



John Muir Correspondence (PDFs)

1863-12-21

Letter from R. Squire to John Muir, 1863 Dec 21

R. Squire

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God has dealt very kindly with us, in these times, which were wounding the hearts of many. My husband had the great affliction to bury his son, after a weeks illness at Vicksburg. He died just before the surrender. We all grieve at his early death. His father takes it very hard. He was himself, soon after, taken sick, and sent up to Mound city hospital, where he wrote for me to come after him, thinking he should never recover, if he staid there. I went down about the middle of August, and succeeded in getting a furlough for 20 days. After the expiration of which he went into the hospital at Madison where he still remains. It seems cruel that they will not let him stay at home.

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but they tell me, military orders must be obeyed. His health is slowly improving, and he is allowed to visit home about once in three weeks, for the long space of 24 hours. (generous, is it not?) I was absent from home two weeks, and was ill for several weeks after my return, but have quite recovered my health. O, these are times, which try the faith of every honest man and woman. My patriotism is all gone. I am sorry to say it, (and would hardly dare to, before my husband,) I suppose it is wrong to feel as I do sometimes, but can't help it. (Two weeks later)

New Years, and Christmas, have passed, and I hope you have enjoyed them pleasantly.