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1909-09-14

Letter from John Muir to [Robert Underwood] Johnson, 1909 Sep 14.

John Muir

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Martinez, Sep. 14, 1909.

Dear Mr Johnson: Well done for you. These last letters have the ring & vim of your best fighting days. Many thanks for the encouragement they bring to us all on this side the Continent. The formal letter of invitation through Mr Carpenter, Secretary to the President, to join him at San Francisco & go with him through the Yosemite Park arrived yesterday with yours, & I have just written in reply. A neat job. One of your best I'm particularly delighted over your Balinger meeting. Tell me about it. But O Dear! my heart aches over the departure of brave Harriman. All through our Yosemite fights since the Recession struggle began to our last on Hetch Hetchy, he was our steadfast & able friend. None but myself knows how much he accomplished for us. Some day I'll tell you. As to Cook I don't know him, & I never saw Mr McKinley. But read his book & believe he climbed. Nor from anything I've seen

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in the newspapers do I find cause
to doubt his story of the
north pole. I've always
regarded him as an able
resolute explorer. Certainly
not in the least like
a fakir. I'm waiting
to hear his story. In any
case Peary has been very
foolish & unmagnanimous
in speaking of a fellow
traveler & explorer as he
seems to be doing.

Heaven bless you dear
Johnson. Ever faithfully
Your friend
John Muir