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Letter from C[harles] S[prague] Sargent to John Muir, 1899 Jan 7.

Charles Sprague Sargent

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Jamaica Plain, Mass., January 7, 1899.

My dear Muir:

I realize greatly the importance of being up and moving. If we do not do it we shall soon die of old age. Just now, however, *Crataegus* gives me as much mental and physical activity as I can stand. When this new field is exhausted and you have got those Birch flowers from Alaska I shall be ready to start forth again on our travels.

I have been in New York this week for a day hunting up *Crataegus* in the Columbia College Herbarium and was fortunate enough to see the Gilders. They speak of you with enthusiasm, somewhat mitigated, however, by the regret that a man who appears so intelligent and evidently has seen so much has a constitutional objection to talking. Gilder has become a terrible glacier sharp and talked with me for a long time about glaciers which he thinks he has discovered on his Berkshire farm. I should not be surprised if he wrote a book about them before long.

I cannot make out about your annual fruiting *Sequoia*. Wild specimens which Miss Eastwood got for me certainly show biennial behavior. If you are going to San Francisco some day, take a branch from your tree and show it to Miss Eastwood who a year or two ago was very keen on the subject.

Mrs. Sargent is still shut up with the grippe but is better. A dull enough winter here with nothing but sickness and *Crataegus*.

I see Mr. Stratton sometimes and he always inquires about you. He is particularly anxious to know if any improvements have been made or are likely to be made in the product which has made your town so famous. If there is anything new he thinks he ought to know about it soon.

Faithfully yours,

C. S. Sargent.

John Muir, Esq.
Martinez, Cal.

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