



1900-09-06

## Letter from Helen Muir to [John Muir], 1900 Sep 6.

Helen Muir

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Martinez, California.

September 6, 1900.

Dear Papa,

We have not heard from you since I wrote to you before, but I thought you would be glad to hear from us again and know how we are.

Aunt Margaret is better, and came over here yesterday morning for her usual ride, though she has not been able to ride before for quite a while, she was tired when she got home, but was no worse for it in the afternoon.

Wanda is well and is getting along finely down at school, she said in the letter that we received yesterday, that Monday morning the 6.15 train which I told you in my last letter had been so late, went from Blair to Point Richmond in just twenty minutes insted of an hour as it usually does, that is pretty good, and is

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more than the S.P. does.

Aunt Margaret just came here for Aunt Sarah a few minutes ago, we are all so glad she is well enough to ride again this morning.

Mama is better and has been out side nearly all day planting.

The weather cleared up yesterday morning beautifully, and this is a lovely day too. Our rain turned out to be nothing more than a little misty sprinkle, and did not even lay the dust any where.

The leaves on the fruit trees are beginning to turn beautiful colors, some of the grape leaves are bright yellow tipped and edged with red.

The bridge is not finished yet, and the people still keep coming through our place, surprising us with their numbers, but as by their coming we get our road sprinkled, it is all right.

We have some pretty red-cheeked apples here that came from the

other place, they are beautiful to look at, lovely to smell and delicious to eat, we will save some for you when you come home.

Both Tom and Sticken are flourishing, and Keemie jumps up and down in the stubble field after grass-hoppers the same as ever. Tom goes out at six o'clock every morning and catches a gopher, and eats it in his old style on the front porch before we get our breakfast.

I heard a *Lophophanes inornatus* in a tree by the creek not long ago, it was the first one I have heard since last spring and I was so glad to know that my little favorite was around here again.

Mr. Coleman has dried a good many peaches, pears and prunes this summer, and he is just rushing off the Tokay grapes every day, as they are red and ripe and bring a good price.

Have you had any fine snow storms since you wrote?

I wonder if there were any thunder storms up there when it was so cloudy here?

Are you getting lots better and stronger since you left for this grand trip?

Do not worry about your papers for we have not touched a speck of dust in your room, or moved a thing, nor about fire, because we are very careful.

We hope you will telegraph to us when you reach Yosemite Valley so we will know you are all right so much sooner, but please write a long letter too, and tell us all about yourself, and every thing.

How are the chipmunks? I wish I could see and learn about the dear little creatures.

When Wanda comes home next Saturday, she will have four days

of vacation, Saturday and Sunday as usual, and then Monday and Tuesday for Admission Day, as she will be here so long, she will write to you, and I will write again when she does.

Mama will write this afternoon, and I do hope there will be a letter from you in the mail this morning.

Aunt Sarah, Aunt Margaret and Mama and Wanda all send their love to you, with lots of it from me, I am your loving little girl,

Helen Muir.