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Letter from R[obert] U[nderwood] Johnson to John Muir, 1891 Apr 24.

Robert Underwood Johnson

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EDITORIAL DEPARTMENT
THE CENTURY MAGAZINE
UNION SQUARE NEW YORK

April 24th, 1891.

R. W. GILDER, EDITOR.
R. U. JOHNSON,
ASSOCIATE EDITOR.
C. C. BUEL,
ASSISTANT EDITOR.

John Muir, Esq.
Martinez, Cal.

My dear Muir:-

It seems an age since I heard from you or wrote to you, since which wonderful things have happened.

I now write particularly to say that we are ready for the text of your article on the "King's River Canon". We have made our selections from Robinson's pictures, but if you have others which might be utilized, as your sketches were before, perhaps we might get two or three more pictures in this way. I hope you will be able to go ahead with the text of this article, and with your Alaska papers immediately thereafter. I know what nice weather this is to be out of doors, but of course you will want to write a little also, and doubtless your last articles are about finished.

Are you going to the North Pacific this summer?

I have had letters recently from Robinson and Mackenzie in regard to the Yosemite, and I shall indicate to the Secretary of the Interior the substance of them. The Governor's veto of the free road certainly shows hostility, and shows that the whole thing must come up anew in the next Congress.

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I think of throwing off the great burden of detail in this matter by organizing in the East a Yosemite and Yellowstone Defence Association, putting the active work into the hands of somebody else, and furnishing information so far as I can, and in this way preparing for the winter's fight.

It is absolutely necessary that Mackenzie and Robinson should be enabled to remain in California and near the Yosemite, if possible, and that ultimately they should both come to Washington to testify. I think that is the best plan, and considering the desperate and vulgar tactics of the enemy, the only plan. *We must win a fight.*

Do you think it would be possible to organize in California a branch association which would help us in the matter of funds, and also keep active watch of the thing?

You have perhaps noticed that we came out of the copyright fight with flying colors, and after one of the hardest contests I was ever in.

Yours very sincerely & cordially
R. U. Johnson.

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