



John Muir Correspondence (PDFs)

1905-01-28

Letter from [John Muir] to James H. Stuart, [19]05 Jan 28.

John Muir

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[First draft of letter, in note-book]

Martinez, Jan. 28, '05.

James R. Stuart,
16 N. Fairchild St., Madison.

Dear Sir:

I thank you for your kind and interesting letter, and am glad to know that you have found something you liked in my book. Another one called "The Mountains of California" was published by the Gen[tery] Co. a few years earlier.

I have corresponded with Prof. Butler ever since I left the University 40 years ago, but I have visited Madison only twice. Nothing pleased me more than to see the good fellowship which may be seen in Wis. University and elsewhere.

Have you read my dog story? It was published in the Century Magazine Sept. 1897. Nothing is stranger to me than our ignorance of the love and feelings of our lower fellow mortals.

When you come to California I shall be glad to see you. Did you know Dr. Mellichamp of S.C.? I corresponded with him for many years. He was a good botanist, and a delightful gentleman.

Faithfully yours,

[John Muir]

03098

[First draft of letter, in note-book]

Martinez, Jan. 28, '05.

Mr. O. O. Wayland,

Dear Sir:

I thank you very much for your long painstaking account of the changes being made about my first American home.

My father first settled on the farm you describe when he came from Scotland in 1849. It was then altogether unbroken in prairie wildness, and the picture of its lily-rimmed lake and its flowery ferny meadows and hills has always been held in loving memory. Change after change followed the settlement of the country in general, but the change you have described is far the greatest of all, and one I could never have imagined. More than ever I look fondly back to the time of its perfect beauty before it felt the touch of eager restless human action.

I have wandered far and wide over this beautiful world, but nothing more beautiful have I seen than that little green lake and meadow and its surrounding sandy hills in the "Oak Openings" of Wisconsin. What I thought of it will in part appear in an address I made a few years ago before the S. C./in S. F., a copy of which I send you with this. The pictures you offer to send me I shall be very glad to get. Thanking you again, I am,

Faithfully yours,

[John Muir]

[First draft of letter, in note-book]

[Robert Underwood Johnson]

Martinez, Jan. 30, '05.

Dear Mr. Johnson:

I wish you could help me to understand the trouble in Washington about the Yosemite National Park boundary. It seems to be caused by two rival lines of electric railroads, one of which wants to cross the southwest corner of the park, which if granted might, I suppose, form a dangerous precedent. Here is a fine clipping for you.

Faithfully yours,

[John Muir]

WESTVANCE BOND

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