



John Muir Correspondence (PDFs)

1901-12-23

Letter from A. Ross Matheson to John Muir, 1901 Dec 23.

A. Ross Matheson

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8 TO 9 A. M.
3 TO 4 & 7 TO 8 P. M.
NO OFFICE HOURS
THURSDAY & SUNDAY P. M.

A. ROSS MATHESON, M. D.
ST. JOHN'S PLACE COR. SEVENTH AVENUE.
BROOKLYN, N. Y.

TELEPHONE,
71 PROSPECT.

Dec 23rd 1901

Dear friend Muir.

This afternoon while doing my Christmas shopping, I picked up a Volume "Our National Parks by John Muir".

I read a few pages and was quite convinced it was my friend of Auld Lang Syne. I have read more of it and have been very much pleased. It is a very interesting work. I purchased one copy for my youngest son and one for a friend who is largely interested in Western R. R.s and who has travelled extensively in the parks of the West.

The long gap spanning the time since I last heard from you have made some changes in each of us. I have been in this city over 30 years. I am now regarded as one of the old physicians and Surgeons. The majority of those who were here then have passed over. With the great majority I have had a satisfactory degree of success. Have had excellent hospital connections and a large practice and the usual honors, such as the presidency of the various Medical organizations.

I have had my sorrows too. My wife was called away to her final rest in 1896 - after a long illness. I have two sons who are my companions and who are making satisfactory work for me as a physician and the other is still a student.

02904

My eldest son graduated as a B.A. in '92,
and as an M.D. in '95. He is now adjunct
Prof of Chemistry in the Long Island Medical
College also Surgeon to the Framingham.

He has travelled considerably in Europe
Africa and Asia. He is a large man 5ft. 11 in
and weighs about 200. My youngest son
purposes studying law as soon as he
completes his literary studies.

You would scarcely recognize me I am grey
and bald and weigh about 215 lbs. but I
am still active and can get around
as well as the youngsters.

I still enjoy the woods, and often think of
our ambitions and our dreams away
up on the Holland River in the village of
Brookford. I take a vacation every year
and my youngest son and I hunt
in Maine or in the Adirondacks or
in Canada two years ago I purposed
going to California but went to Europe
instead. I have a farm about 30 miles
up the Hudson River where I occasionally
take a vacation and a rest. It is not however
the wilds that you advise as it is with the
exception of 20 acres of woodland under a
high state of cultivation, but to me it is a
great rest. I can see the fruit growing and the crops
and then I have a lot of dogs. Collies or affectionate and
intelligent. I have my cattle and my horses and all