



1894-06-13

Letter from R[obert] U[nderwood] Johnson to John Muir, 1894 Jun 13.

Robert Underwood Johnson

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EDITORIAL DEPARTMENT
THE CENTURY MAGAZINE
UNION SQUARE NEW YORK

June 13th, 1894.

R. W. GILDER, EDITOR.
R. U. JOHNSON,
ASSOCIATE EDITOR.
C. C. BUEL,
ASSISTANT EDITOR.

My dear Muir:-

As I have written you, I am at work on the proofs of your book and am very glad to have the pleasure of reading it before it goes to press.

Yesterday we telegraphed you about the second chapter and have your reply authorizing the omission of part of it. Your decision is judicious - to retain the first part of this chapter, which ^{on reading it} I should probably have advised retaining even if you had consented to the omission of the whole of it; but it seems to me that the reader is at once diverted from your subject too much by the particularity of the description of the Northern Islands - a description which is more technical than the general character of the book. I am sure you can use this material - perhaps by rewriting it - when you come to your second book on "The glaciers of the Pacific Coast". The omitted part also seems to me a little dry, and coming at the first would give the reader a wrong impression of the book.

I have made a few changes in the pages which have been cast, principally in the substitution or omission of adjectives like "grand", "glorious" and "charming", which occur rather too frequently for proper effect. In general, I

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would advise the substitution of specific descriptive adjectives for these of general significance.

I have now the proof of sixty galleys, making 240 pages, which I shall read at once so that the book will have the benefit of whatever value my attention may have.

Faithfully yours,

R. U. Johnson.

Mr. John Muir,
Martinez, Cal.

*Columbia College gives Tesla an LL.D.
tonight. Another university is going to give him another!*

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