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1907-05-17

Letter from John C. Merrian to John Muir, 1907 May 17.

John C. Merrian

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Berkeley, California,
May 17, 1907

Mr. John Muir,
Martinez,
California.

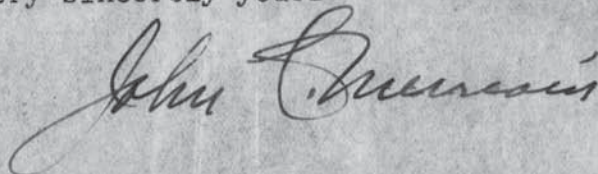
My dear Mr. Muir:-

I have recently looked over a number of the bone specimens which you obtained from the petrified forest last year and from what I have seen of them I would simply verify the statement which I made at your house last ~~year~~ ^{year}, viz: that they are the remains of large reptiles, generally considered as primitive crocodiles. The most commonly known form of this group is the genus Belodon. The animals are about the same size as the recent crocodiles and have somewhat the same appearance, but differ somewhat in the details of structure. A monograph of this group has recently been written by Dr. J.H. Mc Gregor. It appears as part 2, volume 9 of the Memoirs of the American Museum of Natural History. Mc. Gregor's paper is a very good one and there are a number of very good illustrations. I hope some time during the next year to make a more careful study of this material.

I had hoped to see you again some time this year, but have been exceedingly busy in preparing to spend the vacation away from Berkeley and shall not be able to come to Martinez again.

With kindest regards and best wishes, I am

Very sincerely yours



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