



John Muir Correspondence (PDFs)

1914-01-01

Letter from Joanna [Muir Brown] to [John Muir], [ca. 1914].

Joanna Muir Brown

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You cannot think how glad I
am that Helen's health holds
out so bravely, sometimes these
delicate girls surprise everybody
Bernice too is steadily gaining
in health and strength, which
is a source of great encour-
agement to me in this
time of sore problems
It seems that the terrible war
is not only destroying the youth
and consuming the wealth
of Europe, but is also seriously
affecting the prosperity
of our own country. It is re-
ported that in Philadelphia alone
seventy five thousand men are
out of employment, and we
ourselves are feeling the blow

(13)

622 Hawthorne
Richmond Va

My dear brother John
Your letter
of August was as welcome as
your letters always are, and
in it you told me of your
six grandsons, since then
Dorule has sent us the wonder-
ful tidings of a seventh
which according to scripture
is a complete number, and
certainly a number to be
proud of. But if the number
should reach the proverbial
twelve why that would be
still more to be proud of.

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(3)
for the firm by which the girls are employ-
ed have closed down one of their mills
(lumber mills) and after discharging one
hundred and fifty of their men have
reduced all salaries twenty five percent
this you see means close times for us
as Mr Brown too is having a hard
fight and has not been able to help
us at all since his failure in bus-
iness

He will get along in
some fashion however if only the
other lumber mill is not closed at
the beginning of the year, in which
case, of course, all employees would
be laid off indefinitely.

What a sinful and useless thing
war is any way! I cannot understand
the inhumanity of man to man.

I trust you have
made great progress on your Alaska
book and we will be hoping soon to
have the pleasure and profit of reading
it.

Please give my congratulations
to Grandpa on his death in the form
of four fine cans, and when you write
to Helen please tell her how pleased
her Aunt Emma is to know of her fine
little family and good health

With warmest love to yourself my
dear brother I am affectionately Grandpa