



John Muir Correspondence (PDFs)

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1901-01-01

## Letter from Mary V. Worstell to John Muir, [ca. 1901].

Mary V. Worstell

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2.  
never dimmed.

I am a self-supporting woman and the journey West was for recreation only. I made no plans to turn the journey into profit beyond telling myself to keep eyes and heart open.

On my return I chanced to attend a very poor lecture. At its close a friend said to me "You could do better than that!" - a sorry compliment!

But the thought took root - and now I derive a considerable addition to my usual income from

[1]  
341 West 51st Street.

Mr. John Muir.

My dear Mr. Muir:

If community of admirations makes strangers into friends, we should be friends of almost four years' standing.

In the summer of '97 it was my privilege to look upon the majesty of the Sierra Nevada Mountains and there came into my life a glory which has

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my lectures. In the summer of '98 I returned to the Yosemite Valley - happy as a queen! I secured many photographs which I use in my lectures. Since then I have added lectures on the Yellowstone and the big Arizona Cañon.

The Yosemite is clearly the favorite with my audiences, and naturally, for I love the Happy Valley better than any other place in the world. And the great forests that hem it in make a fitting prelude for the mighty fugue that the mountains ring.

And now - I am doing what I never have done before - I am writing to thank an author for having written a book. I recently said to a well known New Yorker "I feel that I owe John Muir more gratitude than I can express, for in his 'National Parks' he has accomplished what I have tried to do - he has brought the glory and grandeur and

6  
and the "Century" I know  
well. Is it any wonder  
that I sign myself

Truly and gratefully  
Your friend

Mary V. Worstell.

I have the Sierra fever  
regularly every Spring - and  
your article in the Century  
on King's River Cañon has  
made me think of that as  
<sup>a possible</sup>  
~~my~~ destination this coming  
Season. Will you tell me -  
very briefly - if there is

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341 West 51st Street.

Spirit of the Sierra  
Nevada Mountains and  
valleys to everyone."

I have read the book  
to myself and I have  
read it aloud besides  
sharing it freely with  
my friends. Your  
"Mountains of California"  
is also one of my familiar  
friends, and your magazine  
articles in the "Atlantic"

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a Stage-line from Visalia to the Cañon - and if there are any accommodations for travelers in the valley - or must one procure a Camping-outfit?