

Y
O
S
E
M
I
T
E

DEPARTMENT
OF THE
INTERIOR

FRANKLIN K. LANE
Secretary



Photograph by A. C. Pillsbury

THE HIGHEST WATERFALL IN THE WORLD—THE YOSEMITE FALLS

The Upper Fall measures 1,430 feet, as high as nine Niagaras. The Lower Fall measures 320 feet. The total drop from crest to river, including intermediate cascades, is half a mile



Photograph by H. T. Cowling

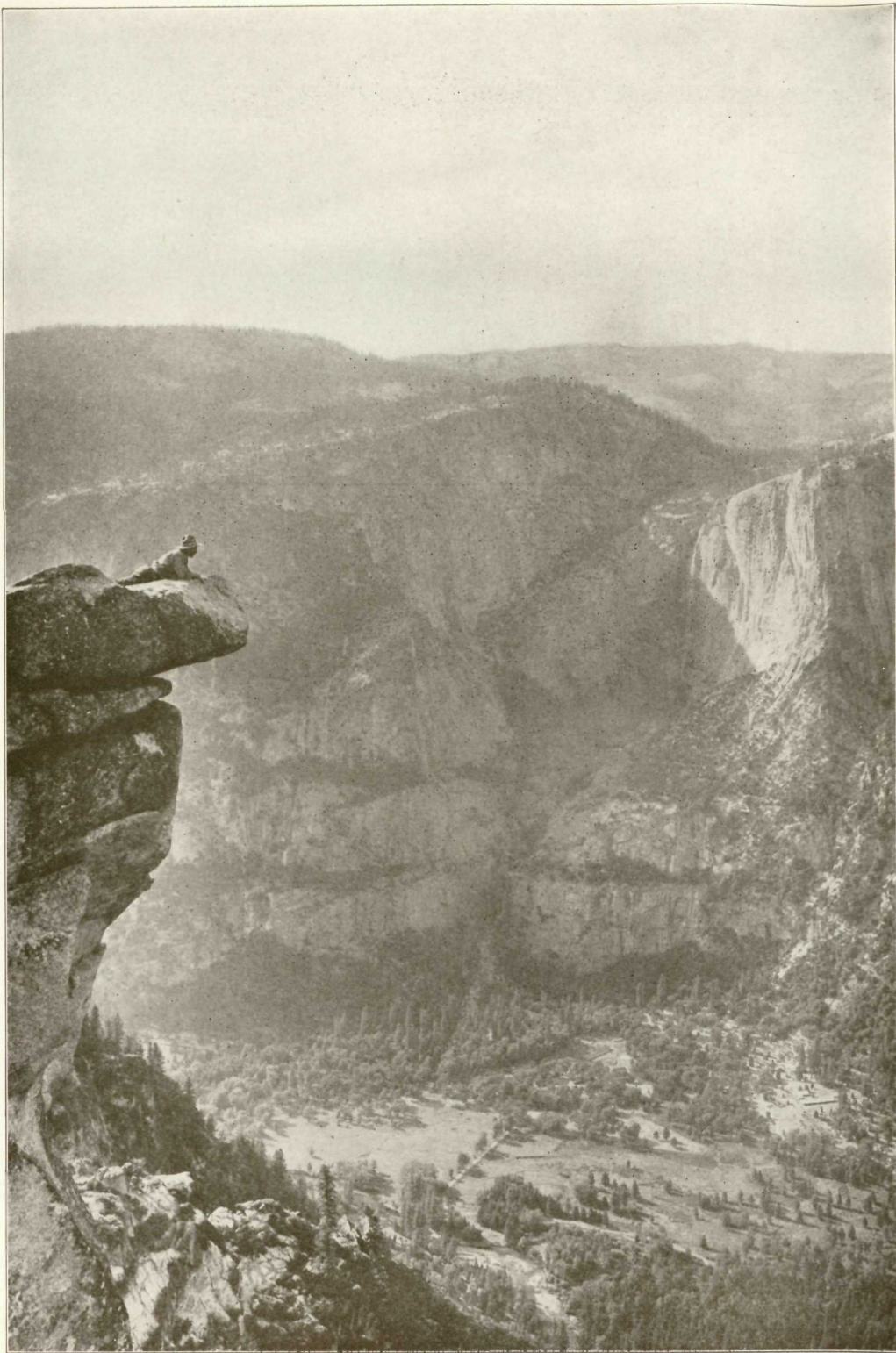
THE YOSEMITE VALLEY FROM INSPIRATION POINT, SHOWING BRIDALVEIL FALLS

LAND *of* ENCHANTMENT

WHO does not know of the Yosemite Valley? And yet, how few have heard of the Yosemite National Park! How few know that this world-famous, incomparable Valley is merely a crack seven miles long in a scenic masterpiece of eleven hundred square miles!

