



John Muir Correspondence (PDFs)

1904-07-16

Letter from John Muir to [H. F.] Osborn, [1904 Jul 16].

John Muir

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

Recommended Citation

Muir, John, "Letter from John Muir to [H. F.] Osborn, [1904 Jul 16]." (1904). *John Muir Correspondence (PDFs)*. 2831.

<https://scholarlycommons.pacific.edu/muir-correspondence/2831>

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.

ca 16 Jul 1904

Dr Mr Osborn

When I got back ~~from~~
on my return

from after more than a years wandering
over the world in both hemispheres etc
in the big talus of letters books pamphlets
etc ~~to be put in my desk~~ ^{accumulated} during more than 2
years ~~of my journey from home~~ ^{Boone & Cruikshank address}
which I have ~~read~~ ^{read} with greatly hearty
enjoyed It is an admirable plea for
our poor horizontal fellow mortals
just passing away ^{in ruthless slaughter & slaughter} never before
was the need for places of refuge &
protection been so great. Fortunately
at last ^{when it is} ~~just as our noblest animals~~
~~are on the verge of extinction~~ ^{in right} the government
has begun to ~~take~~ ^{act} ~~action~~ for their preservation
& your pamphlet is timely & should be
widely distributed. I have often written
on the subject but ~~with~~ ^{with} no effect
merely the the murder business by ~~our~~
Christian people in these so-called enlightened
days ~~is~~ ^{has} ~~been~~ ^{gone} ~~pushed~~ ^{unhindered} ~~on~~ ^{with} ~~the~~ ^{more}
than savage slaughter. until at last protective
measures are being called for, partly I suppose
from fear ^{of} ~~that~~ the pleasure of killing
is in danger of being ~~lost~~ ^{lost} from their
being nothing left to kill. But to partly let
it ~~be~~ ^{be} ~~corrected~~ ^{corrected} by ~~hope~~ ^{hope} from a dim
glamorous recognition of the rights

03409

To Henry Fairfield Osborn

Martinez, California

July 16, 1904

Dear Mr. Osborn:

In the big talus of letters, books, pamphlets etc. accumulated on my desk during more than a year's absence I found your Boone ~~and~~ ⁺ Crockett address ^① and have heartily enjoyed it. It is an admirable plea for our poor horizontal fellow-mortals, so fast passing away in ruthless starvation and slaughter. Never before has the need for places of refuge ~~and~~ ⁺ protection been greater. Fortunately at the last hour, with utter extinction in sight the Government has begun to act under pressure of public opinion, however slight. Therefore your address is timely ~~and~~ ⁺ should be widely published. I have often written on the subject, but mostly with non-effect. The murder business ~~and~~ ⁺ sport by saint ~~and~~ ⁺ sinner alike has been pushed ruthlessly, merrily on, until at last protective measures are being called for, partly I suppose because the pleasure of killing is in danger of being lost from ~~them~~ ^{re} being little or nothing left to kill, ~~and~~ ⁺ partly, let us hope, from a dim glimmering recognition of the rights of animals ~~and~~ ⁺ their kinship to ourselves.

How long it seems since my last visit to Wing-on-Wing! ~~and~~ ⁺ how far we have been. I got home a few weeks ago from a trip more than a year long. I went with Prof. Sargent ~~and~~ ⁺ his son Robeson through Europe visiting the principal parks, gardens, art galleries etc. From Berlin we went to St. Petersburg, thence to the Crimea, by Moscow, the Caucasus, — across by Dariel Pass from Tiflis ~~and~~ ⁺ back to Moscow. Thence across Siberia, Manchuria etc. to Japan and Shanghai.

① X "Preservation of the Wild Animals of North America," Forest and Stream, Apr. 16, 1904, pp. 312-313.

03409

At Shanghai left the Sargents ~~and~~ ⁺ set out on a grand trip alone
~~and~~ ⁺ free to India, Egypt, Ceylon, Australia, New Zealand, ⁺ thence by
way of Port Darwin, Timor, ⁺ through the Malay Archipelago to Manila,
⁺ thence to Hong Kong again ~~and~~ ⁺ Japan ~~and~~ ⁺ home by Honolulu. Had per-
fectly glorious times in India, Australia, ~~and~~ ⁺ New Zealand. The flora
of Australia ~~and~~ ⁺ New Zealand are so ⁿ novel ~~and~~ ⁺ exciting I had to begin
botanical studies over ~~again~~, working night and day with endless
enthusiasm. And what wondrous beasts and birds, too, are there!

Do write and let me know how you all are. Remember me with
kindest regards to Mrs. Osborn and the children and believe me ever

Faithfully yours

John Muir