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Letter from C[harles] S[prague] Sargent to John Muir, 1897 Dec 24.

Charles Sprague Sargent

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ARNOLD ARBORETUM,
HARVARD UNIVERSITY.

Jamaica Plain, Mass., December 24, 1897. 7.

My dear Muir:

How are you getting on? You seem as quiet, so far as I am concerned, as one of those Patton Spruces buried under twenty feet of Sierra snow.

The year ends badly for me because it will see the demise of Garden and Forest. For ten years I have worked like a dog to get this paper established because a paper of the kind seems needed in this country, but it is no go. I cannot find people enough who are interested in its subjects to make it financially successful, and, unless a paper is financially successful, it is only a matter of a little longer or a little shorter time when its end must come. I have sunk already more money in it than I should have and I cannot sink more now that I feel satisfied after ten years' experiment that the paper cannot be made permanently successful. Since I got back from California I have done nothing but attend to it, and now that this burden is off my hands I shall be able, I hope, to complete *The Silva* next year. When this is done we can start for India, Siberia, China, Mexico, the Caucasus, or anywhere else you may want to go. In the meantime what are we going to do about forestry matters? It won't do to sit idly and allow Bliss and his crowd to exterminate them, but I haven't an idea how the matter is to be attacked. With Stiles I have lost my best hold on

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the New York newspapers, and without Garden and Forest I do not feel that I have any very satisfactory way of reaching the public; still it won't do to allow matters to rest as they are. Suppose you emerge from your shell long enough to give me your views on this subject and tell me when and where we are next to meet.

With best wishes for the New Year, I am, dear Muir,

always faithfully yours,

C. S. Sargent.

John Muir, Esq.
Martinez, Cal.

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