



John Muir Correspondence (PDFs)

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1902-12-25

**Letter from Annie L. Muir to John Muir, 1902 Dec 25.**

Annie L. Muir

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Happy New Year to All.

Portage Wis Xmas Night [1902]

Dear Brother, John,

All the family here, have gone out to some Christmas entertainment notwithstanding the fact that the mercury stands a little below zero, accompanied, by the fact, of a high wind blowing. Grandmother Owen aged 73 yrs wrapped up + went with her family - So I am here alone - having been shut in more than a month now. But when the weather grows milder + brighter I expect to be stronger, + to get about once more -

What a shock the Oregon family have had! - I am glad Sarah is with Anna + the little children at this sad time - Heaven help them all. And they will be helped.

Dear Brother, I have decided to send you the old Family Bible containing the Family Record. Much of which is written by father + mother themselves. It includes the Grandchildren names also - nearly all of them.

You are the eldest son + I think it belongs to you - So I, send it as soon as I am able to.

Go down to the express office + attend to it.  
Inside the cover you will find a clipping  
just as it left Mother's hands - on "Old Dunbar  
Character" - I enclose within the same cover  
two small books for Maggie's + David's folks.

I have already read + read the December No.  
of my Christiania magazine - Out West - and am  
delighted with it - hearty thanks for same -  
My flock of red + blue postage stamps fairly  
dazzled me - But they made me feel rich -  
I felt that I had lots of something. How lucky  
that I thought of that (outlawed) promise! ~~Thank~~  
I had a long cheery letter from Sarah - written a  
day or two before Hiram's death, in which  
she spoke hopefully of his return in better health -  
How uncertain is life!

I was unable to go out to the funeral, or to  
attend to any of the arrangements - But  
Mr. Jos. E. Wells + wife managed all right -  
always coming over to consult with me -  
And now Good night - Christmas Day  
is ended for me -

I dreamed one night, last week, that I  
saw you coming in the gate + ran to meet  
you on the steps, + what a glad meeting  
we had - When will it be?

With love to yours' self + family,  
Annis K. Ellings

[Folder marked, in Muir's handwriting, "Sister Annis's last letter"]

Portage, Wis.,  
Xmas Night, [1902]

Dear Brother John:

All the family here have gone out to some Christmas entertainment, notwithstanding the fact that the mercury stands a little below zero, accompanied by the fact of a high wind blowing. Grandma Owen, aged 73 yrs., wrapped up and went with the family. So I am here alone, having been shut in more than a month now. But when the weather grows milder and brighter I expect to be stronger and to get about once more.

What a shock the Oregon family have had! I am glad Sarah is with Anna and the little children at this sad time. Heaven help them all. And they will be helped.

Dear Brother, I have decided to send you the old family Bible containing the Family Record, much of which is written by father and mother themselves. It includes the grandchildren's names also -- nearly all of them. You are the eldest son, and I think it belongs to you. So I [shall] send it as soon as I am able to go down to the express office and attend to it. Inside the cover you will find a clipping just as it left Mother's hands on "Old Dunbar Characters." I enclose within the same cover two small books for Maggie's and David's folks.

I have already received and read the December No. of my Christmas magazine Out West and am delighted with it. Hearty thanks for same and my flock of red and blue postage stamps fairly dazzled me. But they made me feel rich. I felt that I had lots of something. How lucky that I thought of that (outlawed) promise! Thanks.

I had a long cheery letter from Sarah, written a day or two before Hiram's death in which she spoke hopefully of his return in better health. How uncertain is life.

I was unable to go out to the funeral or to attend to any of the arrangements. But Mr. Joe E. Wells and wife managed all right, always coming over to consult with me. And now goodnight -- Christmas Day is ended for me!

I dreamed one night last week that I saw you coming in the gate and ran to meet you on the steps, and what a glad meeting we had. When will it be?

With love to yourself and family,

Annie L. Muir

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