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John Muir

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WILL BE LOST IN GRANDE YOSEMITE

John Muir Will Explain to President the Wondrous Beauties of the Valley and Hide Him From the World, TO REMAIN FOUR DAYS AWAY FROM REceptions.

INTO the high Sierras goes President Roosevelt under the guidance of the men who know most about the mountains, and are best qualified to make them yield up the greatest number of their secrets in the least possible time. With John Muir, J. N. Le Conte, and perhaps a driver or two, the President will take a rapid survey of the beauties that surround the Yosemite, and attain an invigorating rest from the wear and tear of his trip through the State.

To-day the Presidential party will start from Raymond at an early hour for the Yosemite Valley. After a short stay in that marvelous of Nature's handiwork, the President himself will command the mountain wilderness, and explore the Sierra heights in company with the learned mountaineers with whom he has selected for his guides. Then on Monday he will reappear at Raymond, and resume the rambles and struggle with programme committees that he has left behind.

John Muir is the most famous and most learned of the men who have made a study of the Sierra Nevada mountains. For years he lived on the heights of the mountain chain, studying the mighty forces that are at work on the wall of the Sierra, toiling by day through the snows, paddling in the icy cold waters of the mountain streams, climbing rock scraps where a misstep would have been at the risk of life; sleeping at night without house or blanket to cover him.

"Yes," said Mr. Muir yesterday, "I am going on a little trip through the Yosemite region with the President. He wrote me asking that I should see him through that country, and of course I said I would go. It is only a little trip. You can't see very much of the Sierras in four days, you know, and that's all the President could spare. I lived there for nine years at a time, and found something new all the time.

"Then we go to the valley," he continued, "and after we get to the valley, the President and I will get lost, and for two days he will have a rest from the sort of work he has been doing the last few weeks. I don't see how he gets through it. It would kill me.

"I don't know just how many will be with the Presidential trip. If the roads have been cleared out, we may drive. If not, we shall probably ride. We shall go up above the valley, and come out around on the south side. One night we shall probably camp among the big-tree groves. Nobody who has not been there has any idea of the grandeur of the timber of the Sierra region, and I want to show the President something of it. It is the most magnificent forest on the face of the globe. Of course I don't know what the President will want to do. I will show him what he wants to see. I am just suggesting what I would do if I had the say. On the third day we will come down from the upper end of the valley. Then he has to be in Raymond on Monday, and start for the North. I suppose I shall go as far as Reno with him. He is going to Oregon, you know, and I am on my way around the world."