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Letter from C[harles] S. Sargent to John Muir, 1896 Mar 25.

Charles Sprague Sargent

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ARNOLD ARBORETUM.

HARVARD UNIVERSITY.

Jamaica Plain, Mass., March 25, 1896.

My dear Mr. Muir:

You told me sometime ago that your notes, measurements, etc., on Sequoia were at my service. Now I am beginning to work on the genus for The Silva and if I can obtain from your notes any information supplementary to what you have already published about this tree, I should be very glad to borrow them.

Can the name of the white man who first looked upon Sequoia gigantea be preserved in The Silva? It certainly should be if there is any way of finding out who he was, where he came from, and how and when he passed into another world. If there is any one who knows these facts, you are certainly the person.

I have been very much interested in the new Bulletin of the Sierra Club which I got a couple of days ago, as you will soon see in Garden and Forest. In it I find the first authentic account of the condition of the California reservations which I have read. Dudley's plan for a Redwood Reservation I have, I think, already advocated; at any rate I have had it in mind for years, just as Asa Gray did, and we always felt that it was as important for the nation and the world to preserve a lot of the Redwoods as it was to preserve the Sequoias. Can't something be done to bring this about before it is too late?

I suppose you have seen in the papers the talk about the For-

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est Commission appointed by the National Academy. The Academy has asked for an appropriation of \$25,000. to enable this Committee to do something. If the appropriation is made the Committee will organize, and prepare a report which I hope will have some weight; but if the appropriation is not made, the matter must go over again for another year.

Whether this Committee organized this spring or not I intend to go west late in June, first to British Columbia and then southward to California. I shall be seeking for information about Pines, Firs and Spruces, and I count on you as a companion for a trip into the Sierras. This I should suppose would be early in September.

Always faithfully yours,

C. S. Sargent.

John Muir, Esq.
Martinez, Cal.

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