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1888 Jan 12 JM to Mrs Carr p1

John Muir

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Martinez Jan. 12, 88-

Dear Mrs Carr -

I can appreciate your difficulty in getting under way with that article - So many diverse winds of doctrine - I saw from your first M.S. that you had difficulty in getting launched - You were evidently trying to do too much - No matter about the joys & lifts of the Cordilleras & the resulting influence on human whims or passions etc - Just pitch in & paint your pictures whatever you see that interests you. & the changes if any that may be desired may easily be made - If you look for & listen for more instructions you will write nothing freely

just pitch in & finish in whatever
way now seems best in the light
you have. Remembering always
that it is Picturesque California
you are sketching & not philosophy
of oranges & town lots - right?
The new Mason & Dixon Line -
Look at the Landscapes as the sun looks
at them

from preaching about it.

Your article will be first rate
I have no doubt, though the
Introduction will have to be cut off
mostly. It reads too much like the
preface of some Professor's big book
It strikes right out into the midst of your facts
& let the boundaries take care of themselves
Remember me to the doctor. Ever Yours Cordially, Min

Have not yet seen your last M. S.