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1907-10-23

## Letter from Charles Keeler to Theodore Roosevelt, 1907 Oct 23.

Charles Keeler

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cessions <sup>in</sup> of this national recreation  
ground, only after the feasibility  
of all other projects had been  
disproved.

Assuring you that there are <sup>here in California</sup> very  
many lovers of nature who are  
jealous of any encroachment upon  
those tracts of land which have  
been set apart in perpetuity for the  
instruction and enjoyment of all  
people, I am, Very truly yours, Charles Keel

2727 Dwight Way  
Berkeley, California, Oct. 23/97

Hon. Theodore Roosevelt  
President of the United States.

My dear Sir: —

As an American citizen  
interested in the preservation of  
our national parks in their  
integrity, I venture to address  
you concerning the projected  
use of Hetch Hetchy Valley as  
a reservoir for a San Francisco

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water supply.

The Yosemite National Park comprises two great cañons which are of preeminent beauty - The Yosemite Valley and Hetch Hetchy Valley. Behind them extends the lofty range of the Sierra Nevada Mountains with peaks accessible <sup>roads and</sup> mainly by trails either built or projected up the floors of these two valleys. A dam across the mouth of Hetch Hetchy Valley would forever close one of the

two natural avenues of approach to some of the noblest mountain peaks of California. It would eliminate the meadows and woodlands which are now the camping ground of this valley.

If there were no other available sources of pure mountain water for the uses of San Francisco, these objections would indeed be far outweighed by public necessity. But since there are a number of other

2727 Dwight Way,  
Berkeley, California,  
Oct. 23, 1907.

Hon. Theodore Roosevelt,  
President of the United States.

My dear Sir:

As an American citizen interested in the preservation of our national parks in their integrity, I venture to address you concerning the projected use of Hetch Hetchy Valley as a reservoir for a San Francisco water supply.

The Yosemite National Park comprises two great canyons which are of preeminent beauty -- the Yosemite Valley and Hetchy Hetchy Valley. Behind them extends the lofty range of the Sierra Nevada Mountains with peaks accessible mainly by roads and trails either built or projected up the floors of these two valleys. A dam across the mouth of Hetch Hetchy Valley would forever close one of the two natural avenues of approach to some of the noblest mountain peaks of California. It would eliminate the meadows and woodlands which are now the camping ground of this valley.

If there were no other available sources of pure mountain water for the use of San Francisco, these objections would indeed be far outweighed by public necessity, but since there are a number of other propositions for supplying San Francisco with water without encroaching upon any public park, it would seem right to grant any concessions in this national recreation ground, only after the feasibility of all other projects had been disproved.

Assuring you that there are here in California very many lovers of nature who are jealous of any encroachment upon those tracts of land which have been set apart in perpetuity for the instruction and enjoyment of all people, I am,

Very truly yours,

Charles Keeler

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