



John Muir Correspondence (PDFs)

1891-03-31

**Letter from Eliza Ruhamah Scidmore to [Louie Strentzel] Muir,
1891 Mar 31.**

Eliza Ruhamah Scidmore

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gives a banquet and reception by
some three hundred admiring
tourists of past seasons; and put
through some mysterious mining
deal, by which, I suppose, some
more strangers will learn a
deal more of geology than they
knew before.

We are all hoping that Capt.
Hooper will have orders that
will allow him to cooperate with
the Mt. St. Elias party and do
some exploring and surveying
himself.

I fear that Mr. Muir's added
cares will keep him far away
from the glaciers this season,
but I hope that he has written
out some of the results of his
last seasons work.

With regards,
I am

Very Sincerely
Eliza R. Silliman

01507

Washington - March 31st 1891 [13]

My dear Mr. Muir

I enclose you
the letter that I did write
you in December, to prove
that I intended to do this much
long ago. I have had a very
dry winter and lost three weeks
of it entirely by illness, and
between that and a few flying
trips to New York, the season
has slipped away from me.

I am getting the proof of my
New book slowly, but it cannot
be many weeks of now before I
shall see its cover.

Of course Mr. Muir and yourself
were interested in Mr. Kerr's article
in the March Scribner. It was

^[23] a piece of enterprise in stealing such a march on the Conteury, but the mystery is, where did he get his pictures? The illustrations are all from the negatives made by Mr. Russell. Mr. Russell did not give him prints or permission to use, and no one knows how he got hold of them.

The Geographic Society is in the fire once more, and will send Mr. Russell back to Mt. St. Elias this summer, to find out its height, latitude and longitude, or not come back alive. A Coast Survey party will probably cooperate with him and the figures will have to be reliable. Mr. Kere got three different heights himself - 13,500 ft 14,500 and 15,300 ft, and

^[33] the agents, put to work at his notes after he left the Survey, could only get 17,000 ft for St. Elias - so that all the Kere notes are suppressed, and no ^{official} publication will be made until this next expedition returns.

Genl. Schmatka, having discovered the Yukon, is now about to discover gold along its banks, for the benefit of some New York capitalists.

The Conteury will send Mr. Joseph Pennell with Mr. Russell, to sketch St. Elias and we may expect interesting things next year.

Capt. Carroll succeeded in getting land laws for his Territory, went to Boston and was