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1904-03-28

Letter from John Muir to Louie, Wanda & Helen, 1904 Mar 28.

John Muir

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Sydney March 28 1904

Dear Louie & Darlings
 Helen & Wanda I
 have finished packing
 up my many botanical
 specimens & studs to
 go aboard the steamer
 Empire tomorrow
 evening to begin
 the long journey
 home via Hong-
 kong Yokohama
 & Honolulu. Though
 I'm going aboard
 tomorrow we do not
 sail until Wednesday
 noon. We will call
 at several ports on
 the ~~West~~^{East} coast of
 Australia & at Port
 Darwin on the north

03347

also at several
 islands & Manilla
 arriving at Hong Kong
 about the 22^d of April
 here I intend to take
 the fine new steamer
 "Siberia," 12,000 tons, which
 sails from Hong Kong
 for San Francisco
 on April 30 & is due
 in San Francisco
 about the end of
 May. So you see
 I have only one
 more change to
 make between
 this wonderful
 antipodal Kangaroo
 & blue gum country
 & California & home
 how glad I am to
 think of it. I seem
 to have been drassed

& driven over nearly
 all the world & how
 hard I have worked
 & how tired I have
 been & how steadily
 the fire of enthusiasm
 has burned through
 it all & how glorious
 has been the com-
 pensation in these
 strange wildernesses.
 I suppose you
 enjoyed Mr Kings
 visit. Many a story
 he must have told
 you but I'll tell
 you more. I have
 lots of lovely ferns
 & mosses for you
 The Siberia is one
 of Harrissmans Pacific
 Mail ships. While
 waiting for her to

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I may make a short excursion up the Yangtze River - for I may be a week or more at Hongkong. I'll write again before leaving Sydney. Not to have had a single letter from you has been very hard. Give my love to Maggie & Sarah & remember me to the Coleman Dam & Smith. Ever yours, John Muir



[57]

Little Alpine Flower from the mountains of New Zealand.

Have been botanizing lately in Queensland 1300 miles north of this had grand time in the Aboriginal forests of Arancaria Bedouli & A. Cunninghamia