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## Letter from Eugene F. Weigel to John W. Noble, 1892 Oct 17.

Eugene F. Weigel

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Placer County Sequoias.

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

San Francisco, Cal., October 17, 1892.

Genl. John W. Noble,  
Secretary of the Interior.

Dear Sir:

I have the honor to report that I have just returned from an inspection of the group of Sequoias recently discovered in Placer County, my stay there having been cut rather short by the setting in of a snow storm. These trees, the most northerly of their kind found as yet, are located in a sheltered canon in township 14 North, Range 13 East. The surrounding country is very mild and much broken, and only frequented by scattered prospectors or perhaps now and then a cattle herder. To get there I went from here to Colfax by rail, then by team to Michigan Bluff, twenty miles east, and the next day, with a guide, on horseback over very steep mountain trails, about twenty miles further to the trees.

There are two trees in good preservation (one is somewhat burnt) measuring about 50 feet in circumference, and several more growing of smaller size. The two largest have been blown over many years ago, one of which measures nearly 70 feet at the base. I have made a sketch of the largest standing and one of the fallow trees, which will probably be published with the paper of Mr. Price read to the Sierra Club. I shall probably be able to get the proof sheets for you next week.

There is other fine timber in the vicinity, some pitch pines and sugar pines measuring seven feet in diameter. On Big Oak Flat, three miles from there, a plateau nearly a mile wide by several miles in length, oak trees from 5 to 6 feet thick are found.

It is, however, essentially a mining district, hydraulic mining having been formerly extensively carried on at Michigan Bluff, Last Chance and other places, until prohibited by Legislative enactment.

The continuous steep climbs up and down the mountain sides had been so fatiguing that the guide and I were glad to accept the hospitality of a party of hunters, who regaled us with choice cuts from a bear which they had just killed. It turned freezing cold over night in the camp, and as it began to snow in the morning, I hurried back to Michigan bluff, taking another route via Last Chance and El Dorado Canon.

In my opinion the whole of Township 14 N., Range 13 E., should be reserved.

Very respectfully yours,

(Signed) Eugene F. Weigel  
Special Land Inspector.

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