John Muir loved the Valley and crystallized its fame in phrase.

But still more he loved the National Park, which he describes as including “innumerable lakes and waterfalls and smooth silky lawns; the noblest forests, the loftiest granite domes, the deepest ice-sculptured canyons, the brightest crystalline pavements, and snowy mountains soaring into the sky twelve and thirteen thousand feet, arrayed in open ranks and spiry-pinnacled groups partially separated by tremendous canyons and amphitheatres; gardens on their sunny brows, avalanches thundering down their long white slopes, cataracts roaring gray and foaming in the crooked rugged gorges, and glaciers in their shadowy recesses working in silence, slowly completing their sculptures; new-born lakes at their feet, blue and green, free or encumbered with drifting icebergs like miniature Arctic Oceans, shining, sparkling, calm as stars.”

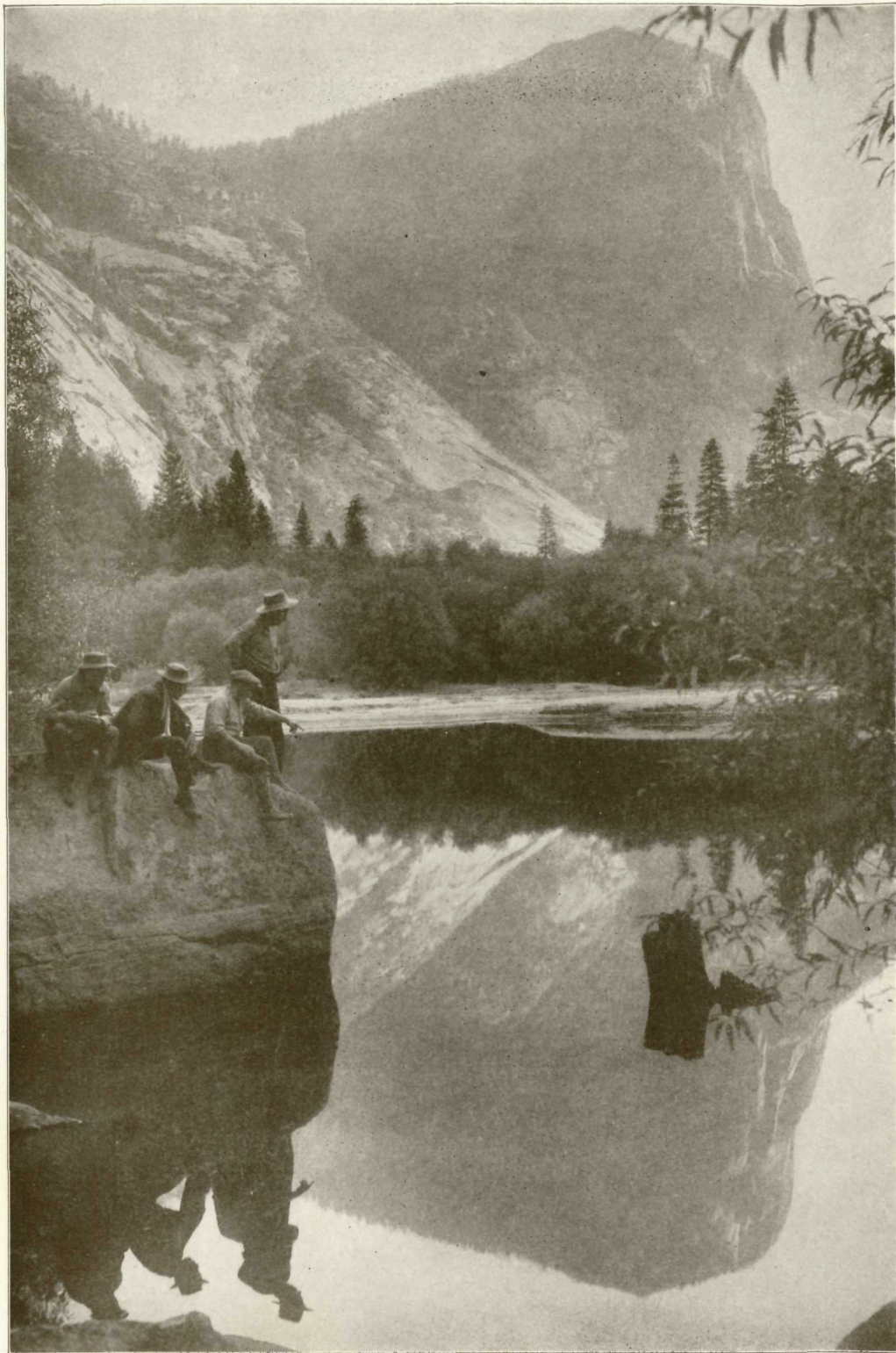


THE YOSEMITE VALLEY FROM GLACIER POINT
The Upper and Lower Yosemite Falls are here shown in partial profile



