



John Muir Correspondence (PDFs)

1911-01-09

Letter from O. W. Lehmer to John Muir, 1911 Jan 9.

O. W. Lehmer

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Recommended Citation

Lehmer, O. W., "Letter from O. W. Lehmer to John Muir, 1911 Jan 9." (1911). *John Muir Correspondence (PDFs)*. 5989.

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O. W. LEHMER
SUPERINTENDENT AND
TRAFFIC MANAGER



YOSEMITE
OPEN
ALL YEAR

MERCED, CALIFORNIA January 9, 1911.

Mr. John Muir,
325 West Adams Street,
Los Angeles, Cal.

Dear Mr. Muir:

Your letter of the 5th inst. I do not know that I can give you anything for your book as far as the building of the Yosemite Valley Railroad, (is concerned except what you already know.) ~~The road~~ is eighty miles long, and the entire distance, except the first twenty-four miles, is built through the precipitous Merced River Canon. ~~Our~~ ^{the town of} roadbed was practically blasted out of the solid rock for the entire distance in the canon. Work was commenced in September 1905 and the road was completed and the first train entered El Portal, the terminus, April 15, 1907. Over one-hundred carloads of powder were used in the construction of the road. Many miles of it cost as much as \$100,000 per mile for construction. The business has increased from four thousand tourists the first year to fifteen thousand in 1910.

You will find a map of the road in our regular standard folder, in folder racks at any of the hotels.

If there is any further information that I can give you will be pleased to do so.

Yours truly,

O. W. Lehmer

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