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1872-05-13

Letter from John Muir to Sarah [Muir Galloway], 1872 May 13.

John Muir

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[Original letter in possession of Sarah Muir Galloway]

Beatrice Castle, 1921

Yosemite Valley,
May 13, 1872.

Dear Sister Sarah:

A few days ago I got a package of plants and seeds from Hong Kong, China, and as you have an appetite for curiosities I thought I would send you a few scraps of them. They are from the Countess of Avonmore, once the famous Mrs. Yelverton. She writes that the country about Hong Kong is exceedingly beautiful. In speaking of her book, *Zanita*, she says that she thinks they have suppressed a good many passages in it.

Yosemite is glorious with the scents and colors and songs of spring. We have black oaks whose young leaves purple like those of *Wis*. Do you remember Merrill Moores? He is coming to spend a year with me. I expect him soon.

Yesterday I was on Clouds' Rest, 6000 feet above the bottom of the valley. A short but severe snow storm came down suddenly in blinding force. I witnessed three magnificent avalanches of ice and ⁿ snow that started a few yards from me. They descend from here in loud boomings and in glorious array for a distance of a mile or more, carrying boulders and trees with them.

My love to all.

John Muir