

*The Harriman Re-Enactment
August 15-17, 2013*













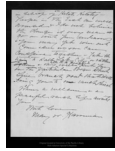






*John Muir's Journal of his Trip to
Harriman Ranch in Island Park, Idaho
August 13, 1913 - Stayed 10 days.*

**Letter from Mary W. Harriman to John Muir,
1913 Aug 7.**



Letterhead – Aug. 7th [1913]
PO Island Park, Idaho
Tel. Ashton, Idaho

Island Park Ranch

Page 1

Dear Mr Muir

We are so near you - can you not be tempted to come to us if only for a week? This place would inspire even you who knows nature in all her greatest beauty so well but this spot has a charm of its own - 05508

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Mrs Averell I will devote our time attention to you while the boys are off Camping you would greatly enliven us. Your last appeal to Prof Osborn came a little while before we left home we all (Mr Mrs Osborn I) wrote appealing missives to the President himself

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in behalf of Hetch Hetchy - People in the East are well aroused I do not believe the danger is very near so go on with your endeavors you may yet win out. Come see use we can conspire together. Take the train to Salt Lake City or rather Odgen they (the R. R. people) will put you on the particular Oregon short line branch road that will bring you to our ranch [illegible ch]] Where a welcome a peaceful ranch life awaits you -

With love Mary W. Harriman

**Letter from Mary W. Harriman to John Muir,
1913 Sept. 4**

Letterhead – Sept 4th
PO Island Park, Idaho
Tel. Ashton, Idaho

Island Park Ranch

Page 1

Dear Mr Muir

Before setting forth this afternoon on our homeward way I would have another chat with you - I was glad to hear from you last letter that you had been having some of the fine air of [05839]

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Shasta and those splendid wooded heights where Mrs [Herrin] [illegible -distributes] hospitality so generously - of course the young people Mary included are both to move their faces away from Island Park but I am a little anxious to get nearer the center of affairs & to be at

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home to welcome Carol - Her last cable - (her cables have been few & far between rounding with South or North around the sea[t?] of war to reach us) states she would sail from Holland on Sept 5th so I am hoping nothing unto [illegible] has happened to change this plan - I am feeling strongly that this world is not the pleasant place to sojourn in, that it was, even should America be prospered by this war - I pray we may keep our heads clear & our hearts pure & not add to the [illegible] confusion of nations - Do write me as often as you feel like doing & remember we will always be looking for you in the East - With love & best wishes

Sincerely Mary W. Harriman

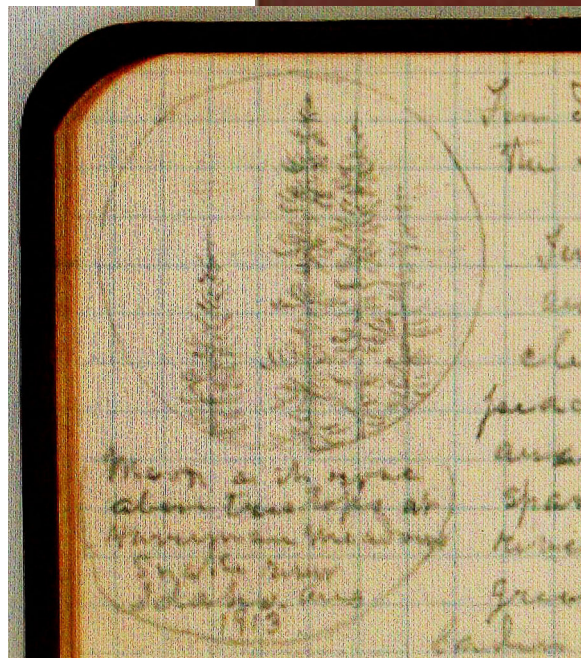
John Muir met Mary Harriman on the famed Harriman Expedition to Alaska in 1899.
The expedition was sponsored by E.H. Harriman as a scientific exploration of the region.



