



John Muir Correspondence (PDFs)

1872-08-25

Letter from John Torrey to daughter [name unknown], 1872 Aug 25.

John Torrey

Follow this and additional works at: <https://scholarlycommons.pacific.edu/muir-correspondence>

Recommended Citation

Torrey, John, "Letter from John Torrey to daughter [name unknown], 1872 Aug 25." (1872). *John Muir Correspondence (PDFs)*. 1471.

<https://scholarlycommons.pacific.edu/muir-correspondence/1471>

This Article is brought to you for free and open access by Scholarly Commons. It has been accepted for inclusion in John Muir Correspondence (PDFs) by an authorized administrator of Scholarly Commons. For more information, please contact mgibney@pacific.edu.

Torrey

Gray in letter of Jan. 4, 1874 refers to Torrey
also Sept. 11, 1872
Letter of Torrey Sept. 28, 1872
San Francisco,
August 25th, 1872.

My dear daughter:

We arrived here on the 9th inst. after a ride on the cars of 3,300 miles with less fatigue than you and I experienced in some of our travelling last spring. The whole journey was intensely interesting - of which I shall have much to tell you when we meet. Remaining in S. Fr. four days (one of which was Sunday), and wishing to visit the Yosemite before commencing our business at the Mint, we left on the 13th for that celebrated and remarkable place, and remained there nearly four days, visiting some of the most interesting localities. The journey to and from the Valley was easier than when I went there seven years ago. We had only about 12 miles of horseback instead of about 50 in 1865, but the descent and ascent of about 5,000 feet over a very steep and rough bridle-path was not at all improved. To visit, on horseback, the various points is also very laborious; but the grand views that are thus obtained amply repay the cost. In the Valley I met with Mr. John Muir, a Scot, who has resided there more than three years, making observations on the geology, and showing clearly, as he believes, that this deep excavation was made by glacier action - when the slowly moving ice, reaching thousands of feet above the highest mountains, ploughed out the valleys, the present border of high peaks, domes, etc. being only the harder portions of the rock. This Mr. Muir is a second Hugh Miller, for he was a common workman, and is self-taught. I met people that I knew in all the places that we halted at along the road -- among the rest Rev. Dr. Hall of N.Y., who with all his family had just left the Valley. We encountered them in a narrow pass on the side of a mountain, and it was with difficulty that we got by each other. I told you about Mr. I.H. Redfield and daughter joining us at Cheyenne, on their way from Colorado Mountains. They went with us to Yosemite and we put up at the same hotels. They are with us here at the splendid Hotel called the Lick House. I cannot tell for a few days what our movements will be, but I shall inform Herbert when I know. I was very tired when we returned from Yosemite late last evening, but am now quite bright. This morning I heard Rev. Dr. Stone preach and this afternoon Dr. Hall. Give much love to Herbert and the "boy". Remember me to "Henry".

Your loving father,

JOHN TORREY

On my return from the Valley I found a number of letters waiting for me - among them yours of the 7 inst. & Herbert's of the 10th.

06086

John Muir

Stanley Hall
No. 20 John Hill