



John Muir Correspondence (PDFs)

1902-05-24

Letter from Irene Grosvenor Wheelock to John Muir, 1902 May 24.

Irene Grosvenor Wheelock

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Saturday May 24 1902

Dear Mr. Muir,

On my return from your pleasant home last Wednesday I found my sister's family quarantined with diphtheria and my two little folks in the care of a friend at the hotel.

The patient was my nephew a student at Stanford who was sent home sick that day.

On this account I have come here for a few days but leave for Pacific Grove tomorrow where I want to put in at least a month of bird study before going to Lake Tahoe

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Meanwhile I want to express to you and Mrs. Muir my grateful appreciation of the courtesies you extended to me, a stranger. Mrs. Muir's charming tact made me feel at ease in spite of my mortification at having to intrude on your hospitality for the night. Had I known there was no hostility at Muir I would have timed my visit so as to return the same day. But it is "An ill wind that blows everybody good" and while my stay was an imposition on your Scotch hospitality

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GRAND HOTEL
SAN FRANCISCO CAL.

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it was a "Red Letter" day for me.

"The Mountains of California" is intensely fascinating and I can scarcely lay it aside for necessary duties. Of all the chapters I enjoyed "A mind storm in The Sierras" best for I seem to be with you on the erraying tree top. Next to that, The Douglas Squirrel appeals most to me and yet as Dr Jordan says, The "Water Angel" is a classic. It is difficult to choose where each one is so fine.

But reading this only makes

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GRAND HOTEL
SAN FRANCISCO CAL.

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me the more anxious to have you consent to write an introduction for my humble effort. Can you not give me some idea of what to write McChurples about your price? Put it high and as soon as you write me about it I will forward the letter to them. Of course we understand this all depends upon whether the ms. meets your approval. You can send letter to me at El Carmelo, Pacific Grove, Cal.

Thanking you sincerely for your kindness and awaiting your reply I am, with best regards to Mrs

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mine and your daughters,

Respectfully yours
Irene Grosvenor Wheelock