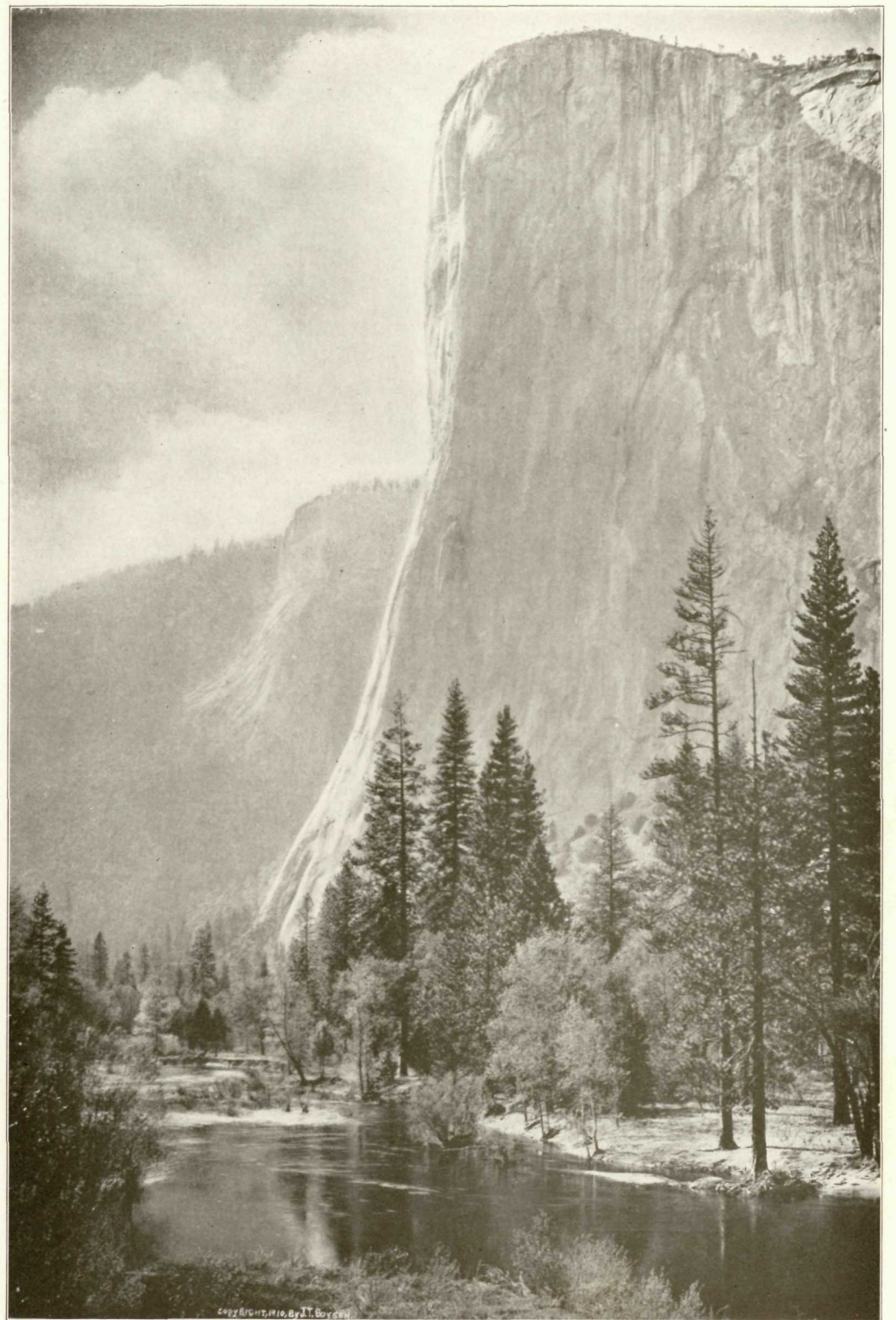
Photograph by J. T. Boysen

HALF DOME FROM NEAR WASHINGTON COLUMN
Its summit is 4,892 feet above the floor of the Valley



