



John Muir Correspondence (PDFs)

1906-09-12

Letter from John Muir to J[ohn] J. Byrne, 1906 Sep 12.

John Muir

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Recommended Citation

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Martinez, Sept. 12, 1906.

Mr. Jno. J. Byrne,
Los Angeles, Cal.

Dear Sir:

Here is a sketch map of the Petrified Forests, old and new, about Adamana, showing approximately their distribution, extent, etc., as I have seen them in the course of my studies during the last year.

The 1st, 2nd, 3rd and blue forests on account of their wealth of color and wonderful beauty will probably always be most attractive to tourists, while students of the world's first trees will find greater interest in the Sigillaria groves and the grand black forests with their innumerable huge, comparatively well preserved trunks of Sapidodendron, Sigillaria, Arancroxydon, etc. lying where they grew, and many stumps still standing rooted in the ancient carboniferous soil beds. Therefore I think these should be included in the proposed National park. But if this increase of ~~area~~ area is likely to prove a serious obstacle, I would advise pushing the bill through in its present form, as increasing the area of a park is almost always a comparatively easy matter after it becomes better known and appreciated.

Nowhere else has so large and beautiful and in every way wonderful section of the ancient carboniferous forests been discovered and after it is cared for by the Nation and made easily accessible, it will I am sure become one of the most attractive and famous places in all our Western Wonderland.

Faithfully yours,
(Signed) John Muir.