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1864-04-17

## Letter from Mary E. Newton to John Muir, 1864 Apr 17

Mary E. Newton

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Land Harred John - Spring of the 18 may your life and health be precious in this right. I deplose you have hard from En and of tale. That. Mr Basset ad moved into the hondell will the Felton and En il also of old Mis Acoupt grown factions death, Thanks for your letter, which was He had a letter from father Buy william and would have Newton a fin dags since the been replied to before but on are very will I lan hoping! account of my own health and to visit them this Summer or Hall, Fisher Hatie, Millie many cares & have bein watte and I intered to go on last to do as I would, I have free wife unwell for two or there for out home first ; That Ico past but hope to doon to later, you had bett - go on the will again, The have been having dark with ub. futher & smother Arwhor . unpleasant weather for weeks and the mountain scenery would & Spark, Spring sums to linger fin the last of Wenter . I am quito your beste for wilded so & anxiously waiting for warm he days give of sony lote sites & Shrang days, and again behold for beautiful rank chothed with

burdure and I autified with flowers, Spring is any favorite Season, it for yet with sadones shall I had its return. My Uner is not here, none but al another can know how much such a dweet grattler is oursed Each day, and I might day home ony thoughts are whom one angel boy, who how fordly my heart strings were Entwined around him, I will not coursen God has but laken the get he link are, to him. vely , Sort & shall go to him. How much we need the influence of the Holy Spirit constantly to Keep us in duties path, and Keep our thoughts whom the author of all good. This a dark raing day & did not feel able to go out to Therete and an home with Willie who site on the floor with his

logo. The la that & could look in whom you and throw how him o glides with you, Erinana tells are you were about to leave your diolites when you waste her. Where you are and what you are doing is what I an quite anxious to Rrow, I trust you are well and happy and that you are Enjoying the wichesh Hessings Earth can give is any about sincere wish I Shall Ever Jul an varnest solicitude for you, your regard for our dear didler has greatly Endeared you to us, beside you have that real worth of character I amost highly when, I feel that God will His and prosper you and may you be the wears in this hands of bringing to Christ, I bel asoured it is your desire to benefit mankerd

Prairie du Chien, April 17th, '64.

Dear Friend John,

Accept many thanks for your letter, which was very welcome and would have been replied to before but on account of my own health and many cares I have been unable to do as I would. I have been quite unwell for two or three weeks past, but hope to soon be well again.

We have been having dark unpleasant weather for weeks past. Spring seems to linger in the lap of winter. I am anxiously waiting for warm sunny days, and again behold our beautiful earth clothed with verdure and beautified with flowers. Spring is my favorite season — with joy, yet with sadness shall I hail its return. My Elmer is not here, none but a mother can know how much such a sweet prattler is missed. Each day, and I might say hour, my thoughts are upon my angel boy. Oh, how fondly my heart-strings were entwined around him. I will not murmur. God has but taken the gift he lent me, to himself. Soon I shall go to him. How much we need the influence of the Holy Spirit constantly to keep us in Duty's path, and keep our thoughts upon the author of all good.

This is a dark rainy day. I did not feel able to go out to church and am home with Willie, who sits on the floor with his toys. Would that I could look in upon you and know how time glides with you. Emma tells me you were about to leave your sister's when you wrote her. Where you are and what you are doing is what I am quite anxious to know. I trust you are well and happy and that you are enjoying the richest blessings earth can give is my most sincere wish. I shall ever feel an earnest solicitude for you. Your regard for our dear sister [Frances Pelton] has greatly endeared you to us; beside you have that real worth of character I most highly esteem. I feel that God will bless and prosper you, and may you be the means in His hands of bringing many to Christ. I feel assured it is your desire to benefit mankind. May your life and health be precious in His sight.

I suppose you have heard from Emma of late that Mr. Basset had moved into the Mondell with Mr. Pelton and Emily, also of old Mrs. Jackson's death.

We had a letter from Father Newton a few days since. They are very well. I am hoping to visit them this summer or fall. Sister Katie, Willie and I intend to go on East in June. I shall go to my Vermont home first. That would be a fine trip for you to take, you had better go on with us. Father and Mother Newton would be delighted to see you, and the mountain scenery would suit your taste for wildness and beauty.

Willie often speaks of you. He says "Give John my love and tell him to come to see us." Can you not make us a visit this spring? Mr. Newton joins me in sending his kind regards. I hope you will soon let us hear from you.

Sincerely your friend,

M. E. Newton.

P. S. I will enclose a photograph of myself. I wish I had one of Mr. Newton to send. Mine is not a very good one.