



John Muir Correspondence (PDFs)

1897-02-16

Letter from C[harles] S. Sargent to John Muir, 1897 Feb 16.

Charles Sprague Sargent

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Recommended Citation

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Jamaica Plain, Mass., February 16, 1897.

My dear Muir:

I enclose a copy of my letter about the proposed new forest Reserves that, in case they are made, you may be able to talk intelligently about them to the newspapers. I hope the proclamations will be issued next Monday, the 22nd, but there is many a slip between the cup and the lip, so nothing must be said on the subject to any one until you see the announcement of the proclamations in the paper. Only three or four people know anything about this at all and in sending you this letter now I rely implicitly on your discretion in the matter. If it was known beforehand that it was proposed to make these Reserves, the whole scheme will be defeated by the claims of politicians. When you see in the papers that the proclamations are issued I hope you will go down to San Francisco and get the papers started straight. The more they talk now the better, as without newspaper talk, and lots of it, it will be impossible to secure legislation needed to protect the Reserves. I hope you will feel satisfied with my efforts in this matter so far. On the whole I feel pretty well satisfied. I certainly have had more success than I anticipated. When the proclamations are made you had better be interviewed by as many papers as possible and keep them talking on the subject.

02242

How are you getting on with the new Secretary of the Interior? I have a note from Alvord who tells me he has seen him but is not very encouraging over the results of his interview. As much pressure as possible ought to be brought to bear on him now, and he ought to come east fully committed to the bill for military protection. What I should like to do would be to get him to have the President send this bill with a special message to Congress urging its prompt passage. Try and accomplish this if you can and be sure not to talk to any one until you see the news of the proclamations in the newspaper, which you ought to get about the same time that you receive this letter unless there is some hitch or delay which I do not know about.

Faithfully yours,

C. S. Sargent

John Muir, Esq.
Martinez, Cal.

You might to start a regular
Johnson. Campaign on McKinnon. make his
life wretched for him. This is the only
chance to get the women protected. The letter
which I enclose is not for publication. but not to publish
facts. The original is in the hands of the Sec of the Interior
who has authority to publish it without his consent.

02242