EARLY MORNING BESIDE MIRROR LAKE

This lake is famous for its reflections of the cliffs. Mount Watkins in the background

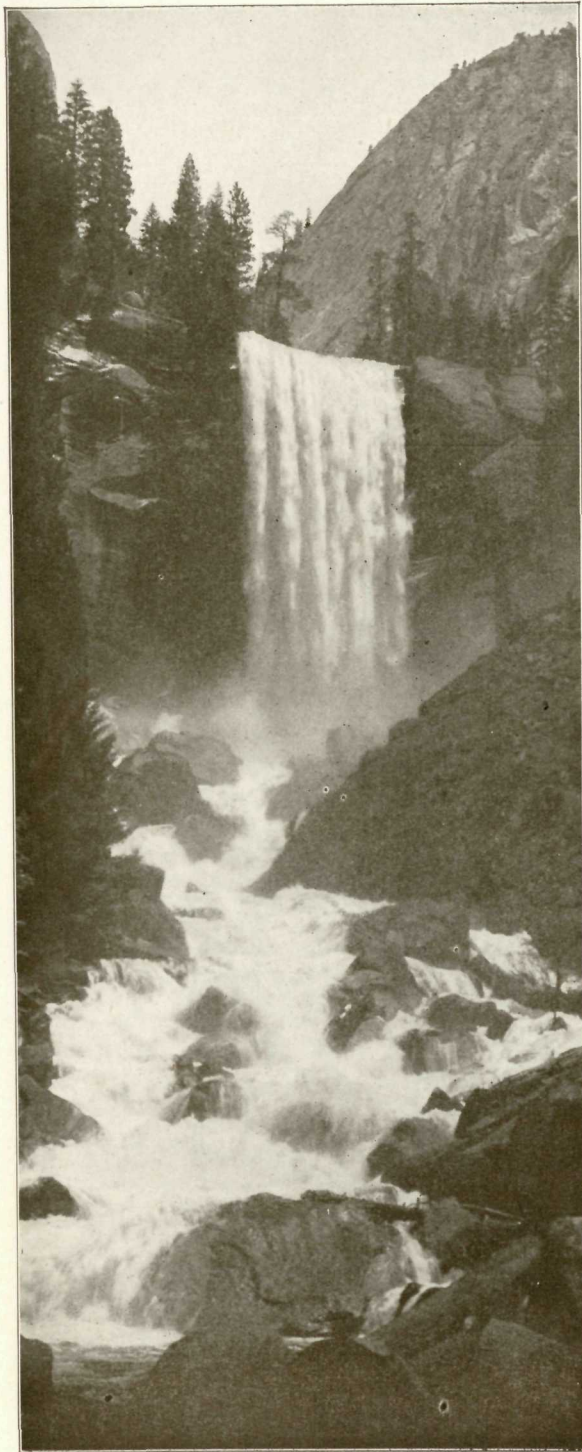


Copyright, 1910, by J. T. Boyesen

EL CAPITAN AT SUNSET

This gigantic rock, whose hard granite resisted the glacier, rises 3,604 feet from the Valley floor

THE VALLEY INCOMPARABLE



Photograph by H. T. Cowling

BEAUTIFUL VERNAL FALLS

THE first view of most spots of unusual celebrity often falls short of expectation, but this is seldom, if ever, true of the Yosemite Valley. The sheer immensity of the precipices on either side of the peaceful floor; the loftiness and the romantic suggestion of the numerous waterfalls; the majesty of the granite walls; and the unreal, almost fairy quality of the ever-varying whole cannot be successfully foretold.

This valley was once a tortuous river canyon. So rapidly was it cut by the Merced that the tributary valleys soon remained hanging high on either side. Then the canyon became the bed of a great glacier. It was widened as well as deepened, and the hanging character of the side valleys was accentuated.

This explains the enormous height of the waterfalls.

The Yosemite Falls, for instance, drops 1,430 feet in one sheer fall, a height equal to nine Niagara Falls piled one on top of the other. The Lower Yosemite Fall, immediately below, has a drop of 320 feet, or two Niagaras more. Vernal Falls has the same height. The Nevada Falls drops 594 feet sheer, and the celebrated Bridalveil Falls 620 feet. Nowhere else in the world may be had a water spectacle such as this.



