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Letter from C. Hart Merriam to John Muir, 1909 Jan 21.

C. Hart Merriam

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Elizabeth + the girls join me in love
to you and Wanda and Helen

Assure yours,

C. Hart Merriam

John Muir
Martinez, Calif.

1919 SIXTEENTH STREET.
WASHINGTON, D.C.

Jan. 21, 1909

My dear Mr Muir:

The envelope that carries this
to you has been addressed and on
my desk a long time waiting, but
the pressure of work has tired me
out and left no time for personal
letters.

This is the time of year when
Congress works on hardest. They
want a lot of information of
different kinds, and told in different
ways - and it's our job to comply.
Kinds, it says. Last year the
Biological Survey got an increase of
20 percent, and this year we have
reason to expect even more.

The Hatch Hatching matter has given me many sad moments for many months. For a long time I had reason to believe the water right would not be granted. Then suddenly the earlier decision was overturned. But I am not free to talk about this. Only I must add that the renewed offering of the subject in Congress has given me a ray of hope.

You were again most kind to think of our bodily needs in holiday time. Now we are like a flock of squirrels - always with nuts in our mouths - or ~~for~~! And those raisins are simply delicious with an abundance for both parents for all winter + plenty to wash 'em down with!

Are you mainly at Martiney or mainly at Daggett? Laurence tells me that Helen is to be home for some time yet. I shall try to go that way and see her on my way to the coast in the spring.

How about your various writings? I hope you are making headway - which is more than I can say for myself as I have never been such an object down to office routine as during the past year and a quarter. However, I still hope for a chance sometime to get at my life work, even though the outlook at present is not encouraging.

Our girls are better busy in the high school. This is Dorothy's last year here + she is planning to go to Smith College, Northampton, next fall.