



John Muir Correspondence (PDFs)

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1871-11-19

**Letter from Sarah [Muir Galloway] to [John Muir], 1871 Nov 19.**

Sarah Muir Galloway

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I will send the seeds in this letter the specimens I  
will send in a newspaper [43]

have been passed around, a part will  
be absent again, but I assure you there will  
be much loving remembrance and fond  
wishes accompanied by earnest prayers  
for the best of Heavens blings to rest  
on the head of our dear Brother in Cal-  
we have many many blings to be thankful  
for and I am sure one of them is, that  
though scatered in the world we can ex-  
change words of love and sympathy with  
each other, which wonderfully shortens  
the distance. Father & Mother were  
here a few days ago, they seem well and  
happy. Anne & Joanne were well also  
Mother said that Father had sent money  
and an invitation to Mary to meet with  
us on Christmas I trust she will be able  
to come, if the weather is good I should  
not wonder if Meggie & John also Daniel &  
Katie with their families were there.

Now I must again say Good bye with  
many warm wishes for your true happiness  
and prosperity. Expectationately  
(I wish you a happy Christmas  
and a very happy return of it  
if I am ahead of the time.)  
Sarah  
00553

David spoke to the Emma Boys about the Fountain Lake, only  
and without their knowing what you were willing to give them  
Do not think of selling it for less than \$10 per acre, David gives  
it as his opinion that cattle & hogs could hardly be kept out  
and so thought of doing nothing until he heard from you  
Mound Hill

NW 100

Nov 19<sup>th</sup> /71

Sarah

[17]

My Dear Brother

Once more I have  
gathered my writing material together  
to write a few lines to my wandering  
brother far away among the rocks and  
mountains in and around the Yosemite  
how often I imagine I can see you seated  
amid the wonderful scenery, admiring,  
studying, and writing. This has seemed to me  
one of the busiest summers I ever passed  
through, whether it has been so, or whether  
it has only seemed so I cannot tell, but when  
worn and sick and weary at the close of  
it, how I longed for a ramble with you  
whose words and thoughts were always  
as fresh as the woods themselves. How  
are you succeeding with the work you  
have engaged in, I am already looking  
forward to a reading of it with pleasant  
anticipation I assure you. Give love

me in one of your last letters you would like some seeds of the Fringed Gentian, the Hearebell and water Lily; of the first two I have succeeded in procuring a few seeds but as I could not get the Lily seed myself I selected Frank Co. Grant and Guy Whitney as boys that are often on the river than any other boys I know, but neither have brought me any seed Guy H. says the seed stalks are under water in the fall but thought he could get some in the spring, tell me how it is, as I do not know how they <sup>nature their</sup> seed, I will send what I have, and perhaps I may get the others another time. What kind of a season have you had in California; I think the past summer has been one of the most remarkable that has been experienced in a long time, the heat and drought in the early spring, and the hail storm later, has made sad work of the crops in this part of the country generally, we never saw such hail and the wind

blowing a perfect hurricane threw down fences unroofed houses & Burns and other windows that were broken, while in the woods trees and branches were broken and scattered but in some places much worse than there, but all this can bear no comparison to the terrible loss of life and property caused by the fires that have desolated such a large portion of the country surely nothing could show us more forcibly the utter insecurity of all earthly possessions may we my dear Brother be enabled to lay up our treasure in heaven where it will be perfectly secure. Decr 17<sup>th</sup> I find that nearly a month has passed since I commenced this letter I am sure I did want to send it off long ago but I find so much to hurry me along day after day that my letter writing goes on slowly. It will soon be Christmas again, another year will soon have passed over our heads since a part of our little band gathered around the long table at the del home. again the invitations