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Letter from Alice Eastwood to John Muir, 1896 Dec 21.

Alice Eastwood

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San Francisco, Cal., Dec. 21, 1896.

My dear Mr. Muir:

I write to thank you for the trouble that you have taken concerning the Sequoia. I am familiar with *S. sempervirens* in all its phases and do not doubt that it takes but one year to ripen its cones. It was *S. gigantea* which I was uncertain about. I saw green cones, apparently young ones, on the trees at Palo Alto at Christmas time last year. I think know that they collect seeds at Sequoia mills in the late summer. Putting these two facts together, it seemed to me that

S. gigantea must take more than one year to ripen its cones. It may be that it flowers very irregularly and at different times as so many Californian plants do.

I wish that I could accept your kind invitation for which please accept my most hearty thanks. I am too busy now, but some day I may be able to enjoy the pleasure of seeing your beautiful place and under your guidance.

I wonder if you would ever like to go to some of the beautiful spots on Mt. Tamalpais of which only the true lovers of the mountain know. If you could go up some Sunday with a party of congenial spirits we would take you to our beautiful places and would

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feel so honored and pleased.

I have been up three times this month and each day seemed perfect. Yesterday was beautiful. The air was so clear that we could see the Snowy summits of the Sierras between Mt. Diablo and Mt. St. Helena.

I wonder if you know that mountain and appreciate the wonderful panorama that spreads out on all sides. It is never twice the same.

Poor Prof. Sargent has sprained his ankle and fears that he may be laid up all winter.

I had a note from him this morning.

I do hope that you can come with us some time.

Very sincerely yours,
Alice Eastwood.

Dr. J. M. Eastwood

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