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John Muir

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OUR JOHN MUIR

He is Off for the Alps to Explore Their Great Glaciers.

A PERILOUS UNDERTAKING.

But he is Sure-Footed and He Can Take Care of Himself.

HE WILL ALSO GO TO NORWAY.

The Latest Portrait of the Great Mountain-Climber—One of His Characteristic Talks—How He Works.

John Muir starts for Europe today to explore the glaciers of Switzerland, Norway and Sweden.

If he "does" them as he has those in the Sierras and Alaska, he will surprise the Alpine Club and the guides there.

Probably there is no greater mountain-climber in all the world than that wiry bundle, our John Muir. He was hard at work yesterday at his quarters in the University Club finishing up a couple of long-promised articles for the Century.

Asked about his trip he said that he supposed he would go down to Spain with William Keith and also revisit the scenes of his childhood in Scotland, but would put in most of his time on the glaciers in Switzerland and the north.

"That will be familiar around to me," he said, "although I have never been there.

National Park south to the lower end of the Sierras on Kern River from the summit of the range to the lower edge of the timber line, about 2000 feet above the level of the sea. This included Mount Whitney and all the high Sierras. The whole of the fertile bed of the San Joaquin, which naturally depends on these tracts as a watershed to preserve itself, was threatened, but is now saved. Of course, some of the land in the reservations has been taken up, but not enough to do any material injury unless the Caminiti bill passes. No sooner does the Government make a reservation for the benefit of the whole people than greedy attacks are made upon it. Already this national park is threatened by the Caminiti bill, which proposes a very material reduction in its boundaries. But far from giving way to the private greed of a few utilizes and sheep-herders by reducing the area of those parks upon which the welfare of so much country depends it ought to be increased to the extent of including the entire watershed up to Mount Shasta, and it is to be hoped that the present administration will follow in the footsteps of the preceding one in carrying out the work so nobly begun. The people of California are under a lasting debt of gratitude to Natio and Harrison.

"There should be provided mounted police in sufficient numbers to see that cattle and sheep men are excluded from the entire reservation and to look out for fires and watch the campfires just as they do in the Yellowstone National Park.

"The portion reserved includes the most interesting part of the Sierras, and the pleasantest on account of the constancy and kindliness of the weather. The mountains are the most approachable notwithstanding their profound canyons and colossal size.

"All in all, it is the grandest pleasure ground in the world. Without any exception whatever every tree in this park contains the noblest coniferous forest on the face of the globe. Not only are the trees of which the forest is composed the most colossal in size and the most beautiful, but they are of the greatest variety of species. Instead of being like most coniferous forests with one or two species making a monost.
learning a language that may be used wherever it is spoken.

In speaking of his work, he said:

"When one begins to study nature on the mountains, one finds that the柴木, the Interior High Pool, Sequoia Park, the General Grant Park. One of the last frontiers that President

Mr. Keith was asked to give some ideas on the future in art. He said:

"We have everything that will make it a

art center. We have the climate; we have the scenery, and has it not always been in the West that the highest point in the Science has flourished most? Our scenery is so vast, so grandiose, so immense, even than those others similar where art has thrived in the Old World. Of course, when you are in a place like Yosemite, where the picture you have seen has been accepted by the committee on behalf of the state, it is a

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