



John Muir Correspondence (PDFs)

1912-07-10

Letter from Katharine Hooker to John Muir, [1912] Jul 10.

Katharine Hooker

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Recommended Citation

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3277 Pacific Avenue
San Francisco

July 10

My dear friend

I had begun to think you had already run away to the mountains; for when I passed through Los Angeles I could not get an answer from you over the telephone, and Homer Earle tried many times without success.

I had not the time to go out to Hollywood, for we went on to the south at once and spent two weeks between Los Angeles and Mexico. Going over the border at Tia Juana we found a small dirty village and a handful of brown young men playing at soldiers. They grinned at us and seemed to realize the

John they were ²³ trying to
carry out.

Back of San Diego
we motored about in a
pretty country, full of little
mountains and lovely valleys
full of oaks. I'm afraid it
would have been rather
mild for you but we enjoyed it
and as far as my brother was
concerned it was a complete
success. We had been so troubled
about his not being well, and
oppressed with over-work, but
all his cares fell away and
we entered into the spirit of
the thing and enjoyed it to
the full. Besides my brother ^{his wife} and
there were my cousin Margaret
Whitney & my sister Beanie, so
that the car was full - more
than full including me

² [33]
luggage, a coffee pot, a shovel
and various other necessities.
We had no accidents or de-
tentions, though we often
had to get out and climb
steep places, or scramble
down nearly perpendicular
declivities, and once we "drowned
our engine" in a deep brook,
and occasionally we stopped
over night where there was
not much to eat. All these
were just incidents on the way
home and we did not grumble
you may be sure.

After it I came directly up
here where Marcine had been
trying to settle the house -
she was no love for automobiles
and would not accompany
us on the trip. Ellie came
here with me ⁰⁵²² and we all

all packed into ^{the} little place.
I wish it were not quite so
small. The weather is cold
and foggy - real San Francisco
summer time!

I'm glad you miss me out
of the southern country. It
seems strange to me to think
the house down there is shut
up and empty, even the
faithful Agnes gone and
only Willock in grand outside.

I think you will be very
wise to have a change from
"ward work" to the open
country. If you think of
going to Alaska as late
as next month, would you
think of taking Ellie and
Maude with you? I have
not mentioned it to either

3 (53)
of them, but I am sure
it would do them good and
I believe you would like
to have their company.
Maude is not going to
close her house till next
month.

Yes - do write some magazine
articles on the interesting
subjects you note in your
letter.

Ever affectionately

yours

Katharine Hooker