



John Muir Correspondence (PDFs)

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Letter from John Muir to [C. Hart] Merriam, 1901 Nov 13.

John Muir

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Martinez, Nov. 13, 1901

My dear Merriam,

If I should write till doomsday I could say nothing new on this miserable sheep question. The most discouraging thing about it is the tranquil comfortable apathy of the leading men in the forestry Dept. towards it -- asking solemnly again and again, "Is the pasturing of sheep in the western forests injurious?" As far as those of Washington and Oregon are concerned even Pinchot says No. The whole forest management must be brought under Civil Service rules and separated wholly from politics else it will matter but little in which department it is placed.

The Harriman Expedition book came a week or two ago with 15 separates of my article. I have read both volumes and it seems to me in every way a capital book.

The illustrations are superb, especially the photogravures. Some of the colored things are pretty bad. -- The plants lovely. You may well be proud of that job.

What a fine eventful summer we have had -- We all look back at our camp with your family with pleasure. I saw Keith and Charlie Keeler the other day, both spoke of you warmly. My book is just out. I have ordered copies to you and Bailey.

Love to all.

Yours ever,

JOHN MUIR