

Smithsonian Institution
Woods Hole,

SPENCER F. BAIRD,
SECRETARY.

Washington D. C. Sept. 30, 1886

Dear Robert:

I suspect by this time you have enough shearwater; if not, let me know, as they are still in our vicinity in thousands. Although black shearwaters were reported on the first arrival of this school, we have not been able either to catch or to see any more. The launch, however, has gone down to Gay Head this morning.

with special instructions
to look after the black
ones. Quite a number
of these were, as I have
said, seen the first day.

Yours truly,
W Baird

Robert Ridgway, Esq.,
Smithsonian Institution.

No Black Shearwaters observed, any
Jays

Smithsonian Institution
Woods Hole,

SPENCER F. BAIRD,
SECRETARY.

~~Washington D.C.~~ Sept. 21, 1886.

Dear Robert:

I telegraphed
you to-day in regard
to a lot of petrels that
went off ^{by Ames} a few days
ago. They represent
a lot killed the last
day I was out, and
are in tolerably good
condition. The skinning,
however, was not fin-
ished, as you, no
doubt, will ascertain,
and you will need
to have them finished

up for permanent
preservation.

Petrels and other
sea fowl of various
species are extremely
abundant on the coast,
and there may be
some rarities met with.
I am going to send
the launch out to-day
to see what can be
found.

Yours truly,
W W Baird

Robert Ridgway, Esq;
Smithsonian Institution.

Laurel returns within any day. So very.

Smithsonian Institution

Woods Hole,

~~Washington D.C.~~ Sept. 17, 1886.

SPENCER F. BAIRD,
SECRETARY.

Dear Robert:

It occurs to me to ask whether you would like to have any more specimens of Cory's petrel. Though I have not been down to the locality, which is 15 miles from here, I think it likely that they may be around there for some time to come. The last time I was down we shot 28, and I sent you 12. Of the remaining 16 about 10 have

been skinned. The rest
were made into skele-
-tons, with the exception
of two that were given to
Prof. Verrill. The skinning
was not completed — only
done in the rough; and
I will send them on to
you in a day or two to
have them finished.

Yours truly,
W W Baird

Robert Ridgway, Esq;
Smithsonian Institution.

Smithsonian Institution
Woods Hole,

SPENCER F. BAIRD,
SECRETARY.

~~Washington D.C.~~ Sept. 11, 1886.

Dear Robert:

There has been quite an abundance of sea birds in this neighborhood for the last few days, attracted by the schools of herring and mackerel.

One of our launches was out yesterday to Gay Head and brought back ten ^{curlews?} fagers, no one in exactly the same plumage. Having no books here, I cannot identify them.

I supposed they were ^{lines} ~~cornering~~, but they are more probably the next smaller species. The two central tail feathers project about an inch beyond the rest, but are sharply pointed instead of being rounded. At any rate, I will send them all to you this afternoon, one or two having been skinned to make sure of them.

I would recommend the preparation of the entire lot, unless you can spare one of them

R
 The Lanner has just returned with 6 Puffins (what species?)
 and four apparently true Lestris pomarinus. & several
 plumage. I would presume all to the Puffins Cory's species?

to Lucas for a skeleton.

There were seen
 gannets, adult and
 young, and quite a
 number of the great
 shearwater, both black
 and white bellied. The
 launch has just gone
 down to the locality,
 and may get something
 else.

The birds should
 reach Washington on
 Monday morning by
 P. & O. Express.

Yours truly,
 R. Ridgway, Esq. } Spencer Baird.
 Smithsonian Instit. }

Smithsonian Institution

SPENCER F. BAIRD,
SECRETARY.

Washington D.C.

188

R

Smithsonian Institution

Woods Hall,

Washington D.C. Sept. 4, 1886.

SPENCER F. BAIRD,
SECRETARY.

Dear Robert;

I return here -
with Kunkin's letter.
Of course the remarks
about the geese, &c., are
specially for your con-
sideration. Can you not
get him to help in making
up the collections of
bird skeletons which
Lucas is so much inter-
ested in? He certainly
ought to be able to get
nearly all the water birds,
and many others. I do not

recall our relationships to him in the matter of ethnological exchanges; but I am entirely willing to have Capt. Bendire make up from our duplicates such specimens as he may want. I wish you would find out his desiderata, and arrange with the Captain on the subject.

The Institution was not aware of the existence, in New York, of a box in which it had any interest; and if it had known that

there was such a package
there containing speci-
mens addressed to K.,
it would have used its
best efforts to secure it.
We, however, knew nothing
of the circumstances beyond
the fact that a box had
been announced from
Greenland, but without
any indication as to the
manner of its transmis-
sion.

Yours truly,
J. V. Baird

Robert Ridgway, Esq.,
Smithsonian Institution.

Smithsonian Institution

SPENCER F. BAIRD,
SECRETARY.

Washington D.C.

188

Yours truly,
W. Baird

Robert R. Taylor, Esq.,
Smithsonian Institution.

Smithsonian Institution

Woods Hole,

Washington D.C. Sept. 4, 1886.

SPENCER F. BAIRD,

SECRETARY.

Dear Robert:

If he desires it, would you like to spare Stejneger for a year's trip to the Sandwich Islands. I have inquiries from that Government to ascertain the cost of salary and incidental expenses of some one to make general collections of natural history, and I know of no better person to exhaust the fauna

of a region than Hejinger.
I shall say nothing to
him on the subject until
I hear from you, and
will not then if for
any reason you are
unwilling to be without
his help.

Yours truly,
W. Baird

R. Ridgway, Esq.,
Smithsonian Institution.

SMITHSONIAN INSTITUTION,

WASHINGTON, D. C.,

May 6th 1886

SPENCER F. BAIRD,
Secretary.

Dear Sir:

We return herewith the 34 cents, enclosed with your letter of May 1st., in behalf of Mr. James Richardson, of the Museum of Natural History of New York, for check-list of birds printed on one side only, having no copies of the same remaining in stock.

Very truly yours,

W. S. Baird

Secretary.

Robert Ridgway, Esq.,

Curator of Birds,

S. I.

*Refund to Mr. Richardson
with explanatory letter, May 8,
1886. - Insk. sent in 2 ct. post-
age stamp. - RR.*

Smithsonian Institution

SPENCER F. BAIRD,
SECRETARY.

Washington D.C. April 12, 1886.

