



John Muir Correspondence (PDFs)

1903-03-09

Letter from Bradford Leavitt to John Muir, 1903 Mar 9.

Bradford Leavitt

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4.
The name of the great man
whose memory
we would honor, and honor
ourselves in remembering.
Let Emerson be fittingly
remembered in a public
way in San Francisco. If
you will come and help us
it will be a great occasion
- if you do not come - there
is no one to take your place.

With cordial regards

Sincerely Yours

Bradford Leavitt.



CORNER GEARY AND FRANKLIN STREETS

213
First Unitarian Church
San Francisco

REV. BRADFORD LEAVITT, MINISTER

Minister's Study

March 9 1903.

Dear Mr. Muir:-

As you know
the Centennial of Emerson's
birth falls this year, on May
25th. and I am planning
to celebrate the occasion in
some notable way. It is fit-
ting that the celebration should
be in the Unitarian Church
both because he was a min-
ister of that faith and es-
pecially because he was a
friend of Starr King and

at the time. If you will come and say a few words about Emerson, anything you like, we will "make an immortal Emerson night of it", even though we cannot have the sequoias with us.

I know you do not often make public speeches - and I do not ask a speech on this occasion - just a fifteen minute talk; and I urge this not so much in my own name or the name of the Trustees, (of whom our friend Mr. Upham is one) as in

Mr. Stebbins, ^[23] and has spoken in this very pulpit in San Francisco.

Now my plan is to have a special meeting, a public meeting, on Sunday evening May 24th in the church, and make ~~it~~ as much of the occasion as possible. To do that we need especially two men, admirers of Emerson, one of whom, Pres. Jordan, has already consented, with enthusiasm, to speak; and the other, Mr. Muir, who writes so delightfully about Emerson's visit to Yosemite and the impression the great philosopher made upon him. President Wheeler would speak but will be East