



John Muir Correspondence (PDFs)

1912-09-01

Letter from G. Frederick Schwarz to John Muir, 1912 Sep 1.

G. Frederick Schwarz

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My dear Mr. Muir, -

I have nearly finished
your First Summer in the Sierras,
of which I had read only the
beginning when you inscribed your
name, and a kind word or two,
in my copy last Sunday. How
many pure, uplifting, genuine and
lasting impressions you have given
me in the turning of these pages!

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Little as I have seen of the
glorious region about Yosemite,
yet it has been enough to enable
me to catch the spirit of your words
and to enjoy the scenes which you
describe and the interesting experiences
which you relate of that memorable
Summer of '69. And yet, to under-
stand adequately and truly such a
marvelous handiwork as God
fashioned in the Yosemite, and
the glorious setting in which it lies,

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would require the wanderings of many summers, so full is the region of Nature's intimate whisperings and of every kind of majesty and beauty.

In your Mountains of California and National Parks many a half-forgotten scene and impression dear to memory was renewed and made vivid once more; and in this book I have found a similar pleasure. When



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you tell of the grand, heavenly architecture of the clouds that was built up over the Sierra peaks day after day, certain memorable September days of 1903 come back to me, when I lingered in the upper Kern canyon on my way to Mt. Whitney. Here there arose every morning some of the most expressive, incomparable cloud scenery that

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I have ever known: masses of infinite delicacy and wonderful depth, changing from one beautiful form into another, filling the canyon here with ~~light~~ golden light and there with grand, dark shadows, and at last vanishing in the far away sky, leaving the atmosphere so ineffably pure as to set one's whole being, as it were, in harmony of motion.

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6.

I wish I might have stayed longer with you last week. Since leaving you I have thought of a thousand things that I should like to have talked about. I carry with me very pleasant memories of the afternoon at your fireside.

May your winter be pleasant and comfortable. Some

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time, I feel, we shall
meet again.

Faithfully yours,

G. Frederick Schwarz

Santa Barbara, Cal.

September 1st, 1912.

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