Photograph by H. C. Tibbitts

ITS NAME IS SELF-EVIDENT—THE BRIDALVEIL FALLS



Photograph by C. H. Hamilton

MIRROR LAKE



A NEARER VIEW OF NEVADA FALLS, LIBERTY CAP ON LEFT



Photograph by A. C. Pillsbury

VERNAL AND NEVADA FALLS AND HALF DOME FROM THE GLACIER POINT TRAIL



Photograph by J. T. Boysen

A BEND IN THE BIG OAK FLAT ROAD



Photograph by A. C. Pillsbury

THE SHEER IMMENSITY OF THE PRECIPICES ON EITHER SIDE THE VALLEY'S PEACEFUL FLOOR, THE ROMANTIC MAJESTY OF THE GRANITE WALLS, AND THE UNREAL, ALMOST FAIRYLIKE QUALITY OF THE EVER-VARYING WHOLE, ATTEST IT INCOMPARABLE

CHARM OF THE SCENIC WILD



Photograph by H. T. Cowling

THE GRIZZLY GIANT, THE BIGGEST
YOSEMITE SEQUOIA

SUMMER in the Yosemite is unreal. The Valley, with its foaming falls dissolving into mists, its calm forests hiding the singing river, its enormous granites peaked and domed against the sky, its inspiring silence haunted by distant water, suggests a dream. One has a sense of fairyland and the awe of infinity.

Imagine Cathedral Rocks rising twenty-six hundred feet above the wild flowers, El Capitan thirty-six hundred feet, Sentinel Dome four thousand feet, Half Dome five thousand feet, and Cloud's Rest six thousand feet! And among them the waterfalls!

Even the weather appears impossible; the summers are warm, but not too warm; dry, but not too dry; the nights cold and marvellously starry.

A few miles away are the Big Trees, not the greatest groves nor the greatest trees, for those are in the Sequoia National Park, a hundred miles south, but three groves containing monsters which, next to Sequoia's, are the hugest and the oldest living things. Of these the Grizzly Giant is king—whose diameter is nearly thirty feet, whose girth is over ninety-nine, and whose height is more than two hundred. Their presence commands the silence due to worship.

Winter is becoming a feature in the life of the Valley. Hotels are open to accommodate an increasing flow of visitors. The falls are still and frozen, the trees laden with snowy burdens. The greens have vanished; the winter sun shines upon a glory of gray and white.

Winter sports are rapidly becoming popular on the floor of the Valley.



Photograph by H. C. Tibbitts

WINTER IN THE YOSEMITE VALLEY



Photograph by H. C. Tibbitts

SKIING IN THE YOSEMITE VALLEY

Winter sports are rapidly becoming popular on the floor of the Valley

LIVING IN THE WILDERNESS



Copyrighted, 1910, by J. T. Boysen
WHO'S COMING?

LIVING is comfortable in the Yosemite. Four roomy public camps, two excellent hotels, and several new lodges offer the visitor a choice of kind and price. New hotels are building to replace the old. Other lodges are planned for regions far from the Valley.

These improved conditions begin the larger development of the Yosemite National Park which the Department of the Interior has planned so long and so carefully. It has there inaugurated a model policy for all the national parks. The Yosemite is reached from Merced.

The Yosemite is an excellent place to camp out. One may have choice of many kinds of mountain country. Nearly everywhere the trout fishing is exceptionally fine. Camping outfits may be rented and supplies purchased in the Valley. Garages for motorists and rest-houses for trampers will be found at convenient intervals.

TIOGA ROAD

ABOVE the north rim of the valley the old Tioga Road, which the Department of the Interior acquired in 1915 and put into good condition, crosses the park from east to west, affording a new route across the Sierra and opening to the public for the first time the magnificent scenic region in the north.

The Tioga Road was built in 1881 to a mine soon after abandoned. For years it has been impassable. It is now the gateway to a wilderness heretofore accessible only to campers.



Copyrighted, 1910, by J. T. Boysen
WOOF!

NORTH OF THE VALLEY'S RIM

BEFORE the restored Tioga Road pointed the way to the magnificent mountain and valley area constituting the northern half of the Yosemite National Park, this pleasure paradise was known to none except a few enthusiasts who penetrated its wilderness year after year with camping outfits.

This is the region of rivers and lakes and granite domes and brilliantly polished glacial pavements. The mark of the glacier is seen on every hand.

It is the region of small glaciers, remnants of a gigantic past, of which there are several in the park. It is the region of rock-bordered glacier lakes of which there are more than two hundred and fifty. It is the region, above all, of small, rushing rivers and of the roaring, foaming, twisting Tuolumne.

From the base of the Sierra crest, born of its snows, the Tuolumne River rushes westward roughly paralleling the Tioga Road. Midway it slants sharply down into the Tuolumne Canyon forming in its mad course a water spectacle destined some day to world fame.



