



5-28-1904

John Muir Ends Year of Journeying in Many Lands.

John Muir

Follow this and additional works at: <https://scholarlycommons.pacific.edu/jmb>

Recommended Citation

Muir, John, "John Muir Ends Year of Journeying in Many Lands." (1904). *John Muir: A Reading Bibliography by Kimes*. 611.
<https://scholarlycommons.pacific.edu/jmb/611>

This News Article is brought to you for free and open access by the John Muir Papers at Scholarly Commons. It has been accepted for inclusion in John Muir: A Reading Bibliography by Kimes by an authorized administrator of Scholarly Commons. For more information, please contact mgibney@pacific.edu.

John Muir Ends Year of Journeying in Many Lands.

John Muir, the famous botanist and familiar friend of President Roosevelt, arrived yesterday on the liner Siberia and ended the journey he commenced when he left here a year ago on the Presidential train. Since he was last in San Francisco, the famous mountain climber has visited Russia, China, Japan, India, Egypt, Australia and New Zealand.

He left here in company with Professor Sargent and Sargent's son, intending to visit Siberia and study the geological formation of the land. The trip through Russia proved arduous. Heavy tea drinking wearied the botanist's stomach, and at Shanghai he said good-by to his companions and started out on his own account.

"I made up my mind years ago," said Muir yesterday, "that there was no land fairer than North America. I determined to make its acquaintance. I studied it for thirty-five years, and when I left here a year ago it was not that I had exhausted North America, or that I was tired of it. I wanted to test a few of the theories evolved during a long term of intimate study.

"When I got to Shanghai, however, and found myself alone, the wanderlust was in my bones. I took a globe and had a long gloat over the names of places I had often dreamed of visiting. Then I commenced to travel."

Where other travelers find good, bad or indifferent hotels, Muir found mountains and trees which he greeted in every land he visited as old friends. He found the heat of India oppressive, but in the Himalaya Mountains realized a long-cherished dream. The action of ice, he says, is the same all over the world, and in the Himalaya glaciers he found more old friends.

His principal quest in India was the deodar tree. After much traveling he found what he describes as a "grand grove" at Agra, but was greatly disgusted at learning that the owner of a house situated within full view of the trees knew neither their name nor their fame.

"The cedars of Lebanon" are of the deodar family, and in Egypt Muir met some more tree friends. He was interested in Egypt at the excavations which he says are being conducted with scientific skill and on a stupendous scale.

Cholera barred the traveler's way to Cairo, so he journeyed to Ceylon for a glimpse of the primeval forests of that part of the world.

It was in New Zealand that he made the most wonderful finds. The flora of that land, he says, would make a dead botanist rise in his grave. He also visited the forests of Luzon, which he found wonderfully rich. "It was a grand journey, but I'm glad to get home," he said after describing the wonders he had seen. President Roosevelt learned of Muir's contemplated travels when they were together in the Yellowstone. The President gave the botanist a letter addressed to army and navy officers introducing Muir and stating that any favors extended the botanist would earn the personal appreciation of the President.

Surgeon Whose Operation Saved Kingward Reaches This City on Way to London.

Among the most eminent of the passengers on the Siberia was Sir Frederick Treves, Bart., K. C. V. O., and K. C. B., who is making a tour of the world.

Sir Frederick is one of the most distinguished of England's surgeons. He was brought into prominence by the successful operation he performed upon King Edward for an attack of appendicitis in June, 1902, whereby the King's life was saved.

He has been sergeant surgeon to the King since 1901. He was surgeon extraordinary to the late Queen during 1900-1901, and was knighted in 1901. His publications have been numerous and are highly valued in the medical world.

He is a man of commanding mien, of distinguished appearance and of high bred, affable manner.

In speaking of his tour he said:

I left London last October and have been making this trip for recreation, instruction and pleasure. I have never been in California before, but I am very glad to be here now. What a magnificent bay you have, and what glorious weather.

I spent quite a time in India, in China and Japan, and was naturally greatly impressed with those countries. They must be seen to be understood. I shall remain here in this city until Sunday and then we will go to the Yosemite Valley, Calaveras big trees, Yellowstone Park and thence on to Philadelphia. After a few weeks' visit in your principal Eastern cities we shall return to my home in London.

War matters in the Orient or national or political subjects he declined to discuss. He is accompanied by Lady Treves and his daughter, Mrs. Deime-Radcliffe, who is the wife of Colonel Charles Radcliffe of the British army. During his sojourn in India he and his family were the guests of honor of Lord Curzon, Lord Kitchener and the Maharajah of India.

Distinguished attention was also shown him in China and Japan. He was received here by Dr. T. William White, professor of surgery of the University of Pennsylvania. Mrs. White accompanied the professor. They will all journey East together. Sir Frederick will be the guest of Dr. White in Philadelphia.

Both Lady Treves and her daughter are charming women. Mrs. Radcliffe is a remarkable type of English beauty. They both expressed themselves as delighted with their tour and were loud in their praises of San Francisco as they saw it from the bay.

Dr. Ellinwood of the Cooper Medical College went to the Siberia to greet Sir Frederick and invited him to visit the college, which invitation Sir Frederick said he would be glad to accept.

06871