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Letter from Frances N. Pelton to John Muir, 1862 Jul 11

Frances N. Pelton

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the ships of the state of the s 00 299 alwast energ thing Excepts you of decay- Our tills & Moundains & Rocks of Granite has since My Remembrance Thy dear friend Johns.

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I am in Made mith my friend dake some professionor Parents I should have Said Whatever, you May do, I My health has been berg four Lincorely hope you may never Since Minder- One of My lungs be influenced to give up has been finite diseased - the honest pure minded Len-I was not able to Ararel. . Aimends of your heart, found ded upon the lone of Christ but had company and has I used to think I Seldom very anxious to be with my if ever, Saw a person led Mother you know that the Condaminated with mortgly always feel, Mahon Me are Lisk assaciations, and influences, that he one can do for us than yourselflike a mother - Well John The Christian character how is it with you - you is heardiful, when it is do have been home and are he found in its parity. back in school again It But Shat is not often seems that you are going to this side of the Ipisit horsed continue on through - and John, I mish you mere what then - what are you going to make are you going here- Mould you not like In follow some husiness that so he set hask a 'century's will call out your mechanical and see something del genius an are you going to well if you mere here

Middlefield, Mass., July 11th, 1862.

My dear friend John,

You have doubtless thought that Mrs. Pelton had forgotten John Muir and her promise to continue a correspondence with him. Well, let me explain. The last time you wrote me but one, you were just going to teach in the country, and forgot to tell me where to direct a letter. The last letter I received I have not been able to answer until now. You see from this that I am in Mass. with my friends, or parents, I should have said. My health has been very poor since winter. One of my lungs has been quite diseased.

I was not able to travel but had company and was very anxious to be with my mother. You know that we always feel, when we are sick that no one can do for us like a mother. Well John, how is it with you? You have been home and are back in school again. It seems that you are going to continue on through, and what then -- What are you going to make?" Are you going to follow some business that will call out your mechanical genius, or are you going to take [up] some profession. Whatever you may do I sincerely hope you may never be influenced to give up the honest pure-minded sentiments of your heart, founded upon the "love of Christ".

I used to think I seldom if ever saw a person less contaminated with worldly association and influences, than yourself. The Christian character is beautiful, when it is to be found in its purity. But that is not often this side of the "spirit world".

John, I wish you were here. Would you not like to be set back a century and see something old. Well, if you were here almost everything except Nature would remind you of decay. Our hills and mountains and rocks of granite would be a substitute for your "Scottish Highlands". The same stream of water runs before the door that has since my remembrance, as clear as crystal. Some of the shrubs that I planted years ago are still alive. I am enjoying myself very much here, though I am not able to wait upon myself much. I hope that a few months among the mountains will revive and recruit me. If my "Little Fannie" had lived she would have been 3 years old this month. What a comfort and blessing, if she had lived, but my loss is her gain.

Please write me and direct to Middlefield, Mass. I have left Emily with her Uncle. Our house is a hotel now, I suppose you have heard before. Ever remember your old friend,

Mrs. Pelton. [F.N.Pelton]