



John Muir Correspondence (PDFs)

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## Letter from John H. Means to John Muir, 1893 Jun 5.

John H. Means

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LAMAR, COLO.

June 5<sup>th</sup> 1893

John Muir. Esqr

Dear Sir,

It was indeed a pleasure to receive your favor of the 1st inst. I scarcely expected to hear from you so soon as I supposed that you was in your California home. As you suggest I will tell you a little about myself and what I can about the other boys of the class that used to meet with you in the old mission school.

After you left I proceeded to "grow up" and gave that most of my attention for several years, I continued at school until I entered the High School, when my family moved to Illinois when I farmed for 4 years and then went back to Indianapolis when I married in May 77. I afterward moved to Kansas & then to Colorado in pursuit of that elusive god Mammon. I have been fairly successful so far as this world's goods go. Have had two children, both girls, but lost both, one at 10 months & the other at 11 years of age. You see it has been a rather uneventful life, but wife & I manage to get a good deal of pleasure out of life together & make the most of our opportunities for doing a little good as we go along. I am at present in the employment of the Canal Co above, as local manager for them

The La Junta and Lamar Canal Company.

LAMAR, COLO. 189

They own the Canal which has a total length of 114 miles and also about 25000 acres of farm land under it, part of which is under cultivation and I have to look after the Company's interest generally in the valley.

Lamar is a small station on the A T & S F

R.R. in the Arkansas Valley 30 miles west of the Kans & Colo state line, near the eastern terminus of the Canal. It is our first experience in so small a place & we feel lonesome some times when we cant bear it any longer we go to Denver or Colorado Springs & take a rest.

As to the other boys of the class I can't now recall all of the membership, I can only remember positively that Ed Stott, Leslie Sulgrove & my self were among the number. When I try to recall those times I get confused & cant remember distinctly at what time the other boys whom I can recall joined the class. Can you tell now who constituted the membership?.

Ed Stott is the only one of all the boys that at any time became members of the class, and of whom I know any thing now, who still lives in Indianapolis. He at an early age entered the wholesale Millinery store of Johnson & McCra on South Meridian st near the Union Depot & has remained with them ever

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since, He married & has one little girl. Has a nice home & seems quite comfortable & seems contented to remain there the rest of his days.

Leslie Sulgrove, took to journalism and was connected with Russel Harrison in his venture in that line in Montana, where he is now I do not know.

Mr Davis who was Supt of the Sunday School was with the Indiana Bank when it failed a few years ago. I met him when I was in Indianapolis some time ago. He was then with the water company.

"Lige" Halford, President Harrison's private Secretary was Secretary of the school at that time I believe.

How many times have I recalled the meetings we used to have in your rooms. I have found the instructions we received at your hands in those meetings of great use to me in after life and may a time have I amused the children telling of the wonderful clocks, barometers, bedsteads &c. which you had accumulated around you. Well I'll not exhaust your patience this time but wait for a letter from you before inflicting any more on you

yours truly John A Means