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Letter from Eliza S. Hendricks to John Muir, 1891 Oct 7.

Eliza S. Hendricks

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296 N. Meridian St.
Indianapolis October 7, 1891

My Dear Mr. Muir:-

Yesterday I
received a letter from Kate Graydon
written from your home. A pleasant
item in the letter, was a statement that
you have not forgotten me, and, more
than that, that you remember me very
kindly. I certainly remember you thus,
but for a better reason than you have
for remembering me - namely, that you
were a friend in need. I was very sad

and homesick when you crossed my path; and the fact that you had ~~been~~ lived in Indianapolis, and knew and loved the people whom I knew and loved attracted me very strongly toward you; and, when you add to that, the kindness and sympathy you showed me, you see good reason for my remembering you with a very kind interest. I was indeed glad to hear so directly from you. And now I am going to show my confidence in your kind regard for me by asking a favor of you. The first week in November, occurs our Flower Mission Fair - which is a great affair, as Kate will explain to you. One of the ways by which the ladies hope to interest the multitude who throng the Fair, is to get up a small book, composed of short contributions from prominent writers. My niece Bessie W. is helping to work the matter up, and I offered my services to her, by asking two or three writers whom I know personally, to write something for the book, even if it should be but a few lines - only a thought, and upon any subject - from glaciers to babies, or from sea lions to cats. Now you may ~~may~~ be so situated, that the smallest contribution, on the most insignificant theme may be a burden and if so, all you have to do, is to refuse. And if you are too busy to write your regrets, Kate will do that for you. I hope however you can find time to answer my letter. I should ^{often} like very much to see once more the hand writing which brought thoughts of cheer to me when I was lonely and sad, after the death of my sister. Your intimate association with nature, gave

a buoyant freshness to your thoughts which was perceptible in even the shortest notes you wrote your friends. You cannot know what the brief visit you made at my mother's home in Morris Plains — you have not forgotten it I am sure — was to us all. I have been able to keep you in view somewhat all these subsequent years, by your contributions to the magazines. Please give my kind regards to Mrs. Muir, whom I know only as the wife of your friend. I should like to see your little girls of whom I hear so many good things. I wish you would send me their photographs. Please also present my affectionate regards to Kate Graydon. I was glad to hear from her, and shall answer her letter one of these days. I hear you are to be written up in one of the magazines soon. If I find out which one, I shall read the article with pride and pleasure. Very sincerely your friend, Eliza S. Wendricks.

[Marked "Indianapolis letters"]

296 Meridian St.,
Indianapolis, October 7, 1891.

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