



1908-10-16

## Letter from John Muir to Helen [Muir], 1908 Oct 16.

John Muir

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Home, Oct. 16, 1908.

Darling Helen.

You will see by enclosed letters that our grand old Robin Hood Merriam has gone to the better Land. One of the letters was addressed to you here.

All goes well. We had quite a shower the other day Kindest regards to the Van Ds & Fs.

& all the love I've got  
for you my darling  
John Muir



San Marcos Cal  
Oct 8/08

John Muir Esq.

My dear Sir:

I regret to inform you of the death of  
Hon. J.S. Merriam in New York City, last Sunday.

He enjoyed meeting and being with you a few  
years ago on a trip in the mountains East of Visalia.

Wishing you continued good health and many  
years in which to enjoy your outings,

I am, very truly

G.F. Merriam



320 West 56 St.

Oct. 11, 1908

My dear Miss Muir.

It is with sorrow that I must tell you of the death of my dear uncle, Mr. James Merriam. I know that you and your father cared for him too - as who did not, who knew him?

While in the Catskills last August he took cold which developed into inflammatory rheumatism settling especially in the joints. The shock and the agony of the rough journey in the bottom of a spring wagon for ten miles and then in the baggage car to the city were more than even his wonderful constitution could withstand.

He was taken at first to the hospital, but was finally able to be moved to his apartment where he lived with his son's family. He was delighted to be at home amid the loved surroundings. The family were all able to be with him, one daughter being summoned from England in time to be a great comfort to her father during the last weeks. The dear uncle grew gradually weaker until, after two days of unconsciousness, he left us Sunday morning. We cannot wish him back much as we loved him, for he had for some time longed to go, and we knew he could never have been well again. He had been so patient in his intense suffering.

My uncle had often read me parts of your letters so I almost feel as if I knew you.

I hope you quite strong again now. Of course I have long known your father through his writings.

To all who knew him my uncle has left beautiful memories.

I am hoping I have the right address. I found it on an addressed envelope in my uncle's desk.

Very sincerely yours,

Edith Merriam