



[John Muir Correspondence \(PDFs\)](#)

1891-08-29

Letter from R[obert] U[nderwood] Johnson to John Muir, 1891 Aug 29.

Robert Underwood Johnson

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EDITORIAL DEPARTMENT
THE CENTURY MAGAZINE
UNION SQUARE NEW YORK

August 29th 1891.

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

John Muir, Esq.
Martinez, Cal.

Dear Mr. Muir:-

The King's River article came duly to hand, also the proofs of the illustrations, and I am much under obligation to you for your attention to the latter and for "coming to time" with the text. I say "coming to time", although really the article suffers somewhat by the coming only in time. If we had had the text six weeks ago we should have illustrated the article in a different way, and ~~should~~ have had time to ask you to make a little more of one or two points and perhaps a little less of one or two others. It is with some difficulty that I have kept separate in the reader's mind your different trips to the Valley, and there was a positive contradiction ^{eliminated by one misria} as to your impressions of the injuries to the Valley. But in general the article has a charming flavor of Sierra subjects as they leave your hands, ~~and~~ it is very graphic in its description of the main features. The basis of a good article is that it should make you want to go there, and I think this is the best feature of this one. You have, I am sure, done all that is possible to meet our wishes, and under very discouraging circumstances.

01525

J.M.2.

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

You say you think we should give a picture of the Teche-
pitee Dome from the floor, but we had to choose between du-
plicating that subject or using another one, and we thought
better to have as much variety as possible.

I am very sorry that Robinson should think that because
he went with you to do some work for us in the Valley he was
at liberty to exploit it himself. It is considered a point
of honor among our artists not to interfere with plans in the
execution of which they are employed, and I promptly tele-
graphed him that we should object to his writing elsewhere
about the Valley until after the publication of your arti-
cle. He did me the courtesy to send to me an article intend-
ed for "Kate Field's Washington" for which he had engaged to
write, and I am writing to him about that.

I have lately had a week of camping-out with John Bur-
roughs in the Catskills, altogether a very enjoyable holiday.
My family are still in France, and expect to sail from Liver-
pool on the 3rd of October.

What shall we pay you for the
article? Speak up!
Now for the Alaska articles! Plan them
thoroughly and send us a schedule & oblig-
ate yours always cordially, R. U. Johnson

01525

J.M.3.

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P.S. Throughout the whole of your article we have given preference to your data, whether names, heights or descriptions. This is a Muir article and not a Robinson one.

01525