Dear Robert,

I have your memorandum of the 9th, together with a communication from Dr Black on the subject of sea shells desired by him, and also Mr Dall's memorandum on the subject. If he does not think that he can spare any from his stock, of course I cannot press him; but I think we can get Mr Rathbun to furnish

a few nice-looking
starfishes, and possibly
some pieces of coral, which
may answer a better
purpose.

I shall be glad
to have the ^{y living} siren, to
which he refers, as I am
collecting all I can of
amphibians of that type
for the purpose of sending
them to various parties.

Yours truly,
W W Baird

R. Ridgway, Esq.,
Smithsonian Institution,
City.

Smithsonian Institution

Woods Hole, Mass.

SPENCER F. BAIRD,
SECRETARY.

Washington D.C. Sept. 8, 1885.

Dear Robert:

I would not trouble myself any further in regard to the Walter Hoxie and Batty matter. The confronting of the two in reference to any personal remarks respecting yourself would be of very little moment, and might tend in some way to embitter your relations to both. You will find that if

you attempt to follow
the matter up it will
elude you, and probably
widen out into a
much more complicated
and troublesome piece of
business.

Yours truly,
W. V. Band

R. Ridgway, Esq.,
Smithsonian Institution.

Smithsonian Institution

Woods Hole, Mass.

~~Washington D.C.~~ Sept. 5, 1885.SPENCER F. BAIRD,
SECRETARY.

Dear Robert:

I send in an accompanying box the skin of a petrel that came aboard of the Albatross a few nights ago from 150 to 200 miles off the coast. Unless it be an abnormal plumage it is a bird that I know nothing about, and I shall be glad to have you advise me at once on the subject. If you

intend to mount it
you had better do so
while it is green.

Yours truly,
W. B. B.

Robert Ridgway, Esq.,
Smithsonian Institution.

SPENCER F. BAIRD,
SECRETARY.

Smithsonian Institution

Woodward Building,
Washington, D. C. July 21 1885

Dear Robert:

Is not the account on the enclosed blanks the same as that which I concluded I could not afford to sanction on account of the Museum? If so, please cancel & return to Mr. Cox. If I have agreed to pay, then turn over to Mr. Karr. I am very sorry that the reduction of appropriation makes it necessary to be ultra-economical in all these matters, but I am trying to avoid the danger of being obliged to scale the salaries of

curators, & this can be accomplished
only by avoiding all possible
payments.

Yours truly
WV Band

R. Ridgway, Esq.

Smithsonian Institution

SPENCER F. BAIRD,
SECRETARY.Wood Holl
Washington D.C. Aug. 18 1885.

Dear Robert:

I am very much
obliged to you for the extremely
beautiful set of views illus-
trating the forest botany of
Illinois. Have you sent a
set to Prof. Sargent?

Yours truly
W. B. BairdR. Ridgway, Esq.,
Smithsonian.

Smithsonian Institution

SPENCER F. BAIRD,
SECRETARY.

Woodward Hall
Washington D.C. Aug. 17 1885.

Dear Robert:

I think we had better
not accept any ^{more} engagements for
purchase of specimens, although
I should be glad to have those
of Mr. Nutting. Can we not
get them by exchange in
some way?

Yours truly
SFB

Robert R. S. Perry, {
Smithsonian

Smithsonian Institution

Woods Hole, Mass.,

Washington D.C. Aug. 15, 1885.

SPENCER F. BAIRD,
SECRETARY.

Dear Robert;

I am afraid that we must stop, for the present at least, making purchases of specimens of any kind until we see just how we are going to come out in the matter of appropriations. Each Division of the Museum presents the same request that you do, especially the Ethnological; and I have concluded that it would be better to stop all buying

just now. Of course,
what you can get in
exchange we shall be
glad to add to the
Museum.

I return herewith
Mr Worther's letter and
also your reply to him
Yours truly,
W W Bank

R. Ridgway, Esq;
Smithsonian Institution,
Washington, D.C.

Smithsonian Institution
Woods Hole, Mass.

SPENCER F. BAIRD,
SECRETARY.

~~Washington D.C.~~ Aug. 10, 1885.

Dear Robert:

I have received your letter of the 7th, with the enclosed memorandum. The Jewett work will cost you about 60 cents per square inch, or at least this used to be the price.

For this information address Matthews and Northrup, Buffalo, N. Y.

I am glad you were able to get a good series of Swainson's work.

- her. These, with the eggs, ought to set us up pretty well with regard to that species.

I suspect if your drawings are made very sharp and distinct, that you can have the work done by the photo-engraving process so as to look almost, if not quite, as well as the Jenrett, and at a greatly reduced expense, — probably not to exceed 18 or 20 cents per square inch.

R. Ridgway, Esq.,
Smithsonian Institution

} Yours truly,
W. Baird

Smithsonian Institution

Woods Hole, Mass.,

~~Washington D.C.~~ Aug. 6, 1885.

SPENCER F. BAIRD,
SECRETARY.

Dear Robert:

Have you provided
yourself with the proper
kind of ink, so that the
letters which you write
and send me for approval
^{and signature}
can be copied? Quite a lot
that you sent me on
your return from the
West could not be trans-
ferred to the letter books.

Yours truly,
SFB

R. Ridgway, Esq;
Smithsonian Instit.

Smithsonian Institution
Woods Hole, Mass.,

SPENCER F. BAIRD,
SECRETARY.

~~Washington D.C.~~ July 21, 1885.

Dear Robert:

I have your letter in reference to the proposition of Messrs. Little & Brown, and would say in reply that I will defer action on the subject until after I get back. It is difficult for me to say now whether it would be better to accept Mr. Bartlett's proposition or to hold on for a while. I can hardly imagine that the book will not at some time or other be in more

8
demand than it is at
present.

I am glad to
hear you speak of the
probability of making
progress with the Outlines
of American Ornithology.
I believe it will be a
very desirable work. By
referring to the "History
of North American Birds"
for particulars, it can be
made to help very much
in the circulation of that
work.

Yours truly,
Robert Ridgway, Esq., } W. W. Baird
Smithsonian Institution }

Smithsonian Institution
Woodward Hall Mass.

SPENCER F. BAIRD,
SECRETARY.

Washington, D. C. July 9 1885

Dear Robert:

In reply to your inquiry
as to purchase of specimens, what-
ever we do in this way must
be extremely limited, but if
there is anything new to the
collection, or urgently required
by it, I will endeavor to arrange
matters accordingly.

Yours truly,
S. F. Baird

Robert Ridgway, {

Alfred to
p. 13/85

SPENCER F. BAIRD,
SECRETARY.

Smithsonian Institution
Woods Hole Mass.
Washington, D. C. June 27, 1885.

