



John Muir Correspondence (PDFs)

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1897-06-22

Letter from C[harles] S[prague] Sargent to John Muir, 1897 Jun 22.

Charles Sprague Sargent

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ARNOLD ARBORETUM,  
HARVARD UNIVERSITY.

*Jamaica Plain, Mass.,* June 22, 1897.

My dear Muir:

I have a note from you acknowledging the receipt of the reports and asking what the actual condition of the reservations is.

At this time of course you know that Congress has thrown open all the new ones outside of California until the 1st of March, so that the mining corporations can lay in a good supply of stolen timber and squatters can acquire rights to what the mines do not want. What is still worse the Secretary of the Interior can under the law allow any one to do anything in any of the old reserves, although he is not provided with machinery or means to protect them. It looks now as if the whole business had gone up permanently unless public <sup>spirit</sup> ~~sentiment~~ enough can be aroused between now and next December to secure from Congress some attention to our bills which you will find in the report. I sent you a number of copies with the hope that you would distribute them among newspaper men or others interested in the subject. I can send you more for the same purpose if you care for them. What is needed now is a newspaper campaign of education based on our report and you, I hope, will set it going on your side of the continent.

I saw yesterday the editor of The Atlantic Monthly and he asked me to say to you that he is greatly pleased with your article. He wants more from you and to see you one of the regular contributors to

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the magazine. This morning he has sent me proofs of your article which he wants me to preface with a <sup>short</sup> statement of the circumstances of the last year connected with our committee, etc. I have not had time yet to read what you have written but mean to do so tonight and then try and write what he wants.

I hope soon to hear that you will meet me in British Columbia early in August.

Faithfully yours,

*C. S. Sargent.*

John Muir, Esq.  
Martinez, Cal.

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