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Letter from Annie Hay to John Muir, 1910 Aug 24.

Annie Hay

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Westfield

Dunbar. 24th Aug. 1910

Dear Mr. Muir, Mr. Hay and I are visiting our dear Cousins Mrs. Lunan and Maggie - spending a fortnight with them. Last Sunday we were at the Parish Church and Mr. Boardman introduced his subject - (The day-sprung from our high hats visited us) by saying that he was going to read a paragraph from one of John Muir's Books "Nature Studies" - "A man ^{of Dunbar} Dunbar was justly proud". He told us that books of that nature were not as much read as they ought to be, to our loss. The quotation was from the Chapter on "The Water Angel in the Mountains of California". The lesson he wanted to enforce ~~was~~ contained in these lines "However dark and boisterous the weather - snowing blowing, or cloudy, all the same he sings, and with never a note of sadness".

And I feel when we can reach the dear little water Angel's condition of feeling, we have attained ^{the} "Mastery over circumstance", and are "free". free to live the life of the Spirit.

Mr. Hay was greatly interested that on the rare occasion of worshipping in Dunbar Church he should hear of you and of work from the pulpit

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Auntie Lunam and W. May sit together and recount the past. Their memories fail them about what happened yesterday or even an hour ago, but the days of childhood and youth are with them. It was very lovely to listen to them the other evg. repeating together the twenty third Psalm and the second paraphrase. They stand on the borderland, and one feels a thrill of glad wonder as the thought comes to me that soon they will step forth from ~~the~~ these worn out tabernacles into the strength and youth and beauty of the spiritual body.

Auntie Lunam is very frail needing a little help when she walks from room to room but her hearing is much better than W. May's while his sight is better than hers. He reads all day long and without spectacles.

We have been away since the beginning of June - and go on Monday to Colindale to visit our daughter Margaret who is married to a Congregational Minister there.

W. Lunam tells us all she knows about you and yours. We are glad to hear of your daughter is well again, who was, when we heard - threatened with rather delicate health

And she tells us that both your daughters
are married and so you will be all
alone. Do you not plan to come over
and see us all again. It would be
very delightful if you would and
could.

Mr. Lunan, Maggie W. Hay join
me in sending on to you our
kind love and many thoughts
cross the ocean to you as we
talk together.

I am affectionately Y^{rs}
Annie Hay.