



John Muir Correspondence (PDFs)

1898-06-15

Letter from C[harles] S[prague] Sargent to John Muir, 1898 Jun 15.

Charles Sprague Sargent

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ARNOLD ARBORETUM, HARVARD UNIVERSITY,

Jamaica Plain, Mass., June 15, 1898.

My dear Muir:

Today I am fortunate in getting your letters of the 7th and 9th, as well as the staminate flowers of *Abies magnifica* which, although not fully grown, are not without value as they show clearly some of the early stages of development.

I read with a great deal of pride and pleasure what you say about the last volume of *The Silva*. I can only wish that I could find language to properly depict the beauty and grandeur of form and constitution of many of our trees, but, unlike you, I am not a poet and have to stick to dry and uninteresting facts displayed in uninteresting language which I cannot believe any one cares to read. You know how to do the trick and I don't, and that is the difference between us.

I am more pleased than I can tell you at the thought of your coming east this summer and I have at once written to Canby asking him to fix a time for our southern journey. My own idea is that we ought not to start before the middle of September, as we do not want to encounter too hot weather. I shall want to be governed a good deal by Canby's judgment, who knows the country better than I do, and by his ability to leave home which is not as great as mine. I should like very much to meet you in Duluth and make the trip on the Lakes with you as I have never seen them, but I fancy I had best stay at home

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this summer and stick to work.

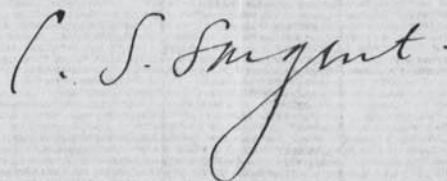
Whenever you get east you may be sure of a warm welcome and entire protection from people whom you do not want to see, and all social functions and formalities. We can go down, if you like, and pass a few days on the end of Cape Cod where my family goes for a few weeks every summer; and we can do a lot of pleasant and informal things about here if you arrive sometime before it is time to start southward.

I will write again as soon as I hear from Canby. I am really very much obliged for all the trouble you have taken about these ~~Abies~~ flowers, and I regret exceedingly that you should have had this long journey to Shasta with such inadequate results. Such disappointments as this, however, will show you how much trouble I have had in getting The Silva along as far as it is, and how much anxiety I still feel about the concluding parts. The new Palms of southern Florida especially harass me, and I do not yet see my way clear to obtain the material I need.

Nothing new in the forestry situation in Washington. Let me hear from you again soon, and believe me,

always faithfully yours,

John Muir, Esq.
Martinez, Cal.



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