



John Muir Correspondence (PDFs)

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1908-12-29

## Undated Dec 29 C H Hittell to JM p1

Catherine H. Hittell

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Muir Woods

Dec 29<sup>th</sup>

Dear Mr Muir

Mr Kent has just written me that "The deed, title papers, and tender" of Muir Woods "have gone to Washington. Mr Pinchot seems confident that we can save the trees. Should the property be accepted the Messrs' Magee and Newlands can hardly show that a reservoir destroying a park is a higher use than the preservation of the trees.

The letters you have asked for will be braces to Pinchot - in his asking Garfield and Roosevelt to accept the Park and the litigation. I am hoping for a telegraphic answer of acceptance within 10 days, and am holding a duplicate deed for record here."

Isn't this fine of Mr Kent to offer so splendid a gift to the

Nation? I do hope that your letter  
will help the Nation to accept  
this gift. No City in the world  
will have so fine a Park and  
we few San Franciscans can begin  
again to raise our heads and  
boast, in spite of earthquakes and  
fires and corruption and dishonest  
citizens.

I think I wrote you that Mr  
Kent wants the matter kept  
secret so that Messrs Newlands  
and Magee should not make  
trouble until the gift is accepted  
by the Nation. He writes "I hardly  
think anything that the barbarous  
ones can do will upset the plan  
but I should rather not tell them  
about it."

I hope you got my letter in which  
I begged you to write Mr. Kent  
"of the value of Redwood Canyon  
Park to the City and Neighborhood"

<sup>In another letter</sup>

Mr. Kent also asked if "John Muir  
would write a letter speaking of  
the need of the Redwood Forest as  
'Muir Woods' as a Nature park  
near the City and stating that  
its use for such purposes is  
higher than for storing a little  
water."

Your sincere friend  
Catherine H. Stillel  
808 Turk St.  
San Francisco

With love to you and Wanda and Helen  
and wishing you all a Happy New Year.