



John Muir Correspondence (PDFs)

1902-06-23

Letter from J. H. Mellichamp to John Muir, 1902 Jun 23.

J. H. Mellichamp

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EUROPEAN PLAN
75c. TO \$2.50 PER DAY

[1]

JOHNSON & WHARTON
PROPRIETORS

HOTEL ST. DENIS

No. 24 TURK STREET

23 June, 1903

PHONE FOLSOM 736

SAN FRANCISCO, CAL., 190.....

To Prof John Muir
Martinez, Cal

My dear Sir -

I & I returned yesterday evening, & we had a splendid - a most delightful trip to the "Big Trees" of California. I am almost sorry that we returned without going to Yosemite, but I really was afraid to venture. Such a jostling - such a battering, as I got on the trip to the Big Trees that although I am very glad now that I went - I am not perfectly sure that I would have gone had I known what an experience I would

03016

have had. I almost hung on by the
skin of my teeth while in the
Coach or car - or Omnibus - or what
- ever they called it, and when
when I got out at a place with
a my Angelic tho' they called it
Angels' - I was literally a top one
side - and walked in that
fashion, - a spectacle to the
beholders! It was the result of
the battering, from being in one po-
- sition to the right for a number
of hours! A cup of Coffee & a
little food and a solid sleep
of six or eight hours restored me
perfectly, & I was ready & alert
for a new trip & the wonderful
"Big Trees"! Surely the finest &
most glorious sight for my decaying
eyes that I ever had, & I glory in
the thought that I shall not close them
for ever without having seen them
these wonderful "ancients of the earth".

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[3]

JOHNSON & WHARTON
PROPRIETORS

HOTEL ST. DENIS

No. 24 TURK STREET

23, June, 1902 -

PHONE FOLSOM 736

SAN FRANCISCO, CAL., 190.....

Joe says I must tell you that we
expect to go probably on Thursday
next & expect to have a fine time
on the route. I thank you my dear
Sir for your kind letter of introduction
to Mr. James M. Hatching who
was as good & kind to us as he could
possibly be & in all ways helped us.
He gave me some pine & food seed
(I think) of the Sequoia which I
shall attempt perhaps in Charles-
-ton SC, or my Cousins' splendid
land at Stiles' Pt James Island op-
-posite the City - or perhaps even
in my old yard & garden at Bluffton
on the sea-coast, but not with
03016

The hope or expectation of
 seeing them in full flower &
 germination & fruitage in that
 sandy sea-island Home of my own,
 where indeed I may never erect my
 tabernacle again, But I may live
 with the hope! Before I stop
 with my pen let me thank you my
 dear for all yr kindness & courtesy
 to see myself — You were very kind
 to us both, & please thank my dear
 & your daughters Wanda & Helen for
 all their kindness to us both. If
 on my last trip to N.O. anything oc-
 =curs wh. may be charming or interesting
 to us & helpful to you, I shall
 write you. Please give our kindest
 regards to my dear, & yr two daughters,
 & believe me

truly & sincerely yours,

J. H. Mellisham

Do not write to me here,
 but to me at 1328
 Canal Street
 N.O.
 La

Hotel St. Denis,
San Francisco, Cal.,
23 June, 1902.

To Prof. John Muir,
Martinez, Cal.

My dear Sir:

Joe and I returned yesterday evening, and we had a splendid -- a most delightful trip to the "Big Trees" of Calaveras. I am almost sorry that we returned without going to Yosemite, but I really was afraid to venture. Such a jostling, such a battering as I got on the trip to the Big Trees, that although I am very glad now that I went, I am not perfectly sure that I would have gone had I known what an experience I would have had. I almost hung on by the skin of my teeth while in the coach or car or omnibus, or whatever they called it, and once when I got out at a place not so very angelic, though they called it Angels! I was literally and truly one sided, and walked in that fashion -- a spectacle to the beholders! It was the result of the battering and from being in one position to the right for a number of hours! A cup of coffee and a little food and a solid sleep of six or eight hours restored me perfectly, and I awoke ready and alert for a new trip and the wonderful "Big Trees." Surely the finest and most glorious sight for my decaying eyes that I ever had, and I glory in the thought that I shall not close them forever without having seen them -- these wonderful "ancients of the earth."

Joe says I must tell you that we expect to go, possibly on Thursday next, and expect to have a fine time on the route. I thank you, my dear sir, for your kind letter of introduction to Mr. James M. Hutchings who was as good and kind to us as he could possibly be and in all ways helped us. He gave me some pure and good seed (I think) of the Sequoia, which I shall attempt, perhaps in Charleston, S.C., or on my cousin's splendid land at Stiles Pt., James Island, opposite the city, or perhaps even in my old yard and garden at Bluffton on the seacoast, but not with the hope or expectation of my seeing them in full bloom, germination and fruitage, in that sandy sea-island home of my own where indeed I may never erect my tabernacle again. But I may live with the Hope!

Before I stop with my pen let me thank you, my dear sir, for all your kindness and courtesy to Joe and myself. You were very good to us both, and please thank Mrs. Muir and your daughters Wanda and Helen for all their kindness to us both. If on my last trip to N.O. anything occurs which may be charming or interesting to us and possibly to you, I shall write you. Please give our kindest regards to Mrs. Muir, and your two daughters, and believe me,

Truly and sincerely yours,

J. H. Mellichamp