



John Muir Correspondence (PDFs)

1905-08-06

Letter from Annie K. Bidwell to John Muir, 1905 Aug 6.

Annie K. Bidwell

My heart is sorely grieved for you, and for the dear daughters, and I wish them to feel that I want to be one of their friends, as well as the friend of their father whom General, and all of us, so love and honor.

"The Lord bless thee, and keep thee: The Lord make His face to shine upon thee, and be gracious unto thee: The Lord lift up His countenance upon thee, and give thee peace. Numbers, 10: 24-26.

My sister & husband are with me & write with me in sorrow for you & yours. Yours most sincerely,
 Annie K. Bidwell

Rancho Chico, Cal.
 Aug. 1905.

Dear Mr Muir.

We are overwhelmed with sorrow, and know not how to form words wherewith to express to you our sympathy in your great grief, and with the dear daughters.

Your cup is surely full to overflowing, and my prayer is that our great and loving God will strengthen you as He has strengthened me, in hours of darkness, yes, of perfect blackness.

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ness, when not even a
star seemed to shine to
comfort.

For a few days after General
went I had strength for every
duty, but suddenly a change
came over me and I had to
be shut off from every person
however dear, and see but
two persons, one at night, the
other during the day, but
only when medicine or nour-
ishment had to be brought
to me. There must be no
change in the two attendants,
either. The doctor said my
pulse could not be felt nor

the beating of my heart heard.
The doctor said implicit obedience
was obligatory, or I would not
live until arrival of my sister,
and that it was not assured
that I could with very care.

However, I did live, and
during those days of physical
weakness God's loving pres-
ence was most wonderfully
manifested. Some day I will
tell you more about them.

For two years I suffered with
my head, and longer, in
bodily infirmity, but God
never deserted me. He
did not remove the cross but
gave power to bear it.