



John Muir Correspondence (PDFs)

1911-09-20

Letter from John Muir to Osborn [family], 1911 Sep 20.

John Muir

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Para, Brazil, Sept. 20, 1911

Dear friends Osborns all

I fancy you home from the health-giving Rockies full of icy radium and ozone and silver fir balsam, if possible happier and lovelier than ever

I've had a glorious time up the great river into the heart of its vast forested basin and have gained far more telling views of the trees than I ever hoped for. The river as you know is immensely wide but for hundreds of miles the steamer ran so close to the densely forested banks that I could almost touch the out-reaching branches, fancy how I stared and sketched. At Manaus I wandered about in the woods guarded and guided and befriended by the best citizens, almost civilized. Mostly due to introductions by Mr. F. H. Sanford a graduate of Yale.

I did not go to Iquitos because I couldn't without waiting a month or six weeks for a steamer in the midst of lots of Yellow fever and Malaria, while the whole round trip from Manaus to Iquitos and return would require about three or perhaps four months time that I judged could be more profitably spent elsewhere. I suppose Cook and Sons will return the cost of this unused part of the ticket. I received two lots of letters forwarded from Castle Rock on my return from Manaus a few days ago, and am now waiting for a steamer to Rio. Will probably get away on the 25th of this month. From Rio after a short stay I plan to go [to] Buenos Aires, thence up the La Plata and Uruguay rivers, over the Mountains to Valparaiso etc. etc. Then after all this couldn't you join me somewhere in a trip to S. Africa?

Anyhow wherever I may wander I shall always be your faithful grateful affectionate friend

John Muir

I think letters sent to Buenos Aires C/o American Consul will reach Dont let lovely Osborn Sangar forget me

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