



1908-11-03

## Letter from William Kent to John Muir, 1908 Nov 3 .

William Kent

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### Recommended Citation

Kent, William, "Letter from William Kent to John Muir, 1908 Nov 3 ." (1908). *John Muir Correspondence (PDFs)*. 5561.

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My Dear Mr Muir

Your letter cures me all up. I am very far from being the nickel plated angel. I have tried to see clearly and talk straight, but have blundered and stubbed my toes and sprained my ankles and have acquired many enemies who should have been my friends. At the same time whenever I get the blues I remember the defiant, Cursed, Cheerful attitude of Kipling's Soldier Man in "For to Admire"

"I paid my price for finding out  
Nor ever grudged the price I paid,  
But sat in clink, without my boots,  
Admiring 'ow the world was made."

As for you with your gentle strong philosophy of life, with your appreciation and practice of "living and letting live" and with your real inked knowledge of what is worth

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while in this complicated scale of Existence, you give me with Envy and Repair.

For I am a voracious, meat-eating barbarian, over fond of food and drink and excitement and the philosophic balance which is a matter of course to you comes very hard to me.

I don't write much because I don't know much. I think a great deal but am shy on definite facts.

Anyhow I've had a life of it, and whatever comes next I'm ready for it, for which "The Lord be thanked."

You must get in with our "American Magazine" outfit. Phillips, Miss Tarbell "Dooley" Dunne, Baker and Winescent White. They are your people. Can't you get in some stuff for them.

Yours  
04314 William Kent