Mary Harriman



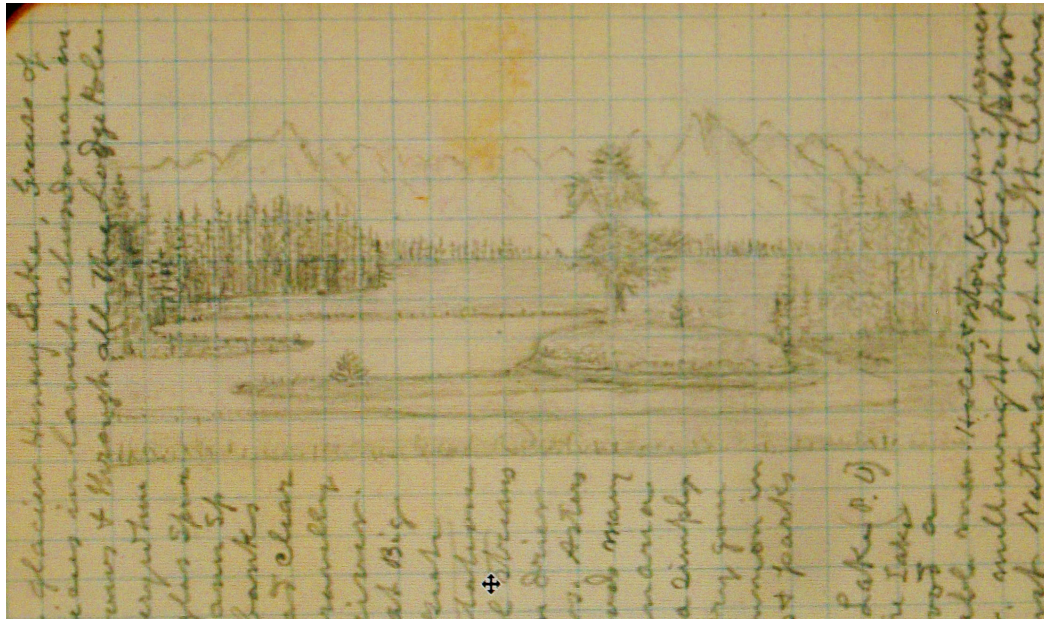
The 2 Johns - Burroughs and Muir. Photos by E.S Curtis.



**John Muir's drawing marked
 "Moon as it rose above tree-tops at
 Harriman Meadows, Snake River,
 Idaho, Aug. 18, 1913"**

**Henry Lake, Idaho
 Aug. 20, 1913**





*View from our camp of the "Muir Sketch," August 16, 2013.
Tetons are screened by smoke from summer forest fires.
Big tree on island is visible as a stump.*

Front Cover

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Address and Arrival
Times

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Empty

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Tehachapi Valley Drawing

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Plain traces of glaciation
on both sides of Tehacha-
pi Val. [Valley], moraines
from mtns [mountains]
gen [general], sculpture,
etc. on summit of pass.

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Thursday eve. 14. Din [Dinner] at Tait's. Guests,
the LeContes, Colbys, and Badè. All saw me
aboard at Oakland Mole at 9:30. Train started
12:10 Friday.

Friday, 15. At sunrise winding up through the
pines, fine views at Summit and Cape Horn. Mis-
erable snow-sheds. Thought of dinner party and
blessed Harriman and his wonderful tunnel plans.
All P.M. on tawny desert.

Saturday Morning, 16. At sunrise at the lake—
Harriman's cutoff through the lake. Arrive at
Ogden 7 o'clock. Cared for by Station Master.
Sent to Salt Lake City. Utah Hotel fine as any in
S.F.[San Francisco]. Auto ride through city in the
P.M. Wondrous changes since my geodetic days
in 1875? Lombardy popular avenues, miles and
miles of them.

Memorable ride! And memorable organ music in
tabernacle, especially "Nearer, My God to Thee,"
so devout, so sweet, so whispering low.
Guided by Mr. Spencer and Mr. Smith, Sec. [Sec-



retary] to Mr. Bancroft, RR
[railroad] manager.
Left Salt Lake for Island Park
at 7:15 P.M. accompanied by
two profs [professors] of Utah
University.

