

222 Highland Street,

Milton, Mass.

8 February, 1916

Dear Dr. Douglass,

I was very glad to get your letter of January 25, and to hear of your good success with the sequoia sections. It will be a great help if you can cross identify them all the way through. How soon do you expect to get any results ready for publication?

You ask about the book that I have just gotten out. I wish I could send copies to all my friends. At first I thought of doing so, but when I came to figure it up I found it would cost me about \$400 and therefore I decided that I must give it up. I enclose a circular which gives some idea of what it deals with.

Lately I have been making some investigation of magnetism, for I have a strong feeling that magnetic changes may have a good deal to do with climatic changes. For instance I am strongly suspicious that the apparent relationship between sunspots and climate may owe its origin to an increase or decrease in the electrification of the atmosphere. Of course this is only an idea thus far, and is not advanced as anything proved, but it is worth looking into. Have you ever come across anything bearing on it?

With cordial regards to Mrs Douglass and yourself,

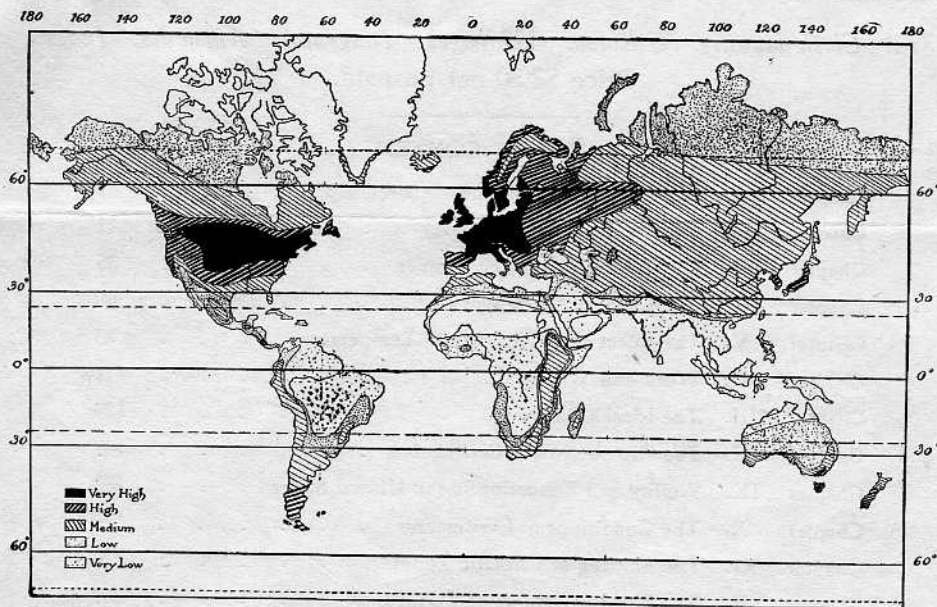
Yours sincerely,

Ellsworth Huntington

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Sequoia 3
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July 17, 1916.

Prof. A. E. Douglas,
214 North Breed Street,
Los Angeles, California.

Dear Prof. Douglas:

Yours of the 8th proposes a plan which seems better than anything suggested before. I believe you are right that it will be practically impossible to correct my measurements by means of anything except a complete remeasurement of the entire period. Your plan, however, ^{to} make detailed series of measurements from a small number of trees, would make it possible to take the minor features and details from them and superimpose ^{these} ~~them~~ upon the main features and general corrections as given in mine.

You ask five questions. Let me answer them in order. (1) As to a sketch map showing the location of the oldest I will do my best and will send it in a day or two. First I must find the topographic map. I am afraid, however, that my memory of the exact location is rather hazy. If I were on the ground I could pick out many of the places but even in three or four years one's memory of the exact location gets somewhat dim. (2) As to making a trip to Portersville, I doubt whether it will be worth while unless you have a good deal of time at your disposal and have finished all that you can do profitably at the other place. The trees are mostly in low, swampy, places. They are scattered about in the midst of the forest and you might have to hunt for them a great deal. Also (3) there is no cutting going

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(4+5)
on now there. The best way to get in is to take a train to Portersville, ^{and} on the ⁷ Little Branch Railroad from there up to some place whose name I have forgotten. There the livery stable man will take you up but the climb is hard and steep and the price is correspondingly high, although not in anyway excessive. We had a good ^{driver} ~~traveller~~ who knew a good deal about the trees but I cannot remember his name. In spite of what I have said I do not want to discourage you from going in from Portersville. Eight out of about twenty-five trees that approach 2400 years in age are there.

