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1891-09-12

Letter from Eliza Ruhamah Scidmore to John Muir, 1891 Sep 12.

Eliza Ruhamah Scidmore

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trashington D. C. Siph 12thing, the Tanadian Conference meets rece in a Im weeks and Dr. DEar Mus Muis Dan Dan Such Damon sill make a grab for my tung mothe training on the matifaced coast. He need to rungles before they tend him in the may of seeing you in on a diplomate me and againg person his Jall, will you as Infore he started on Berling tell me the common and Dea he spoke openly as to ment uncommon hame of this be much and mould not so _ dras set and convicted on my point little flower - the tragrant Intreliand. I do not care my was plant that grown in the much what he down about the mosses in the noods all Pril low Island?, but Cevillagig Edd around, Sitka! I never and cidence Island I cannot be Jours Such a votamical paret sime, and you must hake a stand, for your one Fresh in one may as afaska glaviers and the Take. The is. There mere The Sills and people living on the thirty the valleys and the mountain mile this to not we arrive Dunnite all around Juneau appereiale mat a serious the

and Sitka corred with the thicket It is the surest and true I the mate and carpets of Hossoms that I have our cell in a that I had never seem before Homes ketals, and hur Richardon and as one in sitter tome our artist gras guite xcited could tell one a hing about it. It was shaweful for Them. I climber renstordia, rack a tore there in the quitte of tha three times and Each of all that rich flora and time was grite only over the not one Know the crawes of heather, and the perfect suon The Things - Int the other Janks of these fragicant white ig nor out people whom I have whet own since have not been Hossoms with the collar of leave at their branching stems able to help one out. hill you titt me shat it is? Your Entet will be exone 35 and there is this tette next year - the S-S- Co- mean to keep a quite ture during the aguisite little tulip-4 ort Heursion season, and the of a flower that I found Coast Turny as usual threaten between abore micr glacier. a camp on shore. heauwhile

This boundary question is; for much there is in the Butish claim, and from decided and cut and dried their intentions are compared to the indiffrence and 19 norance that Exists on our Cioà of the line. The Pacific loash ought to get 4 cited about itsaid inemorialize and sent rome one here to brace one Commissioners of. I shall soon to able to Sent you photographs of your cabic as I looked This year regards to hurs huir am hry Truly, 2 R Curuore

Washington, D. C., Sept. 12th, '91.

Dear Mr. Muir:

As I am not in the way of seeing you in person this fall, will you tell me the common and uncommon name of this little flower — the fragrant wax plant that grows in the mosses in the woods all around Sitka? I never found such a botanical desert in one way as Alaska is. There were the hills and the valleys and the mountain summits all around Juneau and Sitka covered with the thickest mats and carpets of blossoms that I had never seen before, and no one in either town could tell me a thing about them. I climbed Verstoraia, back of Sitka, three times and each time was quite wild over the weather, and the perfect snow banks of these fragrant white blossoms with the collar of leaves at their branching stems.

Will you tell me what it is?

And then there is this exquisite little tulip-y sort of a flower that I found up among the heather patches above Muir glacier. It is the purest and truest blue that I have ever seen in a flower's petals, and Mr. Richardson, our artist, was quite excited over it. It was shameful for us to be there in the midst of all that rich flora and not even know the names of the things -- but the other ignorant people whom I have met ever since have not been able to help me out.

guide there during the excursion season, and the Coast Survey as usual threaten to have the Patterson there and a samp on shore. Meanwhile the Canadian Conference meets here in a few weeks and Dr. Dawson will make a grab for everything worth having on the mainland coast. He needs to be muzzled before they send him on a diplomatic errand again, as before he started for Bering Sea he spoke openly as to what he would and would not do -- dead set and convicted on every point beforehand. I do not care very much what he does about the Pribylof Islands, but Revillagigedo and Scidmore Islands cannot be spared him, and you must make a stand for your own glacier and the Taku. The people living on the thirty mile strip do not nearly appreciate what a serious thing [Letter incomplete]

[Eliza Ruhamah Scidmore]