Dear Robert:

As soon as convenient after your return, please send to Capt. Bendire a detailed list of the birds and eggs in his last consignment. I have the memorandum, but would rather you would make a formal report to the Captain on the subject.

Yours truly,

Robert Ridgway, Esq.,
Smithsonian Institution,
Washington. } A. W. Baird

Smithsonian Institution

Woods Holl, Mass.,

SPENCER F. BAIRD,
SECRETARY.

~~Washington, D.C.~~ June 25, 1885.

Dear Robert;

Mr. Stevenson presented to us quite a number of very nice skins of Colorado birds, grouse, ptarmigan, &c, prepared by one of his assistants. He wishes to have in exchange an owl and some specimens of refuse feathers, which are referred to in the enclosed letter.

Robert Ridgway, Esq.,
Smithsonian Institution,
Washington.

} Yours truly,
SFB

Smithsonian Institution

SPENCER F. BAIRD,
SECRETARY.

Washington D.C. June 14, 1885.

Dear Robert:

Your note accompanying a letter from the Light-House Keeper at Caperville is to hand. We cannot do anything in connection with positions under the Government; all we can do is to answer questions from the appointing power.

I hope you are getting along comfortably. I expect to leave on Tuesday next for Woods Hole. — Yours truly,
Robert Ridgway, Esq., }
Olney, Ill. } SFB

U.S. Commission of Fish and Fisheries.

SPENCER F. BAIRD,
Commissioner.

W

Washington, D.C.

May 25

1885

Dear Robert:

I have your letter of the 23rd, inclosing
Mr. Hargitt's postal. I return it to you so that you can write
to him as you think best. Prepare the letter, and send it on
here to be copied.

Yours truly,

SF Baird

Robert Ridgway, Esq.,

Olney, Illinois.

Smithsonian Institution

SPENCER F. BAIRD,
SECRETARY.

Washington D.C. May 19, 1885.

Dear Robert;

I enclose a letter
from Mr. Hargitt, and
shall be glad to have
you consider and report
upon it to me.

Yours truly,
W. Baird

Robert Ridgway, Esq;
Wheatland,
Indiana.

Smithsonian Institution

SPENCER F. BAIRD,
SECRETARY.

Washington D.C. May 16, 1885.

Dear Robert:

Mr Rogers of
No. 3411 Race Street, West
Philadelphia, writes that
Mr Mc-Drain's ^(now deceased) collections
of birds and relics are
in the market, for sale.
Mr ^{Mc-Drain's} administrator is
under the impression that
some English gentleman
made an offer for the
birds; can you tell me
anything about it?

Robert Ridgway, Esq., } Yours truly,
Wheatland, } W Baird
Indiana.)

Smithsonian Institution

SPENCER F. BAIRD,
SECRETARY.

Washington D.C. May 11, 1885.

Dear Robert;

In further reference to Mr. Cory's letter (herewith returned), I would say that two copies came to hand, one addressed to myself, for my own private library, and the other addressed to you. Whether he intended the latter to be turned over to the library of the Museum or not, I do not know. I have given my copy to the Museum, and I think you

might, without impropriety, keep the copy sent to you for yourself.

Yours truly,
W W Bant

Robert Ridgway, Esq;
Wheatland,
Indiana.

Smithsonian Institution

SPENCER F. BAIRD,
SECRETARY.

Washington D.C. May 4, 1885.

Dear Robert:

I enclose a
letter from the Cham-
berlin Cartridge Company.
Please give them the
necessary instructions.

Yours truly,
W Baird

Robert Ridgway, Esq;
Wheatland,
Indiana.

Smithsonian Institution

SPENCER F. BAIRD,
SECRETARY.

Washington, D. C., Dec 16, 1885.

Dear,

Mr Ridgway:

Did you write
to Mr Maynard in regard
to drills and blow-pipes?

Smithsonian Institution

SPENCER F. BAIRD,
SECRETARY.

Washington, D.C. March 13, 1885.

Mem.

Mr. Ridgway: Please write
to Maynard and ask
his prices, by the quantity,
for different sizes of
egg drills and blow pipes.
I may conclude to take
a number,

Alto to
Mch 17

Smithsonian Institution

SPENCER F. BAIRD,
SECRETARY.

Washington, D. C. Jan'y 3, 1885.

Dear Robert:

Zeledon's seventh package has turned up. It was not taken off the steamer, but went back to Aspinwall, and has since been returned.

Yours truly,
SFB

Robert Ridgway, Esq.,
% Prof. Pickmore,
American Museum of Natural History
New York.

Smithsonian Institution

SPENCER F. BAIRD,
SECRETARY.

Washington, D.C., Dec. 31, 1884,

Dear Robert:

We have only received six (6) packages of Zeledon's collections, although the original bill of lading issued at Puerta Arenas calls for seven. I have written to Mr. Hillier asking if he can explain the discrepancy. Perhaps, however, José can do this more conveniently. It might be well, perhaps, for him to go to the steamer and see if he can find the package.

We have just re-
-ceived a small but ad-
-mirably prepared collection
of birds from Johnson at
Tushagak, and some very
nice ones from Dr Jones,
including, I think, a few
from the Galapagos islands.
These I have turned over
to Dr Stejneger.

Yours truly,
W W Baird

Robert Ridgway, Esq,
% Prof. Dickmore,
American Museum of
Natural History,
New York.

U.S. Commission of Fish and Fisheries.

SPENCER F. BAIRD,
Commissioner.

Vendome Boston
~~Washington, D.C.~~ Oct. 21, 1884

Dear Robert:

Please read over
this letter from Van Fleet
& let me know when I come
back what the apparatus
will cost.

Yours truly
S. F. Baird

R. Ridgway

Smithsonian Institution

Woods Hole, Mass.

SPENCER F. BAIRD,
SECRETARY.

~~Washington, D. C.~~ Oct. 15, 1884.

Dear Robert;

As I have already
said, you and Mr. Goode
must arrange in regard
to the whole question of
group and individual
labels of the birds. I have
written to Prof. Bickmore
respecting his omission of
the name of the Smithso-
nian and the individual
characters of the Smithsonian
birds in their collection.

R. Ridgway, Esq.,

Smithsonian Instn.,

Washington.

} Yours truly,
SFB

Smithsonian Institution
 Woodstock, Mass.

SPENCER F. BAIRD,
 SECRETARY.

~~Washington, D.C.~~ Oct. 13, 1884.

