



John Muir Correspondence (PDFs)

1913-03-10

Letter from James Whitehead. to John Muir, 1913 Mar 10.

James Whitehead

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A. & H. Hospital Hot Springs Ark 3/10/13

Dear Mr. Muir:-

I recd. your letter of Mar. 4th this A.M. communicating with the office of the Mountain Valley Springs Co. Club I learned the letter you mentioned had been returned some two or three days ago. I found however your book "Sticker" awaiting me for which accept my sincere thanks.

Being unable to write at that time my letter was dictated to a stenographer at said Club Bldg. She had no plain paper but used the paper advertising the Co. Business hence the very natural mistake in addressing me there.

In writing you I did not look for correction or elimination of any part of "The Story of John B. Hood". I simply desired to acquaint you with facts as known to me. In my somewhat varied experience I appreciate any fact or circumstance that discloses the good or better qualities of our fellow

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man. especially those we know, or have known,
and of whom we may have formed a
different opinion. I appreciate Murray most
fully and thank you sincerely for what you have
done. I would also add. had no correction
been possible it would not in any way
have changed my estimation of your worth
and character & the service you rendered to your
fellow man.

My uncle Charlie's troubles were pre-natal.
He was born crooked. his limbs had to
be broken & straightened. His mother became
frightened at some wild animal while attending
a menagerie.

In the Jan. Atlantic in mentioning Mr
Mair. You call him "George". George was his
elder son & about five years of age at that
time. The father's name was James. was fondly
spoken of & known as "Jimmie" Mair. as you
may recall.

My brother Benjamin, about whom you

enquire West-West: following mother's death in 1868. or 9. for 20 years we lost track of him but finally got trace of him in Cortez, Colo. & a correspondence was established. ~~He~~ He accumulated considerable property & wrote me in 1907 that on account of failing health he had been advised to visit Mexico. Three months after I received a letter from a married daughter living there. That her father was dead - It was a most pathetic story. dying among strangers. Among a people whose language. habits. Customs was entirely foreign they encountered difficulty & expense in securing for him a Christian burial and a resting place for his remains in a ruinous & forsaken Protestant Cemetery.

Your book "My First Summer in the Sierra" is in the hospital library & is read with interest by ^{many}. I regret not having received your first letter. I expect to remain here until April 16th.

Yours Sincerely
James Whitehead.