



John Muir Correspondence (PDFs)

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Letter from J. L. Heigh to John Muir, 1863 Nov 14

J. L. Heigh

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[43]
Blake has been confined to his room with a sore throat for some days past, and still, poor little Hebrew has been quite sick, but is doing finely now. I have taken care of him for the past four days and my treatment has been so eminently successful that I am led to think I have mistaken my profession and had better become a disciple of Aesculapius than a fellow Blackstone & Kent.

Your inquiry about the prosperity of the churches I am hardly prepared to answer as I attend none but the Baptist. It is however in a prosperous condition. The first Sabbath of this term Mr Johnson admitted nearly twenty members, and some have been taken in since.

You counsel me not to forget the things of eternity. Be assured that I do not - but as you well know, the influences surrounding me here are terrible as well in their effects as in their nature.

But I trust it is not all down hill with me after all. Accept my kindest wishes and believe me Yours etc J. L. Leigh

Patrick says he sent the paper more than a month since, and that the same paper direction was carelessly erased with a pen

[1]
Madison Wis. Nov. 17th 1863.

Dear Miss

"Better late than never," is an adage applicable as well to epistolary correspondence as to most other human affairs, and your letter came just in time to save your reputation for truth and veracity. I should have written to spur you up but I did not know where to direct.

We are joggling along in the good old style here on the hill. The term is a full one and thus far very pleasant. There have been in all about two hundred and thirty students about equally divided as to sex. We wind up in about ten days more and then for my winter's work.

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I shall teach at home again and anticipate a pleasant winter with mother and father, probably the best winter I shall ever spend at home. My chum the good-natured Wallace did not return until last week but he intends to stay right through the year.

Our class numbers only five viz. Wallace, Spooner, Salisbury, Longen, and myself. Leahy has gone into the army, and Lewis is a Senior at Union College N. Y. As you see we are small in numbers but we are making a brave fight of it nevertheless.

The Societies are doing unusually well this term. Lower numbers about twenty five members and ours over forty. Mr. Laughlin was elected Pres. of yours last night.

Big thing for a small boy isn't it? It is if possible noisier than ever.

Our mutual friends the Griffins no longer occupy the house at the "foot of the hill". They have moved to the Depot and keep the Eating Saloon there. I have called only once since they have moved. They are well all around and the girls gape about your letter. Miss Flora is in my German class where I meet her every day.

In regard to the legal business you wished me to do I submit the following report.

Lewis had paid Patrick for the table and Pat gave me the money which I send enclosed. Vickah I have not seen for more than a year. He is still teaching at Sank City. Blackly left about three weeks since, being out of funds, so I have had no opportunity of collecting anything from him. He will probably be back next term.