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Reminiscence of John Muir by Graydon, Ellen

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303 DOWNEY AVENUE

INDIANAPOLIS, INDIANA

My dear Mrs Walfe,

My sister and I will be
happy to give you ^{any} information
we have concerning Mr Muir.
Unfortunately I am the only
person living that has any
recollection of Mr Muir in
Indianapolis. It is over sev-
enty years ago - I recall my
aunt Miss Catharine Merrill
with a flock of children going
into the woods with Mr Muir
and I can see my aunt with a
branch of wild flowers in her

hand. Nothing more of that scene. I have often heard the family speak of Mr Muir, of his accident & the acquaintance following that.

When my sister Katharine Graydon & our cousin Janet Morris were in college nothing had been heard of Mr Muir for several years, when an article appeared in one of our leading magazines - the old Scribner I think - on the Water Cresset (?) by John Muir. Never have I seen greater excitement on the part of those two girls - to know the author of a magazine

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article! Both girls. (in their teens) wrote to him + the intercourse between Mr Muir + my family, never ceased. After leaving Indianapolis Mr Muir visited us twice + perhaps it was three times - a most delightful guest.

I have a paper on Mr Muir by my sister Katharine. As I have more than one copy I can let you have one but there is little or no detail of his life in Indianapolis. My sister spent several months in his family teaching his children.

so her acquaintance was renewed.

Mr. Muir had the gift of
winning friends - equal to
Wm. Lyon Phelps - and one of the
most ardent is my cousin
Samuel Merrill who can ^{have} no
recollection of Mr. Muir in Indi-
anapolis but has heard the
family talk it over.

If there is an assistance
I can give you, let me know
and my sister & I will do what
we can.

Very sincerely,

Ellen D Graydon

November 14