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Letter from John Muir to [Charlotte H.] Kellogg, 1911 Jun 27.

John Muir

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Surely nothing in the golden
 coronation glory over the sea
 could surpass it in uncontrollable
 fraternal alma mater gladness
 and loyalty.

The next memorable morning
 we donned our academic robes
 and marched to the great hall
 where the degrees were conferred.
 I had perhaps the best seat on the
 platform, and when my name
 was called, I arose with a grand
 air befitting the occasion stepped
 shook my academic plumes
 into finest flitting folds &
 stepped forward in awful
 majesty and stood right serene
 and solemn as an ancient Sequoia
 while the orator poured praise
 on the honored wanderer's head.
 And I think I had better leave the
 wanderer in this heroic attitude.
 With love to you friends three I am
 ever faithfully affectionately John Muir

Mrs. J. K. Kellogg
 850 Madison Ave.
 New York City

N. Y.

June 27, 1911-

My dear dear Mrs Kellogg.

In re re reading your charming
 letter of May 25th telling in such
 sprightly witty triumphant style
 your happy motherly housekeeping
 I always feel that you are working
 too hard. I know that mother-
 love radium can work miracles
 just as Nature love radium of
 the Scotch kind lifts mountainous
 bodies with only crumbs of bread
 to the highest summits as if they
 were light as thistle down.
 But somehow I always feel that
 those I love most should have
 good rest and good substantial
 meaty nourishment and avoid

exhausting (2) work.

No doubt you have found enough but too much work and care with too little rest. Pray be kind and pitiful to yourself but watch Jean's gums and lance them if necessary.

I've been this side the continent two months, - have done lots of National Park work at Washington and book work here and in Boston wildly interrupted by endless dinners, lionizing etc. I am now trying to hide in Prof Osborn's log writing den in a hickory grove to finish a Yosemite book before leaving for S. America. Perhaps I told you that Yale wished to give me a degree, and as it was in great part for saving God's parks I ventured to accept hoping their action might help to make public opinion for Yosemite.

³
I went to New Haven on the morning of June 20th and was received and entertained with wonderful cordiality, & taken to the ball game in the afternoon. Though at first a little nervous on account of the approaching degree ceremony I quickly caught the glow of the Yale enthusiasm. Never before have I seen or heard anything just like it. The many alumni classes assembled from all the country were clad in wildly colored uniforms, and the way they capered and danced, sang and yelled, wheeled and doubled quadrupled and octupled their flying ranks is utterly indescribable. Autumn leaves in whirlwinds are staid and decorous in comparison.