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1881-04-11

**Letter from G[eorge] Engelmann to John Muir, 1881 Apr 11.**

George Engelmann

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GEO. ENGELMANN, M. D.  
3003 Locust Street.

St. Louis, Mo., April 11 1881

My dear Mr Meier

Let me congratulate  
you and Mrs Meier on the happy  
event, of which a kind note from  
St Shrenkel has just informed me.  
Well, when this reaches you, the  
matter is already old and con-  
gratulations are out of date; what  
was a baby then, is now a young  
lady, she can at least say Papa  
and Mama.

Who ever has once been roaming  
about in California wants to be there  
again, and she has seen duck and  
wildly hankers after spring and  
fresh delightful vegetation. But  
whether it will come to that? I do  
not know yet!

But as I certainly shall not  
(if at all) be there in season for  
the flowering of the Oaks I would  
ask you to get for me at least the  
two species which grow close about you.  
One is *Quercus lobata*, which grows, as you

Engelmann  
Know, about the oaks on the Creek; the  
other is *Quercus Douglasii*, the blue  
mountain oak, on the bare hills above you  
a few specimens of each of these in flower  
and again a week or two later when the  
leaves are not yet fully grown (showing  
the female flowers or young acorns) would be  
very desirable. I would say that I found  
a few specimens of the lobate also on the hills,  
but *Douglasii* is readily distinguished by the  
smoother, whiter bark, the smaller and less  
lobed leaves; it seems to be the common  
tree on the arid hills.

And now my best wishes for mother  
and daughter and all of you

Yours truly

J Engelmann

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