Dear Robert:

I would prefer not to have published the additional paragraph for Science as mentioned in your letter of October 9th. This is not the place to criticise our own collections. The paragraph will come in very well in your own formal reports; but it has no special bearing upon the general question, and would not I think be acceptable to Mr. Sudder, to whom I have already named the article.

R. Ridgway, Esq.,
 Smithsonian Institution,
 Washington. }

Yours truly,
 S. F. Baird

Smithsonian Institution

Wood's Holl, Mass.

~~Washington, D.C.~~ Oct. 13, 1884.

SPENCER F. BAIRD,
SECRETARY.

Dear Robert:

I am afraid we are getting into too many complications in the way of explorations, but you can write to Van Fleet & ask him to send every thing to us with the privilege of selecting what we want at reasonable prices. We will charge ourselves with the transportation of the collections, & guarantee, as far as we may, immunity from Custom House disturbance. This would be a very great saving to us, & get help him. These

collections can come either by
express or by the Pacific side.
If the latter, by Pacific Mail
S.S. Co. Everything should be
addressed Smithsonian Institution,
care Collector of Customs, New York.
Do the best you can in the matter.

Yours truly,
Spencer Baird

Robt. Ridgway, Esq.

Smithsonian Institution

Woods Hole, Mass.

SPENCER F. BAIRD,
SECRETARY.

~~Washington, D. C.~~ Oct. 10, 1884.

Dear Robert:

I do not quite understand the plan of labels which you forward. Are they to represent groups of specimens of one species, or will there be one for each specimen. If the latter, of course there should be some provision for number, date, sex, and locality. I presume, however, that they are intended for groups.

I would prefer that the selection of size of

label and of type be left
with Dr. Goode, ^{and yourself} I do not see
very well how the smaller
kind could be read at any
distance from the cases.

I note what you
say about the labelling of
the Smithsonian collection
in the American Museum of
Natural History. Do I under-
stand that these do not con-
tain any acknowledgment
of the Smithsonian donation,
or any of their special marks
as Smithsonian specimens?

I wait your reply before writing
to Bickmore.

R. Ridgway, Esq.,
Smithsonian Instit.,
Washington.

Yours truly,
W. W. Baird

Smithsonian Institution
Woods Hole, Mass.

SPENCER F. BAIRD,
SECRETARY.

~~Washington, D.C.~~ Oct. 10, 1884.

Dear Robert;

I have received
your very nice notice
about the Bird collection,
and will send it to
Scudder for his Journal.

Yours truly,
SFB

Robert Ridgway, Esq.,
Smithsonian Instn,
Washington, D.C.

Smithsonian Institution

Woods Hole, Mass.

SPENCER F. BAIRD,
SECRETARY.

~~Washington, D.C.~~ Oct. 7, 1884

Dear Robert:

Yours of the 4th is
to hand

As for the Birds
which you found at
Wallace and Santer's, you
had better hold them for the
present before deciding about
purchase. We are running
pretty short of funds, and we
may not be able to take them.

Perhaps you had better defer
action in the matter until my
return.

R. Ridgway, Esq.,
Smithsonian Instn.,
Washington.

Yours truly,
W. Baird

Smithsonian Institution

SPENCER F. BAIRD,
SECRETARY.

Washington, D.C., Sept. 20, 1884.

Dear Robert:

Mr. Lawrence sent me two birds, both of his collecting which I shall be glad to have you number 100,000 and 100,001. If the latter number has been anticipated you can easily transfer the specimens to a succeeding number.

It might be a pleasant thing to make a little paragraph for publication in the Proceedings of the National Museum, referring to the fact that the

Back pay
Captured
Mead

enumeration of the bird record
was begun with the 3600 speci-
mens presented by me, and
that the last of that 100,000, and
the first one of the second ^{hundred} thou-
sand was also given by me.
Refer to Lawrence being the
oldest active American ornithol-
ogist. I suppose I may claim
to be the second, though I am
not sure. I do not know where
Dr. Wood, Dr. May, & others,
come.

Please have the specimens
entered in both accession book
& record book as a donation
from myself but collected by
Lawrence. I enclose Lawrence's letter & the labels.
Robert Ridgway, Esq. W. Baird
Yours truly

Smithsonian Institution

Woods Holl, Mass.

SPENCER F. BAIRD,
SECRETARY.

Washington, D.C. Sept. 23, 1884.

Dear Robert:

I enclose a letter to Dr. Sclater which please give him. I want very much to have him and Saunders come down to see us at our Woods Holl station, and wish you would urge him to do so.

Please do the honors of the Ornithological collections to him and Dr. Saunders.

Robert Ridgway, Esq. Yours truly,
Smithsonian Institution, } SFB
Washington }

Smithsonian Institution

Woods Hole Mass.

SPENCER F. BAIRD,
SECRETARY.

Washington, D.C. Sept. 22, 1884.

Dear Robert:

I am much obliged to you for your courtesy in holding the one hundred thousandth entry of Birds for me, and will be very glad to fill it. The range from No. 1 to 100,000 represents a considerable interval of time as well as of work.

Thanks for your wish that I may live to see 200,000 entries.

I will ask

Lawrence to give me
a bird to send to fill
the gap.

Sincerely Yours,
W. Baird

Robert Ridgway, Esq.;
Smithsonian Institution,
Washington.

*Original mailed
Aug. 7th inst. to Prof B.
at Woods Holl. Duplicate sent
Aug. 21. - RR.*

U. S. NATIONAL MUSEUM,

WASHINGTON, D. C.

Dear Sir:

The report from your department for the
month of July 1884, as called for in the
regulations, has not yet been received.

Will you please furnish this at your earliest
convenience.

Very respectfully,

Spencer F. Baird,

Director, U. S. National Museum.

*Mr Robert Ridgway
U. S. National
Museum*

Smithsonian Institution

Woods Hole, Mass.

SPENCER F. BAIRD,
SECRETARY.

~~Washington, D.C.~~ Aug. 15, 1883.

Dear Robert:

Send Dr. Seton a list
of the specimens collected by
him, and I will write
him in regard to the other
matters.

I return herewith
the letter.

Yours truly,
SFB

Robt. Ridgway, Esq.,
Smithⁿ Instⁿ

Smithsonian Institution

Woods Hole, Mass.

SPENCER F. BAIRD,
SECRETARY.

~~Washington, D. C.~~ Aug. 14, 1883.

Dear Robert:

I return herewith Mr. Salvin's letter. You can send him the putting specimens for investigation as proposed. Doubtless we can supply hereafter the birds mentioned by you, as they are not particularly rare.

