



John Muir Correspondence (PDFs)

1880-03-22

Letter from E [liza] S. Hendricks to John Muir, 1880 Mar 22.

Eliza S. Hendricks

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with great-pleasure my first meeting with
 you in the "foot hills" & the good you did me
 then; and your kind care for me during
 my sickness in Yosemite. I have a young
 nephew - 15 yrs. old who has scientific
 leanings & I often wish he could come under
 your influence. He is now engaged on
 "Mounds" & "Mound Builders". If you know
 of any work particularly helpful and
 entertaining on that subject I would be
 glad to hear of it. I would be glad to
 hear from you some time when you
 have leisure for letter writing! I am afraid
 such seasons are few & far between. I received
 a letter from brother Thom's wife last week
 giving a glowing account of your visit to Ohio.
 She says - "He is if possible more entertaining than
 before. He is the same guileless, simple hearted man
 as when we first knew him; & it was such a
 pleasure to have him with us. Surely there is

no one like him in
 all the world." You
 have no truer friend
 and admirer than
 my quiet little
 undemonstrative
 sister Anne. But
 what a long letter
 I am drawing out. I
 hope you have
 time to recd it
 yours with
 kindest regards
 C. D. Bendick.

296 N. Meridian St.

Indianapolis March 22 '80

I enclose a card which
 was handed to me a year or a half, or
 two years ago. The one who gave it to me, is
 a dear friend, & wife of a former pastor;
 and the name upon the card is that of
 her sister. The latter I have never met, but
 her sister - Mrs. Mason says that she is an
 enthusiastic botanist, and she thinks it
 would be such a great-pleasure for her
 sister to know & converse with so enthusiastic
 a scientist - as you are - that she is anxious
 for her to meet you. Mrs. Mason, hearing
 me speak of your long geological tramps
 and of the happy accident - by which I met
 you, hoped that some of your rambles might
 take you into her "neighborhood"; and that
 if you had her name, & were so requested

by me, you would call upon her. The contingency is rather remote is it not? If it had been less so, I should the more regret its not having been in my power to comply with Mrs. Mason's request at an earlier date. What a way you have of hiding away from your friends by the year or the two years. I read your letter to Mrs. Moore — also to Janet, and enjoyed them. I told Mrs. Moore that, when I sat down to read them, I was suffering from that great affliction — a petty annoyance; and that you took me away off, and under the influence of the "everlasting hills" ^{which} "always" — have power to quiet

The restless pulse of care,
And come like the benediction
That follows after prayer."

I am glad to hear that you really think of turning your steps eastward soon. I hope it will not end in thought, but that you will indeed give us the pleasure of taking you by the hand once more. I remember