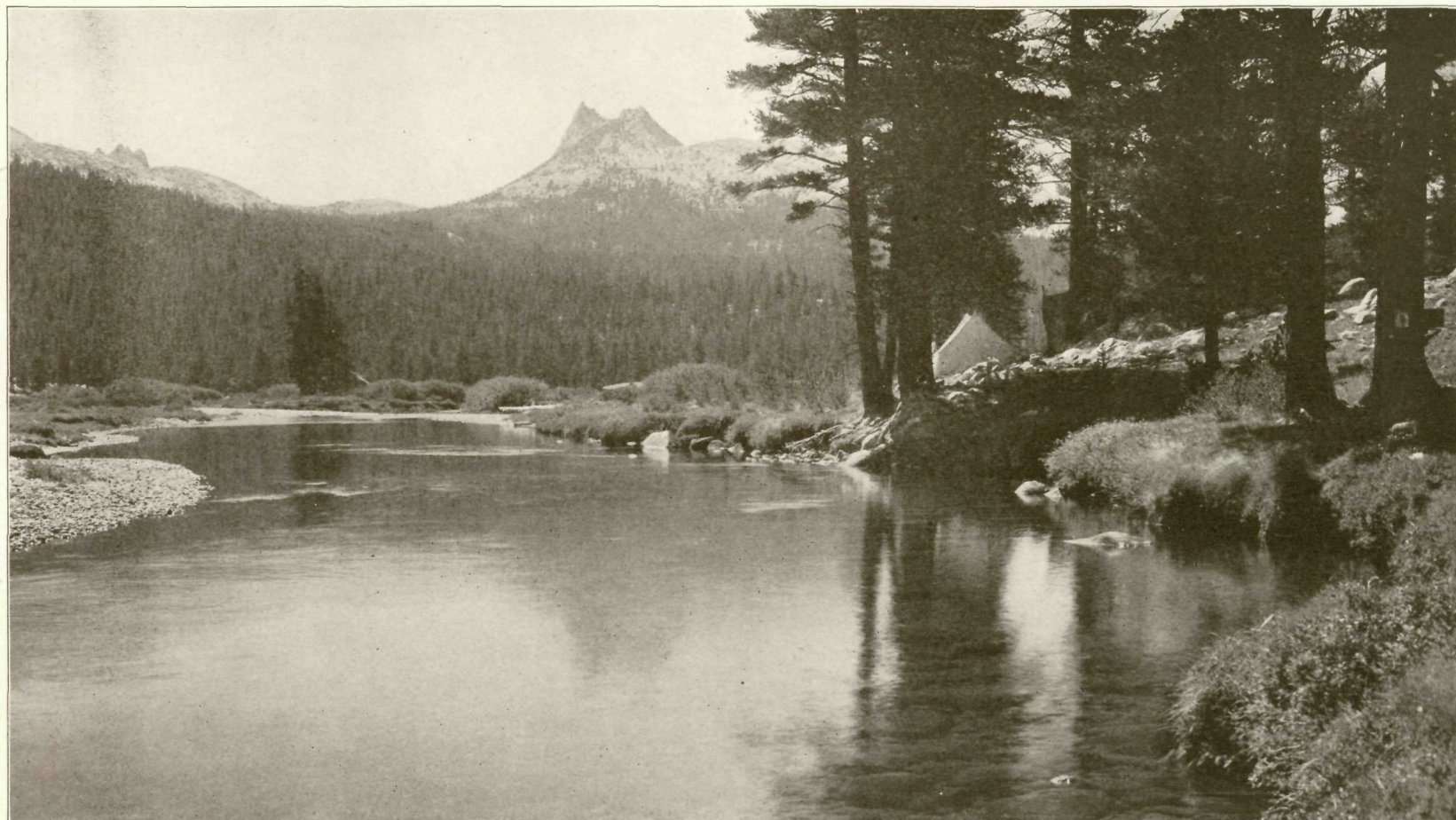
Photograph by H. C. Tibbitts

TIOGA ROAD SCENERY



Photograph by H. C. Tibbitts

NORTH OF THE VALLEY'S RIM. ON THE RIGHT MAY BE SEEN THE BACK OF HALF DOME; ON THE LEFT THE BACK OF CLOUD'S REST



Photograph by H. C. Tibbitts

THE CELEBRATED TUOLUMNE MEADOWS, FROM THE TIAGA ROAD NEAR SODA SPRINGS, SHOWING CATHEDRAL PEAK



Photograph by W. L. Huber

THE HIGH SIERRA: VIEW OF MOUNT RITTER FROM KUNA CREST



Photograph by Herbert W. Gleason

BEAUTIFUL ROGERS LAKE AND REGULATION PEAK IN THE NORTHERN PART OF THE PARK



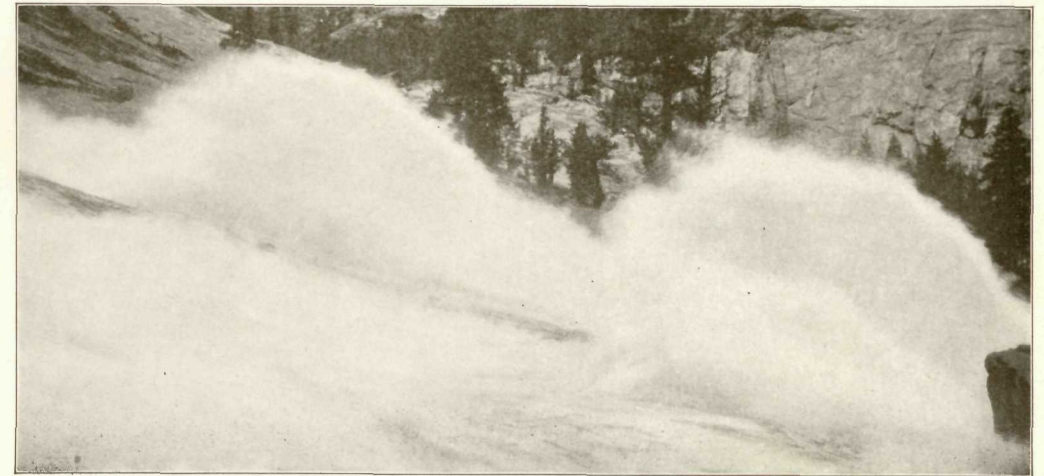
Photograph by W. L. Huber

THE WATERWHEEL BELOW CALIFORNIA FALLS

MAD WATERS *of* TUOLUMNE

NONE but the hardest climbers have clambered down the Grand Canyon of the Tuolumne and seen its leaping waters.

Here the river, slanting sharply, becomes, in John Muir's phrase, "one wild, exulting, onrushing mass of snowy purple bloom spreading over glacial waves of granite without any definite channel, gliding in magnificent silver plumes, dashing and foaming through huge boulder dams, leaping high in the air in wheel-like whirls, displaying glorious enthusiasm, tossing from side to side, doubling, glinting, singing in exuberance of mountain energy."



Photograph by A. C. Pillsbury

A PAIR OF TUOLUMNE WATERWHEELS

THE EVERLASTING SNOWS



Photograph by W. L. Huber

ASCENDING MOUNT LYELL

SUMMITS of perpetual snow are, for most Americans, a new association with Yosemite. But the region's very origin was that Sierra whose crest peaks on the park's eastern boundary still shelter in shrunken old age the once all-powerful glaciers.

Excelsior, Conness, Dana, Kuna, Blacktop, Lyell, Long—from the companionship of these great peaks descended the ice-pack of old and descend to-day the sparkling waters of the Tuolumne and the Merced.

From their great summits the climber beholds a sublime wilderness of crowded, towering mountains, a contrast to the silent, uplifting Valley as striking as mind can conceive. Everlasting snows fill the hollows between the peaks and spatter their jagged granite sides. The glaciers feed innumerable small lakes.



Photograph by W. L. Huber

CROSSING SNOW HUMMOCKS IN THE ASCENT OF MOUNT LYELL

THE NATIONAL PARKS AT A GLANCE

Arranged chronologically in the order of their creation

[Number, 14; Total Area, 7,290 Square Miles]