I have just received your requisition for office furniture, but will hold it with others of a similar character until after my return. I have told Mr.

True that I do not wish
to buy anything until
after Mr. Goode and I
meet in Washington.

Yours truly,
W Bann

Robt. Ridgway, Esq.
Smith - Instn

Smithsonian Institution

Woods Holl, Mass.

SPENCER F. BAIRD,
SECRETARY.

~~Washington, D.C.~~ Aug. 2, 1883.

Dear Robert:

Yours in regard to
Zebedon's birds is to hand.
I think it will be well
to save half a dozen of the
best specimens ^{of Zebedon} for our own
purposes.

Yours truly,
W Baird

Robt. Ridgway, Esq.
Smithⁿ Instⁿ.

Smithsonian Institution

Woods Hole, Mass.

SPENCER F. BAIRD,
SECRETARY,

Washington, D.C., Aug. 1, 1883.

Dear Robert:

I received your
interesting letter of July 30th.

Be cautious about
describing Oriental species
as new; though when
you are sure you are
right, in the words of
the immortal Crockett,
"then go ahead".

I have read
and forwarded your letter
to Mr. Sclater.

The birds came
safely to hand, and

interested me very
much. I will take good
care of them, and either
send or bring them back
to you.

Yours truly,
W. W. Baird

Robt Ridgway, Esq;
Smithⁿ Instⁿ,
Washington.

Smithsonian Institution

SPENCER F. BAIRD,
SECRETARY.

Wood's Hall
Washington, D.C., Aug 1 1883.

Dear Robert:

I have yours of 30th enclosing letter to you which I have forwarded. We are very much embarrassed for funds at present, & I fear we must absolutely stop making any purchase of specimens. Any species of West Indian birds new to us I will buy at fair prices, but I think we cannot afford to take any thing merely on account of locality. I can tell about this better if you will send me a list.

Robert Ridgway,
Washg

Truly
S F Baird

Smithsonian Institution

SPENCER F. BAIRD,
SECRETARY.

Woods Hole
~~Washington, D.C.~~ July 30 1885.

Dear Robert:

I have written to Gilbert offering to the Indiana university a selection of duplicate mounted birds & some skins. I have not yet heard from him.

I am glad to know we have done so well in connection with Nutting's work. You had better publish a catalogue of the collections of the two seasons as a contribution to ornithological geography. Let me know when you hear from Maynard as to the prices & species. I shall probably be able to announce in a postscript

The arrival of the birds sent by you
July 27th.

Yours truly,

Sherman Burt

Robt. Ridgway, Esq.
Washington

Smithsonian Institution

Woods Hole, Mass.

Washington, D. C. July 28, 1883.

SPENCER F. BAIRD,
SECRETARY.

Dear Robert:

I depend upon
your keeping Mr. Townsend
advised of the receipt of his
specimens. Write him on
arrival of each lot, making
any suggestions that occur
to you.

Yours truly,

W. Baird

Robt. Ridgway, Esq.
Smithsonian Institution.

Smithsonian Institution

Woods Hole, Mass.

SPENCER F. BAIRD,
SECRETARY.

~~Washington, D. C.~~ July 27, 1883.

Dear Robert:

We are under a great many obligations to Judge Bell for important service rendered gratuitously, and it is but a very slight return for us to mount the specimens sent by him. Please, therefore, do so accordingly. It will simply represent a form of exchange.

Yours truly,

Robert Ridgway, Esq.,
Smithⁿ Instⁿ
Washⁿ }

SF Baird

Smithsonian Institution

SPENCER F. BAIRD,
SECRETARY.

Nods Hall Mass
Washington, D. C. July 25 1883.

Dear Robert:

Your suggestion in regard to giving the Bloomington University the duplicate mounted birds is a good one. I have written to Gilbert to learn if he would like them. I told them the sooner he takes them the better.

I am glad to know we have so good a proportion of the Japanese birds & that what we have represents the most important to us. I would be very glad indeed if you will send us the specimens of the Japanese Ampelis for exhibition to our people

here.

The pheasant tails I suppose
might be used for purposes of
decoration. You had better turn them
over to Mr. Fure or keep them till
I get back & bring them to me.

Yours very truly

W W Baird

R. Ridgway Esq.
Wash.

Smithsonian Institution

Woods Hole, Mass.

SPENCER F. BAIRD,
SECRETARY.

~~Washington, D.C.~~ July 21, 1883.

Dear Robert:

I will send your letter to Mr. Agassiz, in reference to the manuscript of the Water Birds. I know nothing about his present plans.

Yours truly,
S F Baird

Robt Ridgway, Esq,
Smithsonian Instn,
Washington.

Smithsonian Institution
Wood's Hall, Mass

SPENCER F. BAIRD,
SECRETARY.

Washington, D.C., July 12 1883.

Dear Robert:

I am very much interested in what you say of the new species discovered by Hutton. Should we feel able to make further explorations in Central America I will be very glad to bear in mind your suggestion. You will of course see that the types of all these new species are kept in the Museum.

R. Ridgway, Esq.
Wash.

Courtesy
W. Baird

Smithsonian Institution

Woods Hole, Mass.

SPENCER F. BAIRD,
SECRETARY.

Washington, D.C. July 10, 1883.

Dear Robert:

I will be very glad indeed to do all I can to make a proper presentation of Zeledon's new Carpodectes. Let him send it on, and we will then decide as to whether we can afford to publish it in the Proceedings, or send it to the Ibis to be figured.

I cannot now make any definite response to his desire to come on to Washington. This must wait until Mr. Goode's return, and

we can see just where we stand.
I think that Mr Z. would be
very useful to us, and I should
like to have him if other
matters permitted.

I return herewith Mr.
Z's letter.

I am advised of the
arrival in Washington of the five
(5) boxes from Jory, and have
requested Mr Brown not to have
these disturbed excepting so far
as the birds are concerned, which
I want you to unpack and report
upon at your earliest convenience.

R. Ridgway, Esq.,
Smithsonian Instn.,
Washington.)

Yours truly,

W. B. Baird

Smithsonian Institution

Wood's Holl, Mass.

SPENCER F. BAIRD,
SECRETARY.

Washington, D.C. July 9, 1883.

Dear Mr Ridgway:

In reply to your letter of the 5th, I would suggest that you ask Dr Taylor, our chemist, to make some examination of Maynard's dermal preservative, with a view of ascertaining what are the special elements of its composition. To be effectual it should contain some metallic or mineral poison, which he will probably be able to identify.

