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1913-03-27

Letter from John Muir to Florence Merriam Bailey, 1913 Mar 27.

John Muir

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"To explore, enjoy, and render accessible the mountain regions of the Pacific Coast; to publish authentic information concerning them; to enlist the support and co-operation of the people and the Government in preserving the forests and other natural features of the Sierra Nevada Mountains."



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San Francisco, March 27, 1913.

Mrs. Florence Merriam Bailey,
1834 Kalorama Road, Washington, D.C.
Dear Mrs. Bailey:-

I have ordered a copy of my "Boyhood and youth" to be sent you direct from the publishers, although it does not contain much that is likely to interest anybody but children. It was published on the 15th of this month by Houghton, Mifflin, but it has not yet got into the book stores at least on this side of the continent.

Helen is wonderfully well, but has had rather a hard time lately in getting good help in the house. She had to be up at night so often that she took cold about three weeks ago, but is now nearly as well as usual. She is going back to the desert next month. She has made up her mind that her health will not only be better, but that she will enjoy life there. She is so fond of the marvellous colors displayed in those barren looking mountain ranges. The colors make one think of a perfect fairyland or a new Jerusalem. I am glad she is going back, although her lungs seem perfectly sound. Her two boys are lovely and I will try and get a photograph of them for you. Wanda's three are very stout promising fellows and will probably make good farmers.

I am working all alone in my library den, trying to write a book on Alaska. I find that I have so many notes on that territory that it is extremely difficult to know what to leave out and what to put in. I often think of the charming trip we had together years ago when we crossed the Sierra by three different passes.

With kindest regards to you and to Mr. Bailey, I am
Ever Faithfully yours,