Unless you have considerable time, however, I should say that the best plan would be to go to the old Converse mill or as near there as you can get and make a camp. We took a wagon from Sanger and drove up. From Millwood we took the old Converse Road which was passable without special difficulty ^{although gullies in spots,} and drove as far as the top of the hill where the old Converse ^{hoist} ~~house~~ is located. There we found a spring near some old houses on the south side of the crest and made our camp. The Converse basin lies within a radius of perhaps three miles and Indian basin is only about three miles away. You could easily do both of these places from here and all the best area of the Converse basin would be within a mile or a mile and a half. You can get ^{or} ~~nearly~~ to the best trees by wagon here than you can by going to the Indian Basin. The Converse place contains about thirteen trees that are 2400 or more years old and about seventy others that go back approximately to the time of Christ or farther. Therefore my judgment would be that your

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best plan would be an intensive study of this region.

For my own guidance I have just made out a little table of the older trees and I enclose a copy for you. It contains the numbers of all my trees which go back approximately to the time of Christ. The trees that are more than 2200 years old are underlined once. Those over 2400 are underlined twice and those over 2600 years three times. The division by years is not exact but that makes no difference.

It might help you a great deal if you could get one of the boys who went with me to go with you. The best one would be Hiram Miller of Poplar Grove (?) but he has nearly or quite finished his medical course and I imagine that he would have something else on hand. One of his two younger brothers who were also with me the second year might be available. When they were with me I paid them at the rate of from thirty to fifty dollars a month and all expenses. There was another fellow with me who lives right at Sangor and would be best of all. For the moment I cannot think of his name. I think it was Estey Walton, but I will try to find out. It certainly could do no harm to write a letter addressed to that name at Sanger. He was a freshman at college when I was there in 1912 and must now have graduated. Very likely he would enjoy a trip of a few weeks with you. He knows the country and understands the whole business of tree measurements.

I am sending you three copies of a book which I had printed to keep my records in. Possibly you may find it convenient. I will write again shortly, as soon as I can make a plan and can consult Prof. Canby to see whether I have gotten Walton's name right. The more I think of it, however, the more I feel quite sure that the name is correct.

Yours sincerely,

Ellsworth Huntington

P.S. Enclose two little sketches which in connection with the Tahapite + Kaweech Taping replicate sheets may be a little help. The best place to work is from the main boat down to the lower side, chiefly on the east side of the trail.

Old Sequoia Trees Whose Measurements are given

in the "Climatic Factor."

age
—> 2200
=> 2400
=> 2600

A. Millwood 2, 5, 6, 114, 115.

B. Regions in and around the Converse Basin.

Boule 15, 17=5, 18, 402, 403.

Converse T.S. 31, 71, 314, 315, 317, 318, 320.

Converse Mill, 63, 327, 328, 335, 340, 353, 357, 422, 430, 446, 448.

Converse Hoist 64, 65, 66, 67, 68, 69, 71, 72, 74, 76, 77, 98, 102,
104, 307, 309, 322, 350, 355.

Converse W.F. 73, 101, 105, 106, 963, 304, 390, 391, 411, 414, 423,
425, 433.

Converse No. 1. 374, 375, 382, 384, 385, 386, 387, 388, 389, 397,
398, 399, 407, 408, 409, 410, 413, 436, 452, 453,
455, 421.

Converse No. 6. 368

Converse Rob Roy. 381

C. Indian Basin 40, 59, 60, 81, 82.

D. Hume. No old trees measured by E. H.

E. Regions east of Portersville.

Enterprise 116, 118, 119, 128, 437, 192, 193, 194, 195, 196, 120.

Mt. Home. 123, 124, 127, 145.

Coburn. No old trees.

Fresier 187

F. Dillonwood, north of E. 156, 174, 180

G. Regions southeast of Millwood, 27

Comstock 216 239, 303

Wigger 264, 272, 276, 286

From

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