



1904-09-29

Letter from Alex G. Eells to John Muir, 1904 Sep 29.

Alex G. Eells

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by them in inviting any friends whom they would like to have present, and also, of course is glad to pay all expenses, such as railroad fares, hotel bills, etc.

If there is anything you can suggest to aid me in bringing Mr Keith down to a realizing sense of his opportunity in this matter I shall be most thankful to you for it, and as I said I rely on you to use your powers of persuasion on him personally besides. He certainly could not possibly find an occasion where every surrounding circumstance would tend to make him feel more perfectly "at home".

Very faithfully
Alex. G. Eells.

UNITARIAN CLUB
OF CALIFORNIA

ALEX. G. EELLS, PRESIDENT
71-74 CROCKER BUILDING

W. H. PAYSON, SECRETARY
171 CROCKER BUILDING

SAN FRANCISCO, Sept 29 1904

My dear Mr Muir:
Concerning the next meeting of the Unitarian Club, about which I spoke to you several weeks ago, I am very happy to say that Mr Leavitt went to Santa Rosa on Tuesday, at my request, and saw Mr Luther Burbank with the result that, as he has just telephoned me, Mr Burbank, has accepted our invitation. I have also an acceptance from Mr Charles Keeler. Now if I can get Mr Keith, my program will be as follows:-

Nature in California

As moulded by Creative Intelligence - Mr Muir
As Modified by Human Intelligence - Mr Burbank
As the Artist Sees It - Mr Keith
As it Appeals to the Poet - Mr Keeler.

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all of a most appreciative hearing, and as to yourself I want to say again that I think it a most favorable time and place to assist in working up a sentiment in favor of placing the control of the Geosomite Valley in the same hands with that of the National Park - following your own suggestion. Owing to the high standard of the membership of the Club, I think more can be accomplished at this meeting than perhaps in any other way. And, as you know, this is a very opportune time.

The usual time of meeting is the 3rd Monday in November (the 21st) but I can easily shift this if the date is inconvenient. I should like to know what place on the program you would prefer, as I shall arrange it entirely according to your wishes. The Club always provides its speakers with several tie knots each to be used

[2]
I write to ask you to do what you can, next time you are in town, to get Mr Keith to accept.

The program as I have planned it seems to me so completely harmonious and attractive that I wish to do everything possible to carry it into effect just as it stands.

We have had so much of the ultra "scientific" spirit that I think it will be in every way desirable for us to get back to the untechnical - the poetic or humanitarian standpoint - at least for a change.

I intend this program, in one aspect, as a stand against surrendering the Club, on the one hand to the intensely "practical" fellows, and, on the other hand to the professors and other devotees of technics.

I need not stop to assure you