



John Muir Correspondence (PDFs)

1899-04-28

Letter from C[harles] S[prague] Sargent to John Muir, 1899 Apr 28.

Charles Sprague Sargent

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ARNOLD ARBORETUM,
HARVARD UNIVERSITY.

Jamaica Plain, Mass., April 28, 1899.

My dear Muir:

I have a letter from Dr. Wolcott^{Gibbs}, describing the recent meeting of the National Academy in Washington in which he says, - "Wolcott gave an account of his work on the forestry question and said that ninety per cent. at least of the recommendations of your report were adopted and that there had been a complete change of feeling and information in regard to the whole forest question, even Senator Pettigrew had come out as violently for the recommendations of the report as he formerly was against them." He further stated that in a very few years United States officers would have charge of the forest lands as in the Yellowstone at present. Wolcott then introduced Pinchot who gave an account of his own wonderful work. Nothing of what was said will be published I suppose." As I have already written Gibbs, this would be all right if anybody could believe what Wolcott says, but he is a good deal more of a sharp politician than he is a geologist, and I give no credence to anything which he, Hague or Pinchot say about forests, for I know they are all selfish in the matter and working for ends of their own. If Pettigrew has withdrawn his opposition it is because he has got what he wants and not from any enthusiasm about forest preservation.

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I have had to postpone starting for a couple of days as Canby has to be in Wilmington Monday. I shall leave here, however, Sunday night. Why in the world don't you come with us?

Faithfully yours,

C. S. Fay

John Muir, Esq.
Martinez, Cal.

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