



John Muir Correspondence (PDFs)

1898-06-08

Letter from John Muir to [Robert Underwood] Johnson, 1898 Jun 8.

John Muir

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Martinez, June 8. 1898-

My dear Johnson.

That was a fine strong timely article on the forests - You wrote in the midst of this Cuba din. But never - unless the National Parks as well as the Reservations are being invaded by hordes of sheep & not a single man with sustained authority is on the ground to oppose the destruction. Can't you or Pinchot or or Bowers get Bliss to send somebody out with power to fight them off? A half dozen blue coats that would not be missed from the army would be enough to save the forests.

How is the Smoot bill abolishing the last Cleveland Reservations now.

Ever yours

John Muir

*Kindly return this done
returning when done
with him
R. Y. Johnson
Carter's magazine*

SHEEP ON THE RESERVATION.—E. W. Houghton in Porterville Enterprise, May 30: Within the last two weeks there has been from 12,000 to 15,000 sheep driven up the Frasier mill road into the government reservation in direct and willful contempt of law. All these parties, with the exception of C. Brown, are aliens and non-residents; they own no land and pay no taxes, and are in every respect an unmitigable curse to the country, worse than the Egyptian plague of locusts. There is now a strip of land as wide as the settlers will permit as destitute of food as the main road, and every future band of sheep that comes up must either starve or encroach more and more on private property. This will inevitably end in people taking the law in their own hands.

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Folder Heading Muir letters
to various recipients
1894-1913
SPECIAL COPYING INSTRUCTIONS:

PERSONAL INTELLIGENCE

WINTER WEATHER FORECAST.—The Lake depression has moved eastwardly, followed by a small area of lower temperature in the Lake region. A centre of disturbance in the northwest will slowly drift toward the...

ARMY WAR OF HAND.—The condition of affairs in the... national party... owing to trespassing bands in the... on account of the regular army troops having... taking advantage of their absence. Sharp and of course, in a letter to Secretary Bliss, says that Sharp and of course, in a... informed that sheep herders propose to bid the creek... the flock, he says, have lagged out others. Those in charge... employers, and he fears the Park... are Fortingale and Bhaques and are capable... under present conditions. Mandelton.