



John Muir Correspondence (PDFs)

1900-08-24

Letter from Mrs. Richard Swain to John Muir, 1900 Aug 24.

Mrs. Richard Swain

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2593 Bluff.

Yokohama-Japan

August 24th 1900.

Mr John Muir.
Dear Sir

More than twenty years ago, when I was at my mountain home in Siskiyou Co. California I read a short sketch of your own - in which you pictured the pure delight of returning to the wind with its many veils sweeping through the pines. That article made a life-long impression on me, and shaped an inner perception for the wonders of Nature which has gladdened my entire life since - a very busy life with many changes of scene.

It has always seemed to me that I must sometime thank you.

Once, visiting at the home of Governor Redwell, in Chico, California I saw the sketches and your autographs that told of your most interesting visit to the Gorges of Mt Shasta - several times since I have read the story drawn from your journal - in magazine form.

This morning I read your "Field Garden of the Yosemite Park" and have this intrusion upon your time and attention.

Oftin while wondering

among the hills of Japan I have wished that
John Muir might see and describe them, and
say what this strange island scenery
means. It has become the ^{happiest} ground
of the tourist, but no one sees or hears it worth
yet - to my mind.

Pardon this intrusion. My husband, a good
American Citizen is brother of one of the
Japanese Govt Naval Officers. He says you
articles with me. With much gratitude
for all you have thought felt and written,
I am yours very truly.

Mrs Richard Swan
254 W Bluff.
Honolulu

259 B Bluff,
Yokohama, Japan,
August 24th, 1900.

Mr. John Muir,

Dear Sir:

More than twenty years ago, when I was at my mountain home in Siskiyou Co., California, I read a short sketch of your own, in which you pictured the sense delight of listening to the wind with its many voices sweeping through the pines. That article made a life-long impression on me, and shaped an inner perception for the wonders of Nature which has gladdened my entire life since -- a very busy life, with many changes of scene. It has always seemed to me that I must some time thank you.

Once, visiting at the home of Governor Bidwell in Chico, California, I saw the sketches and your autograph that told of your most interesting visit to the glaciers of Mt. Shasta. Several times since I have read the story. This morning I read your "Field Gardens of the Yosemite Park" and hence this intrusion upon your time and attention. Often while wandering among the hills of Japan I have wished that John Muir might see and listen here and say what this strange island scenery means. It has become the tramping ground of the tourist, but no one sees or hears it aright yet, to my mind.

Pardon this intrusion. My husband, a "good American citizen" is master of one of the Japanese Govt. Mail Steamers. He enjoys your articles with me.

With much gratitude for all you have thought, felt, and written, I am,

Yours very truly,

Mrs. Richard Swain