



John Muir Correspondence (PDFs)

1909-12-28

Letter from W[illia]m M. Chauvenet to John Muir, 1909 Dec 28.

William M. Chauvenet

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REGIS CHAUVENET & BROTHER.

MINING ENGINEERS

ANALYTICAL CHEMISTS AND ASSAYERS.

937 EQUITABLE BUILDING.
DENVER.LABORATORIES:
620 CHESTNUT STREET.*St. Louis*, Dec. 28-1909.

John Muir,

President of Society for the preservation of National Parks.
302 Mills Building, San Francisco.

Dear Professor Muir,

The information conveyed in your "Statement of the Hetch- Hetchy case to date " shocks me so deeply that I feel equal, could I get the chance, to eloquence enough and rage enough to stay any congress or to sway any convention.

Your work, on mountain and on glacier I have delighted in from my college days, and my work in the mining school. With you and your dog Stickeen, I, too, have followed to the fountains of the Fairweather mountains- such a dog and such a man are worth following to the death- and so in many other adventures when the earth was shaking and the loose stones rolling from their ledges, have I run in with you to deep gorges, to see them rock and fall. In brief, my dear Sir, you have often made me glad in spirit and more brave in courage by your beautiful descriptions of things I love the best and to any cause, that is your cause, I would bring what help I can.

The writing of letters to officials in Washington has proved quite useless in the past, and yet again have I set some of my friends on the trail of this outrage which is sought by certain unnatural men in the West and whatever influence our Missouri Senators may exercise, I think I can command in some measure.

The purpose of the men who would destroy the Hetch-Hetchy valley being the enrichment of themselves I do not think you need fear that the people will stand behind any legislation which will allow such a crime. I send you Five dollars, only asking that you personally indorse the check and that you will command me in the service of this work when ever I may help here in Missouri. Would that it were more, and that I might in person talk with you about the matter in which I am so deeply interested.

With great respect,

*Wm M. Chauvenet**Check for \$5 — enclosed**W.M.C.*

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