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1913-05-18

Letter from Mary E. Stewart to John Muir, 1913 May 18.

Mary E. Stewart

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3323 Park Hill Avenue, Milwaukee, Wisconsin.

May, 18, 1913.

Dear Mr. Muir:

I have read your "Boyhood" with so much pleasure, I wish to express it to you. I can very well understand that Scotch severity, though it came to me in a modified form. My father was this country born; his parents real Highlanders, using the Gaelic language. But there is much sturdiness in the Scotch character that stands to the good, as withness the success you have made of your life in spite of the most adverse circumstances. I enclose a clipping of the review I made for the paper. I am so limited in space, I could not write as I would wish. The story of your inventions is not new to me as my brother, I. N. Stewart, was at the University while you were there and brought home stories of the wonders he saw of your making. Some that he told of were not mentioned in the book. A year ago we had a visit from Mr. Volney Rattan who was also at the University. While he was here Milton Griswold, now a judge of reputation and honor, spent a day and the men renewed memories of old times. Your name was frequently mentioned and all were wishing you might have been there.

You crossed the plains at a time when it was a danger and hardship that can never be repeated. A history of that experience would be of value. Will you not write it? I think it should not be lost.

My brother is serving as Assemblyman in our Legislature. He has given up regular work as his health gave out after some ten years editing on the Milwaukee Journal, the largest daily paper in the state. I am grateful to have had opportunity to read this book and wish for more to follow. Forgive my intrusion, please and believe me,

yours respectfully,

Mary E. Stewart

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Student - JWP