



John Muir Correspondence (PDFs)

1899-10-20

Letter from C[harles] S[prague] Sargent to John Muir, 1899 Oct 20.

Charles Sprague Sargent

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Jamaica Plain, Mass., October 20, 1899.

My dear Muir:

I am back after an unsatisfactory journey and I am glad you did not undertake to go with me, for although I saw some magnificently colored foliage at Nashville and Ashville the journey, on the whole, was very unsatisfactory because wherever I have been there had been very severe frosts following a season of unprecedented drought, so really the botany did not amount to very much. I shall have to go over a good deal of the same ground and more of it in the early spring and that will be the time for you to join me and see our eastern vegetation at springtime. You are good for this. *Wagner*

At the present writing I have only about thirty-six new species of *Crataegus* but I daresay there are as many more stored away in remote parts of the south and in the north too, for we have found some new ones even in Massachusetts.

What are you working on in these days and how are you getting on? I do not at all like the idea of a year passing without our meeting but it looks as if I was not going to see you in '99. I am still bothered over that Juniper of eastern Oregon and I cannot make up my mind whether it is distinct from the high Sierra tree or not. I wish you would go and take a look at it and give me your opinion. Apparently the fruit of the high Sierra tree takes two years in which to

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ripen. I cannot feel at all sure that this is the case with the Oregon tree which is, of course, the true *J. Occidentalis* of Hooker and one of Douglas's discoveries. I am terribly busy but do not seem to make any progress, and at this writing it looks as if volume xiii. would slop over into volume xiv., a terrible state of things I think.

Let me hear from you. Kind regards to your family.

Faithfully yours,

C. S. Sargent.

John Muir, Esq.
Martinez, Cal.

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