



John Muir Correspondence (PDFs)

1902-11-01

Letter from John Muir to [Warren] Olney, [ca. 1902 Nov.] .

John Muir

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Mr Warren Olney, Sen. (Attorney at Law)
101 Sansome St., San Francisco.

Dear Mr Olney

I have read your
"Sixty Years" & wished it far
longer ~~ten times as long~~.
Why not fill up this outline sketch
into the book it so vividly & strikingly
suggests, taking pains to give it
literary & artistic form? In talks
with you years ago I was convinced
that you could easily write such a
book, & that in the hands of a good
publisher it would be in every way
successful, a great satisfaction to
yourself, family & friends, & to thousands
of readers who never heard of you.

Go ahead! An hour ~~or two~~ a day of dogged
work for a year, ^{or two} would do it. Enterprising
writers, with less than half your taste
& skill & less than a tenth part of your
material, have made readable successful

books of this sort. because
there is a right natural hungry
call for them now that the
rich picturesque foundational
pioneer days of our great
country the greatest in the
world with all its pathos
& romance is passing into
dim ^{bossy} history. Up & at it.

Wells

The letter you wrote
me a month or two ago on
the Sequoia Parks I sent with
a few words of my own to
Johnson, & he in turn
forwarded them direct to
the President, who replied
in a personal letter which
was in every way encouraging to
tree lovers & trees, & discouraging to their enemies.

Faithfully Yours