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**Letter from John Muir to [James] Murdock, 1904 Jul 26.**

John Muir

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Martinez, California

July 26, 1904

Dear Mr Murdock;

I'm glad you are coming West again & that I shall have the pleasure of seeing you. It seems to me however that the middle of August is rather late to start on such a journey; for it would be the first of September at best before you reached the Yellowstone, & though the weather is often good through that month or even later sometimes it is rough & blustery with snow or sheet, for the Park lies at an elevation of about 8000 feet, & the cold might make you shorten your visit. Perhaps you had better wait until next spring & start about the middle of May with all the summer before you, go into the Yellowstone Park in June & stay at least two weeks then from Seattle go to Alaska & see the glaciers etc of that wonderful country This trip will be only a fine rest--a sail in a good steamer over calm inland waters through glorious reviving scenery, & then come to my house & I'll tell you some more--

As for traveling companions you will find many good ones on these famous excursions. But anyhow whether this year or next I'll be delighted to see both you & your wife--With thanks for the Bass & Bell rocks I am faithfully yours,

John Muir