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1912-10-30

Letter from John Muir to [Anna R.] Dickey, 1912 Oct 30.

John Muir

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[Original letter returned to Mrs. Anna R. Dickey]

Martinez, Oct. 30, 1912.

Dear Mrs. Dickey:

Your letter just received and I heartily rejoice with you and Donald that you have enjoyed a serene inspiring summer in the peaceful northern woods fathering health and strength to help the good along in whatever ways you are destined to travel. How unlike the peace of the woods and streams is the war of the nations over the seas and beside us in Mexico, and the noisy bitter political battles in our own favored country!

And the killing of Presidents -- is this never to end? The very best loved and the most useful of all the world's rulers seem always to be the ones selected for murder. That the assassin's bullet was turned aside from Roosevelt's heart all good people here and everywhere will thank God and rejoice.

I attended the Sec. of the Interior's conference in Yosemite on National Park affairs and had good opportunities to explain Hetch Hetchy questions, etc., and last Friday I helped to finish the Sierra Club's reply to the San Francisco engineer's mass of special pleading. Now I'm trying to hide and settle down to my own natural work.

I'm glad you like the pictures. You are welcome to as many more copies as you like of what's left. With love to Donald, admiring his brave heart, I am,

Ever faithfully your friend,

JOHN MUIR

The first chapter of "My Boyhood", somewhat abridged, is in the November Atlantic.

[Envelope addressed Mrs. Anna R. Dickey, San Rafael Heights, Pasadena, California].

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