your trip to the mountains be all you could wish
fare well, with love, Joanna.

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school, our teacher used to say
that when Joanna tried to look
serious she knew there was
some fun going on, so maybe
it works vice versa likewise
and when I think I appear
reasonably cheerful, something
else is more apparent, well!
be that as it may, your kind-
ness was very acceptable, and
it was not difficult to de-
cide how to make use of the
money.

When I was sick all the time
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Portage, Wis.,
July 23rd, '95.

My dear brother John:

Sarah came in yesterday and gave me quite a surprise in the form of twenty-five dollars from yourself. She said you had been minded to send the same by a letter you had seen of mine. Now I did not realize that there was anything in that letter to Maggie (for I have not written to anyone else in Cal.) which would bring forth such results. But when we were children at school, our teacher used to say that when Joanna tried to look serious she knew there was some fun going on, so maybe it works vice versa likewise, and when I think I appear reasonably cheerful, something else is more apparent. Well! be that as it may, your kindness was very acceptable, and it was not difficult to decide how to make use of the money.

When I was sick all the time in the years gone by, I used often to wonder if the time would ever come when I could look calmly back and talk about the time when I used to be an invalid, and the time did come. So now I often wonder if the time will ever come when I can look serenely back to the time when I was in such straits because of poverty, and I think if that time does come, and it surely most, I will think of some way to shew my appreciation of your present kindness to myself and the children, other than simply by thanks.

However this may be, you will have your reward for there is One greater than we, who has promised that "as ye measure to others it shall be measured to you again."

May your trip to the mountains be all you could wish.

Farewell, with love,

Joanna [Muir Brown]

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