



John Muir Correspondence (PDFs)

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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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may your life and heart be precious in His sight.

I suppose you have heard from Emma of late. That Mr Bassett had moved into the Woodell with Mr Pitton and Emily, also of old Mrs Jacksons 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 farm out home first, that would be a fine trip for you to take, you had better go on with us. father & mother Newton would be delighted to see you, and the mountain scenery would strike your taste for wildness & beauty. Willie often speaks of you he says gives me my love & will be here to come & see us.

Can you not create the spring? Mr. Mohr says I hope you will be here and will be here. I believe hear from you. Sincerely your friend M. C. Norton. P.S. I will enclose a photograph of a cat, etc. I wish to see one of your work. Please do them. Mine is not a very good one.

April 17th 1864

Accept my 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 for beautiful earth clothed with

verdure and beautified with  
flowers. Spring is my favorite  
season, with joy yet with sad-  
ness 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  
how my thoughts are upon my  
angel boy, & how fondly my heart  
strings were entwined around him,  
I will not enquire God has but  
taken the gift he lent me, to him-  
self, I wish I 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 upon the Author of  
all good.

This 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

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toy. Would that I could  
look in upon you and know  
how time glides with you,  
Emma tells me you were about  
to leave your sisters 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 sisters 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 <sup>many</sup> to  
Christ, I feel assured it is  
your desire to benefit mankind



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.