You can, if you think proper, make out a requisition for a moderate quantity, to be kept on hand and shipped to various parties as an experiment. The question is, which would suffer the most, — skins prepared by this method, or by arsenic and thoroughly dried and exposed without the action of *Demastes*^{arils} *Anthracini*.

Yours truly,

W. V. Bass

Robert Ridgway, Esq.

Smithⁿ Instrⁿ,

Washington.

Smithsonian Institution

SPENCER F. BAIRD,
SECRETARY.

Washington, D. C. May 26, 1883.

Dear Robert:

I enclose a letter
from Mr Nelson which I
shall be glad to have you
answer as soon as possible.

Yours truly,
S. F. Baird

Robt. Ridgway, Esq.,
Olney,
Ill.

Smithsonian Institution

SPENCER F. BAIRD,
SECRETARY.

Washington, D.C. May 23, 1883.

Dear Robert:

I forgot to say
that the two tanks of alcohol
were sent you on the 8th May,
addressed to Olney, Illinois.
Yours truly,
W Baird

Robert Ridgway, Esq;
Olney, Ill.

Smithsonian Institution

SPENCER F. BAIRD,
SECRETARY.

Washington, D.C. May 17, 1883.

Dear Robert:

I suppose you want all boxes of birds and things that come turned over to your brother and Mr. Shoemaker. Have they from you the necessary instructions as to administering upon them?

Your Wheatland invoice came a few days ago in apparent good condition.

I have asked Dr. Bean to send you some additional alcohol for further work.

Robt. Ridgway, }
Olney, Ill. } Yours truly,
W. B. Baird

Smithsonian Institution

SPENCER F. BAIRD,
SECRETARY.

Washington, D. C. May 14, 1883.

Dear Robert:

I return the letter
accompanying yours of May 11th.
I have written very cordially
to Mr. Belding, and trust that
we can keep him in good
relations with us.

I will ask Dr. Bean
to see to the sending of the
alcohol.

Yours truly,
S. F. Baird

Robert Ridgway, Esq;
Olney,
Ill.

Smithsonian Institution

SPENCER F. BAIRD,
SECRETARY.

Washington, D.C. May 11, 1883.

Dear Robert;

I return herewith Hewton's letter to you. I will see that he gets the desired books.

Helson has returned, and proposes to spend a month in making up his report. He is very sorry not to find you here.

If you see Mr. Clark try to find out about his health and his family, and give him our love.

Robt. Ridgway, Esq., }
Wheatland, }
Ind. }

Yours truly,

W. B. Baird

Smithsonian Institution

SPENCER F. BAIRD,
SECRETARY.

Washington, D.C. May 2, 1883.

Dear Robert;

I enclose herewith
Gannett's price list of birds
and eggs, which you might
look over and see if there
is anything wanted by us.

Yours truly,
SFB

Robert Ridgway, Esq.
Wheatland,
Knox Co.,
Indiana.

Smithsonian Institution

SPENCER F. BAIRD,
SECRETARY,

Washington, D. C., April 25, 1883.

Dear Robert:

Your letter of April 22^d is to hand. I am glad to know that you are getting so many nice things. I will ask Dr. Bean to send you a tank. We are a little short of these vessels now, as well as of alcohol; but this will be attended to at an early date.

Better send your boxes by express, as they will be less likely to be damaged.

Robt. Ridgway, Esq.,
Wheatland,
Ind.

Yours truly,

SF Baird

Smithsonian Institution

SPENCER F. BAIRD,
SECRETARY.

Washington, D. C., April 24, 1883.

Dear Robert:

Can you answer
the questions in the enclosed
letter from Frank P. Day?

Yours truly,
S. F. Baird

Robert Ridgway, Esq.,
Wheatland,
Knox Co.,
Indiana.

Smithsonian Institution

SPENCER F. BAIRD,
SECRETARY.Washington, D.C. Apr 13 1883

Dear Sir:

In accordance with your request
 I hereby grant you the annual
 month's leave of absence from
 April 15 to May 15th. At
 the expiration of this period you
 will remain one month longer
 in the field under orders to
 make collections of Birds, and
 their Eggs, and other objects of
 natural history for the National
 Museum. You will return to Wash-
 ington on or by June 15th.
 Truly yours,
 R. S. Ridgway, *Dr* Spencer F. Baird
 Inspected Ins't. D.C. Sec'y

Smithsonian Institution,

February 22, 1883.

Sir:

The collections to be sent by the U. S. Fish Commission to the Great International Fishery Exhibition in London, which opens on the first of May, will be packed for shipment after Tuesday of next week.

You are invited to be present at a preliminary exhibition in the National Museum, on Monday evening, February 26, from eight to ten o'clock, when a selection of the specimens now in Washington, and in suitable condition, will be shown.

The enclosed ticket will admit the bearer with friends

The entrance to the Smithsonian park from Twelfth Street will be lighted.

Spencer F. Baird,

SECRETARY OF THE SMITHSONIAN INSTITUTION
AND
COMMISSIONER OF FISHERIES.

Smithsonian Institution

SPENCER F. BAIRD,
SECRETARY.Hood's Hall, Mass.
Washington D.C. July 18th 1887.

Dear Robert:

I got the prospectus of the bird book, which reads very nicely. I will send you back the numbers of the periodicals, as they probably belong to the ^{in your office} files. I should be very much disappointed if there is not a large demand for the book as soon as it sees light.

Vincent Edwards was very enterprising this spring in collecting tern's eggs, some well identified ones, and well blown.

These he will send on before long. To my great surprise, ^{the birds themselves} ~~they~~ appeared here last Sunday in enormous numbers. I never saw so many before: the

entire surface of the water, as far as
the eye could see, ^{covered with birds} was busily engaged
in picking up young herring. Mr. Edwards
thought that in general they are very
plenty this year. Herring gulls are
here in large numbers, hundreds of
these remaining; this is probably due to
the young herring that remain here.

Sincerely yours,

S. F. Baird

Per L. H. B.

Mr. Robert Ridgway,
Smithsonian Institution,
Washington,
D.C.

Smithsonian Institution

SPENCER F. BAIRD,
SECRETARY.

Washington D.C. Jan'y 22, 1887.

Dear Sir:

I am in receipt of your communication of January 14th, in which you present your plan of preparing a critical review of the species of birds inhabiting the region between the southern borders of the United States and the Isthmus of Panama, including the West Indies, covering the region which I have called Middle America.

As you have just finished a critical review of the birds of northern America, from the Arctic regions down to the southern borders of the United States, you are doubtless well prepared to commence this second and very important work.

