



John Muir Correspondence (PDFs)

1913-06-21

Letter from [John Muir] to [Mary Averell] Harriman, 1913 Jun 21.

John Muir

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June 21st 1913

Dear Mrs. H. Many many thanks for yr kind & very
charming ^{Sweden House letter} letter. It makes my library den seem
the senior brings to home. (Evening brings all home) as the Scotch
say. So true is it that the sweet ^{gly my} safe years dear friends ^{every} ~~know~~
know a ^{more} ~~more~~ family than yours, none more faithfully
abounding in the ^{gifts & fruits of} ~~gifts~~ of Divine love.
No wonder you are all happy. & that I delight to dwell
on the picture you draw of all the ^{family} ~~parts~~ ^{of the} ~~parts~~ ^{of}
the family, each in a happy home ^{yet bound together as}
one ^{in faith & love} ~~in faith & love~~ ^{gathering} ~~gathering~~ ^{around} ~~around~~ ^{the central} ~~the central~~ ^{sun} ~~sun~~ ^{home} ~~home~~

How swiftly into language the eventful years
have flew since we first were ^{together} ~~together~~ ⁱⁿ ~~in ^{the} ~~the ^{world} ~~world ^{of} ~~of ^{the} ~~the ^{world} ~~world
Sweet graduates! ^{Make ready} ~~Make ready~~ ^{for} ~~for~~ ^{the} ~~the ^{wide} ~~wide ^{world} ~~world~~ ^{to} ~~to ^{leave} ~~leave~~ ^{the} ~~the ^{home} ~~home~~ ^{nest} ~~nest
Many with ^{lots of} ~~lots of~~ ^{their} ~~their ^{own} ~~own ^{leaving} ~~leaving ^{only} ~~only ^{dueling} ~~dueling ^{casual} ~~casual~~ ^{to} ~~to ^{take} ~~take ^{the} ~~the ^{world} ~~world
You wish that you wish I were with you ^{at} ~~at~~ ^{Yale} ~~Yale~~ ^{that} ~~that ^{we} ~~we ^{might} ~~might
share the graduating fun together. Well strange to say only
a few days before your ^{letter} ~~letter~~ ^{was} ~~was~~ ^{written} ~~written ^I ~~I ^{was} ~~was~~ ⁱⁿ ~~in ^{the} ~~the ^{Greek} ~~Greek ^{meeting} ~~meeting~~ ^{at} ~~at ^{Berkeley} ~~Berkeley~~

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I thank you more than I can tell in a letter for your offer of help
in making the grand National Highway the wonder of
the world. I will explain the plan later after the fate of
the Snake Valley is determined. In the meantime I wish you
would do all you can to defeat a bill that a few political
thieves & robbers are trying to rush thru Congress under the
pretense of urgent necessity. For years by Mr. H's help the
valley has been saved until now for the benefit of all.
I sent the copy of ^{my} Boy book ^{was sent} direct from the publisher
with my compliments that you might get a copy as early as
possible but I'll send another with a suitable
inscription. I thought of dedicating it to My Island
at Oregon Lodge it was written but could not
was not prepared to dedicate a ^{worthier} ^{apology} ^{that} ^{the}
now writing also begun at Pelican Lodge
Ever Dear friend faithfully gratefully Yrs

05478

June 21st, 1913.

My dear Mrs. H[arriman]:

Many, many thanks for your kind, cheery, charming Arden House letter. It makes my library den shine. The e'enin brigt a' hame (evening brings all home) as the Scotch say. So true is it that the swift-flying age years draw friends ever closer. I don't know a finer family than yours -- none more abounding in the gifts and fruits of divine love. No wonder you are all happy and that I delight to dwell on the picture you draw of all the family offshoots, each in a happy home, yet bound together as one in faith and love, growing like plants around the central sun home on the happy Arden hill.

How swiftly into lang syne the eventful years have fled since first we foregathered in Alaska. Roland, the little rosy-cheeked Commadore graduated from Groton and ready for Yale; bright little Averill, a graduate of Yale; ready for the wide world; lovely Cornelia and Mary with little love tots of their own; leaving only darling Carol singing and shining in the home nest.

You write that you wish I were with you taking another degree at Yale that we might share the graduating fun together. Well, strange to say, only a few days before your letter was written I was taking another LL. D. in the Greek Theatre at Berkeley.

I thank you more than I can tell in a letter for your offer of help in making the Grand National highway through the wonderful Yosemite Park. I will explain the plan later after the fate of the Hetch Hetchy Valley is determined. In the meantime I wish you would do all you can to defeat a bill that a few political thieves and robbers are trying to rush thru Congress under the pretense of urgent necessity. For years, by Mr. H[arriman]'s help the valley has been saved until now for the benefit of all the world.

My Boy book was sent direct from the publishers with my compliments that you might get a copy as early as possible, but I'll send another with a suitable inscription. I thought of dedicating it to my blind friend at whose Oregon Lodge it was written, but concluded to dedicate a worthier volume that I'm now writing, also begun at Pelican Lodge.

Ever, dear friend, faithfully and gratefully yours,

[JOHN MUIR]

(Copied from rough draft of letter on large piece of cardboard)

BETWICE BOND

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