Sunday, 17. Arrived Island
Park Station, on Yellowstone
Park branch at 5 or 6 A.M. Got
breakfast and

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drove in spring wagon 12 miles
to Harriman ranch. Arrived
9 o'clock. Welcomed by Mrs.
H [Harriman] and Mrs. Aver-
ill, and had 2nd breakfast.
Glorious, spacious, peaceful
meadows embosomed in spiry

pin. Snake River winding in shimmering ripples
through the midst of the broad long meadows,
swirling around innumerable little islands; mtns all
around in the distance, especially Teton range to
southward. One grand, peaceful, soothing picture,
with innumerable little pictures near and far. El.
about 6200 feet above sea. Drove with Mrs. H. &
A. [Harriman and Averill] in the P.M.

Trees all *P. contorta* marvelously carried and
picturesque. Flowering plants magnificent: *Sego*
Lily (*Calochortus*), *fraseria* out of flr [flower], *ge-*
ranium (large) *potentilla*, *aster* (blue), *solidagoes*,
sedges, *typha* (small) broad leaved comp. [*com-*
positae] like *Wyethia*.*

This region a great camp place. Mosquitoes some-
times troublesome.

Monday, 18. Lovely morn., surely none better -
circle with dot - [in the world], so cool, so calm, so
bright; not a leaf stirring; shimmering ripples, not
a cloud or faintest hint of one in all the blue sky
dome.

**Eriogonum, erigeron, gentian simplex, tall crucifer, Amelanchier, Everlasting, peony, gilia, Orthocarpus, tall 2 ft. leaves pinnate anemone, polygonum.*

Full moon rose last eve with 3 trees on disc like medal.

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(Drawing marked "Moon as it rose above tree-tops at Harriman Meadows, Snake River, Idaho, Aug. 1913")

Fine drive down the river in the evening-fine cool spring.

Thursday, 19th. Foggy until sun was hour high-then clear, infinitely calm, peaceful, restful, charming away every regret and care; sparkling spangles on the river ripples; grass on the great meadows, every leaf laden with irised dew-drops, each an eye with all the landscape - every tree, bush, leaf, and flower, mtn, hill, meadow, in sight pictured with all its colors in each crystal mirror. Drive to old mill. A few Douglas spruce, scrawny, 5 miles from camp.

Wednesday, 20th Aug. Glowing silver fog at sunrise. River sparkling, shimmering. Not a breath of wind, not a cloud or faintest wisp or hint of cloud in all the sky. Heavy dew.

At 9 a.m. drive N. up the great meadows to Big Springs and Henry Lake, 2 miles long. Many islets. Noble mts, grandly sculptured. Moraines 500 ft. high. Many springs watering 1000s of acres of aspens. 20 or 30 hay meadow farms

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around the glacier Henry Lake. Grass of many species in lavish abundance in the meadows and through all the Lodge Pole forests everywhere. A few Douglas spruce and Englemann sp [spruce] along the banks of the broad, clear, shallow, gravely bottomed river. Luncheon at Big Springs.

Rich algae vegetation in the cool streams, camas on drier meadows. Asters and goldenrods, many species habenaria, gentiana simplex. Frasera dry, gone to seed, common in open woods and parks.

(Sketch)

Stopped at Lake (P.O.) E. side of the Lake. Mr. Sherwood a remarkable man. Hotel and store-keeper, farmer, inventor, millwright, photographer, taxidermist, naturalist, with telling collection of birds and mammals.

Thursday, 21st. lovely morning, cloudless as usual. Fine view of lake and mtns from foothill back of barley field and potato patch. Barley nearly ripe.

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Henry Lake - [now called Henry's Lake]

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Empty

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Also oats being now cut for hay. Potatoes frost killed in the spring, 2nd crop now barely large enough to use.

Drove around lake close to mtn foothills. Fire and snow avs [avalanches] have made sad havoc in the mtn forests (Englemann spruce chiefly). Gaps taken by aspen and here and there by round-headed clumps of willow producing novel effects, some of the slopes strikingly dotted with spheres 10 to 20 ft. dia.

Stopped on river bank in woods near Big Springs for lunch. Arrived 1:15, left 3:40, arrived at home camp about 6, completing a very telling 2-day trip of 60 or 70 miles.

Friday, 22nd. Calm and cloudless as usual. Temp. at sunrise about 65°. The Teton Range clearer than since my arrival. Snow fields and small gls [glaciers]? visible.