It will be agreeable to the Smithsonian Institution to have you undertake this labor, with the understanding that it does not materially interfere with your duties

as Curator in the National Museum.

It is impossible at present to say whether it will be practicable to publish this work in octavo or quarto; as, in the first instance, it must necessarily be done at the expense of the Interior Department appropriations for the printing of the National Museum, and, in the second, at the expense of the Smithsonian Institution. The available balance of the Institution would determine this question. Every effort,

however, will be made to
publish it as you desire.
A moderate number of
new species might be
illustrated as proposed
by you.

Respectfully,

Spencer Baird

Robert Ridgway

Smithsonian Inst

Smithsonian Institution

Woods Hole,

Washington D.C. Oct. 15, 1886.

SPENCER F. BAIRD,
SECRETARY.

Dear Robert;

I endorsed and returned to Washington the memorandum in regard to specimens for Lieut. Benson, but doubt whether we have a copy of the 9th Volume of the Pacific Railroad Reports. I might, if desirable, buy a copy of Coues Keys, and send to him.

R. Ridgway, Esq., } Yours truly,
Smithsonian Institution } W. Baird

Smithsonian Institution
Woods Hole,

SPENCER F. BAIRD,
SECRETARY.

~~Washington D.C.~~ Oct. 9, 1886.

Dear Robert:

I am quite willing
to present Mr Zeledon
with the collection of
ammunition to which
you refer, amounting to,
say, \$25⁵⁰. The letter of
Mr Ross is herewith re-
turned.

Yours truly,
W Baird

R. Ridgway, Esq;
Smithsonian Institution,
Washington.

Smithsonian Institution
Woods Hole,

SPENCER F. BAIRD,
SECRETARY.

~~Washington D.C.~~ Oct. 8, 1886.

Dear Robert:

I fully appreciate your explanation in regard to the acquisition of the imperial woodpecker by Lieut. Benson, and hope you will encourage him to try and get good specimens. Have we got the bird at all, and what are the other birds of which he speaks? Men like him want to be encouraged, and you

should send him some
of our more recent publi-
cations in which he is
interested.

Yours truly,
W Ward

Robert Ridgway, Esq;
Smithsonian Institution,
Washington.

*PL
Lent to my
enter, and
auth and
see*

United States National Museum.

STO. over

MEMORANDUM.

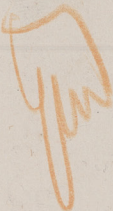
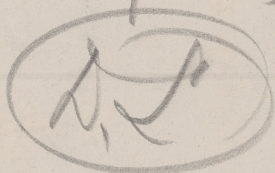
May 10, 1884.

To Professor Baird:

Can it be ascertained when you delivered Turner's plates to the Signal Office? I hold a receipt of the Receiving Clerk, Chief Signal Office, dated June 30, 1882, for "original water-color drawings, etc.", which, according to the best of my recollection refers to Nelson's plates, since I had no direct dealings with the Signal Office regarding Turner's. R. Ridgway

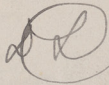
June 28 - 1882

Letter to
Paul Hazen
on this subject,

Let me see it
or send it

(S. F. B.)

I have copy made
+ send with this to
Prof B. 

CM

June 28 82

Dear General;

When Mr Turner left Washington, he placed in charge of Mr Ridgway his manuscript and drawings, an inventory of which is herewith enclosed.

Mr Ridgway will, I presume, be willing to undertake the correction of the proof when ready for revision.

I also enclose a bill, prepared by Mr Ridgway for coloring birds, in accordance with estimates submitted to, and approved by me.

Yours very truly,

Spencer F. Baird,

Gen. Wm. B. Hazen,

Chief Signal Officer,

Washington.

Spencer F. Baird

Smithsonian Institution

Woods Hole, Mass.

SPENCER F. BAIRD,
SECRETARY.

~~Washington, D.C.~~ Sept. 22, 1884.

Dear Robert:

I was offered lately sundry manuscripts of Dr. P. Moore, the Ornithologist, who sent us so many notes from Florida and elsewhere. You may remember him as the person who sent us our first Florida burrowing owl. These manuscripts have come, and are probably in the hands of Mr. True or Mr. Brown. Please obtain and

take charge of them, and
if there is anything that
is noteworthy ^{in them}, we might
find some way of pub-
lishing it.

Yours truly,
W W Barr

Robert Ridgway, Esq.,
Smithsonian Institution,
Washington.

Smithsonian Institution

Woods Hole, Mass.

SPENCER F. BAIRD,
SECRETARY.

Washington, D.C. Sept. 19, 1884.

Dear Robert:

I am inclined to prefer having the pamphlet of egg desiderata published as one of the appendices to the Proceedings of the National Museum for 1884. It is hardly formal enough for a Bulletin, as a year or two will destroy its historical accuracy. It might possibly go in as an appendix to the special Report of the Museum which

Congress authorized to be printed. If you prepare it as one of the appendices to the Proceedings, it will answer all purposes. Let me see it before it goes to press.

Yours truly,
W Bant

Robert Ridgway, Esq;
Smithsonian Institution,
Washington.

Smithsonian Institution

Woods Hole, Mass.

SPENCER F. BAIRD,
SECRETARY.

~~Washington, D. C.~~ Sept. 18, 1884.

Dear Robert:

I was much
interested in the birds
sent by Mr McLeod.
You ^{may} write him what-
ever may be necessary
to induce him to send
his specimens to us. We
are perfectly willing to
buy what he may get,
if he will not send them
under the terms suggested by
you.

Robert Ridgway, Esq.,
Smithsonian Institution,
Washington.

Yours truly,
SFB

Smithsonian Institution

Woods Hole, Mass.

SPENCER F. BAIRD,
SECRETARY.

~~Washington, D.C.~~ Sept. 16, 1884.

Dear Robert:

I have your interesting letter of September 12th. I give you free latitude to do as you please in regard to giving specimens to Seeborn and Saunders, taking full notes of all they have to tell you respecting our specimens. Of course the donation of a copy of Dresser's Birds to the Museum will be very acceptable.

There will be no trouble about your going to

the conventions at Locust
Grove and New York, only
report the fact to Mr. Goode.

Yours truly,
W. B. Baird

Robert Ridgway, Esq.,
Smithsonian Institution,
Washington, D.C.

Smithsonian Institution

Woods Hole, Mass.

SPENCER F. BAIRD,
SECRETARY.

