



John Muir Correspondence (PDFs)

1903-03-28

Letter from Alden Sampson to John Muir, 1903 Mar 28.

Alden Sampson

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U. S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
BIOLOGICAL SURVEY
WASHINGTON, D. C.

C. HART MERRIAM, CHIEF
A. K. FISHER, ASSISTANT CHIEF
T. S. PALMER,
ASST. IN CHARGE GAME PRESERVATION
F. E. L. BEAL,
ASST. IN CHARGE ECONOMIC ORNITHOLOGY

Los Angeles, 28 Nov., 1903

Mr. John Muir,
Martinez, Cal.;

Dear sir, Mr. Gifford Pinchot has been so kind as to give me a letter of introduction to you, which I very much appreciate. I shall later be in the vicinity of San Francisco, and with your permission, will then pay my respects to you in person. The purpose of my work is sufficiently explained in Mr. Pinchot's letter, which I send herewith. I am forwarding under separate enclosure a brief report on Game Refuges, wherein the general purpose of this scheme is outlined.

Since leaving home, the steadfast companion of my travels has been your book on the National Parks and I wish to say how deeply I am indebted to you for the feat of accurate observation therein set forth by the botanist, the mountaineer,

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and the part. No better equip-
 ment for the delightful task
 before me could be conceived than to
 make use of the mass of learning
 which that volume unfolds, "the glancing
 of a quiet eye", and the wise commen-
 tary which is so eminently your own.
 I wish I could send you the most precious
 offering in the world as a tribute of admira-
 tion and respect. I can only offer a humble
 gift. It chanced that I have by me a copy
 of an essay in *Nature*, written years ago, a
 study of delight to me, and one in which
 abundant opportunity was offered for con-
 sideration of fine issues, such as, when
 reverently approached, though expressed in
 different terms, have a solemnity not dis-
 similar to the spirit of the mountains and
 the forest. It is my hope that this may
 give you an hour's pleasure, and I beg
 you to accept it with messages of affection.

I am

Very sincerely yours

Allen Sampson.