Found new species of gentian back of cottage like propinqua; same sp. I found at Upper Ranch, 6 miles North from main camp. Went up to ranch this P.M. with driver. Had fine trip; left at 2, got back at 7:15. Found Douglas spruce principal tree near top of ridge and of south side mtns of great upper meadows. Mtn ash common, mint, tall Solomon seal. A tall malva, 2 vaccinium. Rich vegetation in general, v[ery] rich and still

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green and flowery. The autumnal tints rapidly spreading. Frasera gone to seed and utterly dry. Golden-rods and asters in prime and mtn ash fruit, yellow and red, ab[undant] but leaves eaten by insects or blighted more or less by mycelium of fungi, etc. Grass still green, or greenish, getting brown over all the great meadows, nowhere dry enough to burn. No danger of forest fires as yet.

Cloudy today for first time since arrival.

Saturday, 23rd. Cloudy, with showers in distance. Rather sultry. No breath of wind. Drove with Mr. Gran 6 miles to canyon about 100 ft. deep, feathered with blue mtn silver fir, v[ery] spiry, densely fruited, silvered with balsam cones about 3 in. long, 1 ½ diameter. Douglas sp[ruce] sparsely mixed with firs. Started at 5 P.M. Arrived at camp 7:30.

Sunday 24th. Clear, hushed, calm, shimmering, whispering, slow-sliding river. Sweet, infinitely peaceful Sabbath. Sky cloudless, silvery pale around horizon. Tetons dimly visible. Temp. at 8:30 about 80.

In the P.M. drove to old mill through the pines. A good many Douglas Spruce on the higher ground, old and young, the tallest about 100 ft. The climate too dry and cold, 30 or 40 below zero, for anything like full development like the Puget Sound

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forests. Judge Phingron arrived this morning. [Philber?]

Monday, 25. Foggy, silvery, soon clear, cloudless. Cooler, about 60° an hr after sunrise. 80° noon. Lightning on horizon at night.

Tuesday, 26. Cloudy all day, showery on mtns to eastward at noon, fine thunder-storm evening with grand display of zigzag, intensely vivid and very near, with keen crashes, grand trailing rain tresses.

Drove to upper meadows. Visited Elk ranch—about sixty old and young. Old bulls carry horns in noble style and grand airs.

Long talk with Mrs. H evening.

Wednesday, 27. Dim, cloudy, calm. Drive with Mrs. H & A [Harriman and Averill].

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Addresses

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Addresses

Notes

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Bag Check No. C.36616

Back Cover



CAMP & TRAIL

X *Classic Camping Notes*





Every camper who has used the Stonebridge Folding Lantern has nothing but praise for its many excellent qualities. As a matter of fact, it is the only satisfactory solution of the problem of artificial lighting for the traveling party. By day it may be carried compactly folded in a leather case. At night it may be very quickly adjusted; and it will furnish adequate illumination for camp duties or for a bit of reading before one turns in. Its weight is extremely slight, and it will bum steadily in high winds. The old-fashioned non-collapsible lantern is one of the most awkward things to carry imaginable, and a candle stuck on a stick is extinguished by a slight puff of air. A blazing knot, picturesque though it be, cannot be used inside a tent. The Stonebridge is everywhere available and practical.

The Camper's Own Book, 1908



The Railroad Ranch Collection

Harriman State Park, Island Park, Idaho



In November of 1999, I was fortunate enough to photograph the display of recently discovered camping equipment belonging to E.H. Harriman and his family. The items were found in the attic of one of the ranch buildings. It has sat relatively obscure and unchanged since it was put on display over 10 years ago. I was just beginning my studies on the subject, so a lot went unnoticed. I plan to go back and attempt to persuade the park management to create a digital file similar to the Kephart exhibit at Cullowhee (www.wcu.edu/library/DigitalColl/Kephart/horacekephart/OSHdiscquest.htm) so this exhibit can be available to everyone.

We made notes of the items on display, but I don't think it's complete.

- | | |
|----------------------|--|
| 1 Complete Stove | 1 Rubber Bath Tub |
| 1 Stove Pipe set | 2 "Tipi" tents |
| 2 Folding stoves | 1 Wall Tent |
| 1 Dutch Oven | 2 Green Canvas Lean-to tents (Abecrombie?) |
| 4 Canvas Buckets | 2 Folding Toilet Kit Holders |
| 2 Rubber Wash Basins | 1 Folding Table |







