



1880-11-04

Letter from H[enr]y Edwards to [John Muir], 1880 Nov 4.

Henry Edwards

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Recommended Citation

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It was ~~convinced~~ you were about to put
out your papers in the series in
book form - You ought to do so, in
justice to your own labors. I am
now settled in N. York, & at the best
of the foremost Theatre in America - I am
comfortably fixed, & we have a pleasant
home, when I am not away you will ever
be most welcome. Minnie sends her
best love to you both, & with all
good wishes,

Believe me, always

Your devoted friend

Wm. Edwards.

Joe Muir.

Wallack's Theatre. New York.
Nov 14. 1880

My Dear friend -

N.Y. By a paragraph in the
Evening Post (Bryant's old paper) of the
3rd of this month, I find you have gone
to Alaska, & that you are writing some
charming papers to the Ev. Bulletin as to
your doings & feelings in that strange &
unknown land. I take so much interest
in all that you do, & follow you usually
with such a close regard, that I blame
myself for not knowing beforehand that
you were about to make the journey to
the "far north" of our paper-land. Had
I done so, I doubt have asked you to
help me, as you have so often done
before, by the collection of specimens in my
own branch of Natural History Study.

Except in Botany, & perhaps partially in Paleontology, Alaska is yet unknown to scientists, & as far as the insects are concerned, we are as ignorant, generally speaking, as we are of Kerguelen's Land. So, that in fact, every insect collected in any part of Alaska would carry with it a record of novelty, & be to the entomologists in all parts of the world a message from a mysterious region. I am afraid I am too late, but if this should come to your hands before you leave the land of perpetual snow - let me beg of you to remember me as of old, & collect some Lepidoptera for me. Among these flowers, that you pick up in the Alaskan Yosemite you will surely find much that is of great value to us, in fact, you cannot be wrong in the matter. But it is possible that this may reach you too late for anything this summer. In that case, for I know you will go to

Alaska again, it will help to keep me in remembrance on the occasion of your second visit.

We heard, though only by a sort of side wind, that you were married. I hope with all my heart that it is so, for I know you will be very happy. Your wife & yourself will always have you may be assured, the most affectionate regards & good wishes of me & mine.

I used to see Mr Emerson often while in Boston, & he always inquired most kindly for you. He is breaking fast, his memory is failing, but the brightness of the eye is still there, & now & then the giant intellect flashes as of old. He told me the last time I met him, viz about 2 months ago, that you were to be sure to visit him at Concord when you came East. I think there is no one whom, in his declining years, he would be more glad to see. We hoped you would have been on here before this, as