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1897-02-19

**Letter from C[harles] Sprague Sargent to W[illia]m R. Dudley, 1897  
Feb 19.**

Charles Sprague Sargent

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ARNOLD ARBORETUM, HARVARD UNIVERSITY.

Jamaica Plain, Mass., Feb. 19, 1897.

Copy

My dear Professor Dudley:

*Nat. Society*  
Our Commission is going to recommend the passage of the enclosed bill by the extra session of Congress in order to secure protection for the Reserves the summer. It is currently believed that the new Secretary of the Interior is to come from California and it is very desirable that he should come east fully impressed with the idea of the importance of preserving the Reserves and National Parks by aid of the military. I find there is no authority for using troops in the California parks, the protection of the Yellowstone National Park alone being covered by existing laws; therefore, without the passage of our bill, the Secretary of War may refuse to continue the detail of troops in the Sierras. Of course you fully understand what this will mean.

I wish you would talk over this matter with Professor Jordan and make some sort of an effort, either individually or as representing the Academy and the University, to induce Judge McKinnon to urge on the President and Congress a passage of our bill which, of course, will be accompanied by a report explaining the dangers to which the Reserves are exposed. There is very little time to attend to this, as I suppose Judge McKinnon will soon be starting for the east.

With kind regards,

Faithfully yours,

C. S. Sargent

Prof. Wm. R. Dudley.

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