



John Muir Correspondence (PDFs)

1900-05-04

Letter from C[harles] S[prague] Sargent to John Muir, 1900 May 4.

Charles Sprague Sargent

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ARNOLD ARBORETUM, HARVARD UNIVERSITY.

Jamaica Plain, Mass., May 4, 1900.

My dear Muir:

I am back at last, after seven weeks' absence in the southern woods, to find your two letters. I am sorry if I have appeared peevish. I daresay the accusation is well taken. Perhaps you would be peevish if you had *Crataegus* on your hands, to say nothing of lots of other new species, turning up constantly in all parts of the country and all demanding a place in *The Silva* which I had supposed and hoped was finished a year ago. It will take me all this year to complete it if I do the best I can, and I doubt if it can be done this year.

Canby only stayed with me three weeks, so a considerable part of my journey was a lonely one. We had bad weather most of the time but saw wonderful displays of flowers; indeed it is the greatest flowering season in the east I have ever known and this makes me doubly sorry that you did not join us. We made a short excursion from Texas into Mexico, going only as far as Monterey. We saw enough, however, in the way of trees and scenery to show that Mexico is a place to visit in detail, and if you can ever throw off your bad habit of sitting around in chairs and writing magazine articles we must go together and spend a summer south of the Rio Grande.

I like your last article well. The Emerson episode is admirably well done and will find favor, I am sure, with many New England writers. *Yours*

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I am pushed and bothered over a thousand different things and it would do me more good to pass a few days with you than anything else I can think of. Is there no hope of your having courage and energy enough to cross the Rocky Mountains this year?

Your friend Pinchot seems to be making a great deal of stir in the world and I see that he ~~is~~ ^{that he is the} stated as the only person in the country who knows anything about forests and forestry. I should suppose he was pretty near the end of his tether by this time.

Why don't we get up a syndicate to purchase a big block of the Redwood forest to be held by trustees for the benefit of the public for all time? Here is an opportunity for some rich man to immortalize himself.

Faithfully yours,

C. S. Sargent

John Muir, Esq.
Martinez, Cal.