NATIONAL PARK and Date	LOCATION	AREA in square miles	DISTINCTIVE CHARACTERISTICS
HOT SPRINGS RESERVATION 1832	Middle Arkansas	1½	46 hot springs possessing curative properties—Many hotels and boarding-houses in adjacent city of Hot Springs—bath-houses under public control.
YELLOWSTONE 1872	North-western Wyoming	3,348	More geysers than in all rest of world together—Boiling springs—Mud volcanoes—Petrified forests—Grand Canyon of the Yellowstone, remarkable for gorgeous coloring—Large lakes—Many large streams and waterfalls—Vast wilderness inhabited by deer, elk, bison, moose, antelope, bear, mountain sheep, beaver, etc., constituting greatest wild bird and animal preserve in world—Altitude 6,000 to 11,000 feet—Exceptional trout fishing.
YOSEMITE 1890	Middle eastern California	1,125	Valley of world-famed beauty—Lofty cliffs—Romantic vistas—Many waterfalls of extraordinary height—3 groves of big trees—High Sierra—Large areas of snowy peaks—Waterwheel falls—Good trout fishing.
SEQUOIA 1890	Middle eastern California	237	The Big Tree National Park—12,000 sequoia trees over 10 feet in diameter, some 25 to 36 feet in diameter—Towering mountain ranges—Startling precipices—Fine trout fishing.
GENERAL GRANT 1890	Middle eastern California	4	Created to preserve the celebrated General Grant Tree, 35 feet in diameter—six miles from Sequoia National Park and under same management.
MOUNT RAINIER 1899	West central Washington	324	Largest accessible single-peak glacier system—28 glaciers, some of large size—Forty-eight square miles of glacier, fifty to five hundred feet thick—Remarkable sub-alpine wild-flower fields.
CRATER LAKE 1902	South-western Oregon	249	Lake of extraordinary blue in crater of extinct volcano, no inlet, no outlet—Sides 1,000 feet high—Interesting lava formations—Fine trout fishing.
MESA VERDE 1906	South-western Colorado	77	Most notable and best-preserved prehistoric cliff dwellings in United States, if not in the world.
PLATT 1906	Southern Oklahoma	1½	Sulphur and other springs possessing curative properties—Under Government regulations.
GLACIER 1910	North-western Montana	1,534	Rugged mountain region of unsurpassed Alpine character—250 glacier-fed lakes of romantic beauty—60 small glaciers—Peaks of unusual shape—Precipices thousands of feet deep—Almost sensational scenery of marked individuality—Fine trout fishing.
ROCKY MOUNTAIN 1915	North middle Colorado	358	Heart of the Rockies—Snowy range, peaks 11,000 to 14,250 feet altitude—Remarkable records of glacial period.

National Parks of less popular interest are:

- Sully's Hill, 1904, North Dakota.....Wooded hilly tract on Devil's Lake.
- Wind Cave, 1903, South Dakota.....Large natural cavern.
- Casa Grande Ruin, 1892, Arizona.....Prehistoric Indian ruin.

HOW TO REACH THE NATIONAL PARKS



The map shows the location of all of our National Parks and their principal railroad connections. The traveler may work out his routes to suit himself. Low round-trip excursion fares to the American Rocky Mountain region and Pacific Coast may be availed of in visiting the National Parks during their respective seasons, thus materially reducing the cost of the trip. Transcontinental through trains and branch lines make the Parks easy of access from all parts of the United States. For schedules and excursion fares to and between the National Parks write to the Passenger Departments of the railroads which appear on the above map, as follows:

ARIZONA EASTERN RAILROAD	Tucson, Ariz.
ATCHISON, TOPEKA & SANTA FE RAILWAY	1119 Railway Exchange, Chicago, Ill.
CHICAGO & NORTH WESTERN RAILWAY	226 West Jackson Boulevard, Chicago, Ill.
CHICAGO, BURLINGTON & QUINCY RAILROAD CO.	547 West Jackson Boulevard, Chicago, Ill.
CHICAGO, MILWAUKEE & ST. PAUL RAILWAY	Railway Exchange, Chicago, Ill.
COLORADO AND SOUTHERN RAILWAY	Railway Exchange Building, Denver, Colo.
DENVER & RIO GRANDE RAILROAD CO.	Equitable Building, Denver, Colo.
GREAT NORTHERN RAILWAY	Railroad Building, Fourth and Jackson Streets, St. Paul, Minn.
GULF, COLORADO & SANTA FE RAILWAY	Galveston, Texas.
ILLINOIS CENTRAL RAILROAD	Central Station, Chicago, Ill.
MISSOURI PACIFIC RAILWAY	Railway Exchange Building, St. Louis, Mo.
NORTHERN PACIFIC RAILWAY	Railroad Building, Fifth and Jackson Streets, St. Paul, Minn.
SAN PEDRO, LOS ANGELES & SALT LAKE RAILROAD	Pacific Electric Building, Los Angeles, Calif.
SOUTHERN PACIFIC COMPANY	Flood Building, San Francisco, Calif.
UNION PACIFIC SYSTEM	Garland Building, 58 East Washington Street, Chicago, Ill.
WABASH RAILWAY	Railway Exchange Building, St. Louis, Mo.
WESTERN PACIFIC RAILWAY	Mills Building, San Francisco, Calif.

For information about sojourning and traveling within the National Parks write to the Department of the Interior for the Information circular of the Park or Parks in which you are interested.

REMEMBER THAT

YOSEMITE BELONGS TO YOU

IT IS ONE OF THE GREAT NATIONAL PLAYGROUNDS OF THE AMERICAN PEOPLE FOR WHOM IT IS ADMINISTERED BY THE DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR