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1861-07-17

## Letter from Eveline Merrill to John Muir, 1861 Jul 17

**Eveline Merrill** 

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long abstrace Mild that I could drop Dear friend from, are all very very happy - I know in a for you just more, instead of I thank you treng much writing, and bufather, and mother, and for frier two good long letters. It was hafgie, and the fire Remember on my heart to anson four first on kindly to them all, and tell them I soon after it's reception firt I was then feel almost acquainted with them indested to several friends for letters, Perhaps I could plus May gir were Its Other duties then carmin - soul findly du her bonknon foh that I did & this Petron can and Sport clown the fest I could, worder the cir days with me - and while she was emmstances. I have had a good tisis here Mr Petton sam - and sport a from my brother at famorille, and Sablath, on his Doay to Machison When expect him has again in a company he expected to be you, but did not weeks to e wants me to go how with find for Mors I looked very them, and fool, but the improved in health him - but I shall probaby remain how - good deal Whilehere I lay oged by, or eight weeks longer When I do go, their bisit efceedingly They both I will replace the book which has feel little Frammis death very much grow you so much angiety. I am bruy of course. I think this I is mouneyou have been buch trouble about - as the loss for he to easily remedied I am at the follow of ung last toping and will close to fing for a formed of your attentions conceled to the becoment the

he that is - the takes a christian and Miss Chaffe are all it lection been of the becausement this he his the has in the house now this Tals to submit touthout murring. I buty, is a wonder, of course le one think the effliction has had a very Inon is to become the pastor of the softning, happy effect upon both of longregational church at the forming then butters I i fastinular Itous I thould think from what this I Long heavy blow upon them How my told m, when the was here, that he heart has bled for them - After how was a man in whom all would I sufot over the wont for know feel interested. I am so glad they John that little Barnin was very dear are to have a good minister, and to me Butt feel that the has ideafore good forcedling them We have at a world of trouble and is non hip sest of preaching one in two weeks refers form- and I cannot with in the little school house near bythen but again Moumony is in and gout a good subfall school my embalaned in my heart, and I lattall solol, with this mornier Chope to med her in the future world for superintendent. Wint you com-Il letter is just at heard from the and visit the school and be how Teto. The is alone just non- Mr. I love in the country! will teach for med Emily are up the sine boundy how to make cheer, if for do not will be gon a vocak Grandmis any know how already I have becompute too and the Bessell' have go how exportal the business I am glad not to return again, to that this Post you are home, for I know you

(This must have been winten in 1862, since famile die not die until that year, L.m. W.)

Lone Rock, July 17, 1861. (2?)

Dear friend John,

I thank you very much for your two good long letters. It was in my heart to answer your first one soon after its reception, but I was then indebted to several friends for letters, which of course must first be answered. Other duties then came in and finally Mrs. Pelton came and spent eleven days with me, and while she was here Mr. Pelton came and spent a Sabbath, on his way to Madison, where he expected to see you, but did not find you. Mrs. P. looked very thin and pale, but she improved in health a good deal while here. I enjoyed their visit exceedingly. They both feel little Fannie's death very much, of course. I think Mrs. P. is more reconciled to the bereavement than he -- that is, she takes a Christian view of the bereavement, though he tries to submit without murmuring. I think the affliction has had a very softening happy effect upon both of them, but Mrs. P. in particular. It was a very heavy blow upon them. How my heart has bled for them. Often have I wept over the event. You know, John, that little Fannie was very dear to me, but I feel that she has escaped a world of trouble and is now happy in Jesus' bosom, and I cannot wish her back again. Her memory is embalmed in my heart, and I hope to meet her in the future world.

A letter is just at hand from Mrs. Pelton. She is alone just now. Mr. P. and Emily are up the river. Emily will be gone a week. Grandma is away too, and the Bissells have gone home not to return again, so that Mrs. Post and Miss Chaffe are all the ladies she has in the house now. Mrs. Post's baby is a wonder, of course. Amos Snow is to become the pastor of the Congregational Church at the Prairie. I should think from what Mrs. P. told me, when she was here, that he was a man in whom all would feel interested. I am so glad they are to have a good minister, and good preaching there. We have the best of preaching once in two weeks in the little schoolhouse near by, and quite a good Sabbath School every Sabbath, with Miss Merrill for superintendent. Won't you come and visit the school and see how I live in the country? I will teach you how to make cheese, if you do not know how already. I have become quite expert at the business. I am glad you are home, for I know you are all very, very happy. I know the pleasures of such meetings after a long absence. Would that I could drop in upon you just now, instead of writing, and see "father, and mother, and Maggie, and Sarah". Remember me kindly to them all, and tell them I feel almost acquainted with them, through you. I know I should like them. Perhaps I could "play Maggie" better were I to see her. You know, John, that I did the best I could, under the circumstances. I have had a good visit from my brother at Janesville, and expect him here again in a couple of weeks. He wants me to go home with him, but I shall probably remain here six or eight weeks longer. When I do go, I will replace the book which has given you so much anxiety. I am sorry you have been [to] such trouble about [it] as the loss can be so easily remedied. I am at the bottom of my last page, and will close, hoping you will keep me informed of your whereabouts.

Very truly your friend,

Eveline [Merrill]