



John Muir Correspondence (PDFs)

1899-09-26

Letter from Charles Keeler to John Muir, 1899 Sep 26.

Charles Keeler

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book I should ^[43] certainly go the
first of October. As it is we must
remain here until the books are out,
trusting to get a change later. We
have hoped for word from Wanda
telling us when she is to make
her promised visit. We often speak
of the delightful time we had with
you, and Miss Knapp fairly beams
whenever she refers to it. I enclose
two or three photographs for Mrs. Muir,
and will send her some more later.

With kindest regards to you and
yours from all three of us,

Sincerely yours friend
Charles Keeler

^[17]
Ridge Road and Highland Place.
Berkeley, Cal. September 26 '99

My dear Mr. Muir:—

You have been so very
kind to us I hardly know how
to write to you. We were glad
to see your "Shasta" and intend
to read it very soon and return
to you. Louise will enjoy it
particularly after her recent
visit there.

About the acre of land, we
are somewhat puzzled. We
want to accept your kind
offer. It would be a great
delight to have a little cabin

near your home ^[22] to which we could
repair now and then and have
a glimpse of you and a taste
of country air and fruit. I
think furthermore it would be
good for me to escape our Berkeley
fog now and then during the
summer. I was talking with
Mr. Keith about it yesterday and
he grew quite enthusiastic, with
visions of little excursions we might
make together to our retreat, keeping
bachelor quarters for two or three
days at a time. But alas for
air castles! The practical considerations
must be met. The first difficulty
in the way of immediately carrying
out the plan is the fact that
for the next few weeks I shall be

very busy. I am now seeing ^[31] my kind book through
the press, and we have arranged for the publication of
a little volume of complete and probable as a Christmas
booklet. Then, too, even to build a very modest little cabin
would cost a hundred dollars at the least (including a
chimney and lumber). I might do a considerable part of
the work myself; but unfortunately I am not strong
enough to work continuously with tools all day long, so it
would take me some time to complete it.

We have all three had colds, and the persistent fog
of the past month have been unfavorable for recovery. We
have been talking of going off for a month in the pine
woods of Mendocino County, and if it were not for my

[22]
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