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## Letter from John Muir to W[illia]m Trout, 1912 May 10.

John Muir

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Martinez, May 10, 1912.

Dear William Trout.

In trying to clear away the huge talus of letters a year high accumulated while I was in South America & Africa I find your long interesting letter of March 15<sup>th</sup> full of good news. I'm always glad to hear from you. Friends get closer & dearer the farther they travel on life's journey. It's fine to see how youthful your heart remains, & wide & farreaching your sympathy with everybody & everything. Such people never grow old. I only regret your being held so long in mechanical bread winning harness. instead of making enough by middle age & spending the better half of life in studying God's works as I wanted you to do long ago. The marvel is that in the din & rattle of mills you have done so wondrous well. By all means keep on your travels since you



the Red Sea & Naples & New York thus crossing the equator six times on  
journey about 40,000 miles long. Hope to tell you about it some day. In the meantime I  
am sure you will fully enjoy reading of my adventures.

know so well how to reap their  
benefits. I shall hope to see you  
when next you come west. And  
don't wait until the Canal Year.  
Delays are more & more dangerous  
as sundown draws nigh.

I've just returned from a long  
fruitful trip. First up the Amazon  
a thousand miles & return to Para.  
Thence to Rio de Janeiro, Thence to Santos  
& inland four or five hundred miles  
in the State of Parana thence back to  
the coast at Paranaguá, Thence to  
Buenos Aires stopping at many  
interesting ports by the way. Thence  
across the Andes to Santiago, Thence  
south 500 miles & up through grand  
forests to the snow where I found  
*Araucaria imbricata* a wonderful tree  
forming the strangest woods imaginable  
Thence back across the Andes & Argentina  
to Montevideo, Thence to Teneriffe, Thence  
to Cape Town Africa, Thence 1300 miles Northward  
to Victoria Falls, where I found *Adansonia*  
*digitata*, another wonderful tree. Thence to the  
East Coast at Beira, Thence to Mozambique, Zanzibar  
etc to Mombasa. Thence to Victoria Nyanza  
Entebbe Jinji to the head of the Nile, Thence back to Mombasa  
around the N end of the continent to Aden & home by