



John Muir Correspondence (PDFs)

1902-05-09

Letter from [Bailey] Millard to John Muir, 1902 May 9.

Bailey Millard

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The Examiner
San Francisco

May 9, 1902.

My dear Mr. Muir:

This note is to break gently to you the serious fact that you have been put into my book of verse, "Songs of the Press." Please to bear up bravely, my dear friend, and read "Muir of the Mountains" without paling or trembling. It was, you know, inevitable. Nobody could have written what you have written without calling down something of that sort. I send you the book to-day.

03001

Kindly pass lightly and casually
over the first part of the book, the "Song
of the Press," and read with fortitude
the "Other Adventures in Verse," which is
the heart-work. The "Press" stuff is mere
jingle, addressed to the people who
are marching to "rag-time" music
and whose dominant singing note
is found in the "Com" song. I thought
the stuff, which is what Carlyle would
call "rocking-nurse rhymes," would pop-
ularize the book. And, you know, even
I was not above that sort of thing.

In the unlikely event of your want-
ing another copy you may have it.

With kind wishes to you and Mrs. Muir,

I remain, Yours faithfully
Millard