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1897-01-04

Letter from John Muir to [David Douglass], 1897 Jan 4.

John Muir

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[Copied from a Journal of Mr. David Douglas, Edinburgh]
[Original in possession of Miss S. B. Douglas, Edinburgh]

Martinez, California,
January 4, 1897.

My dear Sir:

I have received from you Lord Roseberry's two addresses on our immortal poet, for which and the good wishes inscribed I sincerely thank you. How surely the fame of our Burns is growing over all the world and always with deeper admiration and love. The St. Andrew's Society of San Francisco are about to erect a monument for him in the largest of the public parks.

I have wandered far and wide this last summer, from New York to Alaska, mostly for the sake of the forests. How gladly I would have re-visited Scotia once more. The pleasure of my last visit is still fresh in mind, and much of it I owe to you. That John Brown evening was one of the very best of my life. I am now pegging away at another book, but make slow progress, suffering endless interruption. I wish I could send you something you would care for from this wild country. Whenever I can serve you, let me know. Our hills are all green already: the grass is getting tall, and some of the earliest flowers are in bloom, though the grand range of the Sierra is solid white for five hundred miles along the east side of the state, and thence along the Cascades and the mountains of Alaska. The snow is continuous to the end of the continent.

Happy New Year to you and all yours I cordially wish you.

Ever faithfully yours,

John Muir