~~Washington, D.C.~~ Sept. 6, 1884.

Dear Robert:

The questions in your letter of September 3^d are somewhat difficult to answer, but the general principle adopted in entering specimens in the record books should guide you in the present instance.

You know we have two columns, — one "Whence Received", and the other "By Whom Collected"; the former indicating the supervision under which

Yours truly,
W. B. Bass

R. Ridgway, Esq.,
Smithsonian Institution,
Washington.

the things were gathered.
Thus, taking Nelson's case,
what comes in now should
be marked as received
from the Smithsonian
Institution. The Alaskan
collections should be the
Smithsonian Institution and
the Signal Office; as should
be all collections of Turner,
McKay, Johnson, and others
of that kind.

You had better,
however, send me any
special cases about which
there is any uncertainty,
and I will tell you what
to do. The label which you send
is all right.

Smithsonian Institution

Wood's Holl, Mass.

SPENCER F. BAIRD,
SECRETARY.

~~Washington, D.C.~~ Sept. 3, 1884.

Dear Robert;

I have just received a printed slip from Mr. Maynard, which I will forward to you. See whether there is anything remaining of the Bahama collections that we ought to have.

Mr. Goode, I believe, is going to enlarge your allowance for the bird collection for the New Orleans exhibition.

I have no time

just now to read over
and answer all your
memoranda. Maynard
proposes the ^{publication of} work "The
"Naturalists in the Bahamas,"
and ~~says~~ ^{probably} it will supply
us with what we want
about that locality.

Yours truly,
J. V. Baird

Robert Ridgway Esq.
Smithsonian Institution,
Washington, D. C.

Smithsonian Institution

Woods Hole, Mass.,

SPENCER F. BAIRD,
SECRETARY.

~~Washington, D.C.~~ Aug. 26, 1884.

Dear Robert:

We will take
that *Buteo-cooperii* at
the price of \$10 mentioned.
We shall ^{also} be glad to
have any help we can
get from Dr. Nutting.

Yours truly,
W. Baird

Robert Ridgway, Esq.,
Smithsonian Institution,
Washington.

Smithsonian Institution

Wood's Holl, Mass.

SPENCER F. BAIRD,
SECRETARY.

Washington, D.C., Aug. 23, 1884.

Dear Robert:

I remember very well your sending me the report of operations in the Bird department for the month of July; and hereafter, when your report is claimed, and you are sure you have sent it right to me, I will insist on the thing being stirred up.

We will make satisfactory arrangements with Nelson to take all his things, so that we may as well

enter them at once. Keep
me advised of what of
interest comes to hand.

Mr. True is very
anxious to find Nelson's
address. Can you help him?

I have returned all my
letters from him to the Smith-
sonian.

Yours truly,
W. B. Barr

Robert Ridgway, Esq.,
Smithsonian Institution,
Washington, D.C.

Smithsonian Institution

Woods Hole, Mass.

SPENCER F. BAIRD,
SECRETARY.

~~Washington, D. C.~~ Aug. 15, 1884.

Dear Robert:

Do you think it is well to undertake at present the publication of a new list of North American Birds, in view of the fact that the A. O. U. has not finished its work? Will it not answer the same purpose if we print the numbers corresponding to your list, and refer parties to that?

We might perhaps print a list of the eggs

entirely wanting, or
get it in such a state
of preparation as not to
be a fair representative.

I have had nothing
whatever from Captain
Pendire on the subject.

Yours truly,
W. Davis

Robert Ridgway Esq.,
Smithsonian Institution,
Washington, D.C.

Smithsonian Institution

Woods Hole, Mass.

~~Washington, D. C.~~ Aug. 12, 1884.

SPENCER F. BAIRD,
SECRETARY.

Dear Robert:

Mr. Lawrence writes me that he hears that Maynard has returned from the Bahamas, having, among other rarities, thirty specimens of Kirtlands warblers.

Had you not better write to see if we can get some of them? also ask him to give us the refusal of any of his collections in the future.

Yours truly,
W. Baird

Robert Ridgway, Esq;
Smithsonian Institution,
Washington

U.S. Commission of Fish and Fisheries.

SPENCER F. BAIRD,
Commissioner.Nodds Hall, near
Washington, D.C. July 31 1884

Dear Robert:

I congratulate you
on the completion of the proof-
reading of History of N. A.
Birds

Yours truly
SFB

R. Ridgway, {
Wash.

I send herewith a letter from
Prof. Hutton. Did we get the birds
sent by him through Mr.
Dallas or not? A second letter
is addressed to you, which I

expect you have not seen.
Please answer Mr. Nation's
questions, & do all you
can for him; I do not
know what paper he refers
to.

Yours truly
J. F. B.

Smithsonian Institution

Wood's Hole, Mass

Washington D.C. July 15 1884

SPENCER F. BAIRD,
SECRETARY.

Dear Robert:

I am greatly interested in what you say about the collections of Nelson, & will take great pleasure in doing what I can to keep him busily occupied till the region is exhausted. I have written him on the subject of settling accounts for these specimens, claiming that the five or six months for which we paid him last year (without any return whatever) should give us at least some hold on his collections. It was understood that he would finish his ethno-

logical report by the first of
last October, & we continued pay-
ing^{ing} several months longer. Of
course there will be no difficulty
in settling the matter amicably,
even if we have to pay the \$200
or \$400. You can therefore go ahead
& pick out such specimens for mounting
as you think proper. Keep me
advised of receipts from time
to time.

Courteously,
W Baird

Robert Ridgway Esq.

Smithsonian Institution

Woods Hole, Mass.

SPENCER F. BAIRD,
SECRETARY.

~~Washington, D. C.~~ July 23, 1884.

Dear Robert;

All right about
keeping Nelson's things
separate. I think, how-
ever, I will make such
arrangements as will
give us entire control of
his gatherings.

You are at liberty
to incur any reasonable
expense in purchasing
the skins of birds to com-
plete the series. Can Webster
and Marshall finish all
you want mounted before

the New Orleans exhibition?
It does not matter much,
however, if we have the
specimens for our own
display.

In regard to
Johnson, I suppose we
ought to send him a
copy of Bones' Keys. Please
make a requisition for
it, and I will approve it.
You can then order and
send.

Yours truly,
W W Baird

Robert Ridgway, Esq.,
Smithsonian Institution,
Washington.

Requisition made
July 28, 1884

Smithsonian Institution

Woods Hole, Mass.

SPENCER F. BAIRD,
SECRETARY.

~~Washington, D. C.~~ July 23, 1884.

Dear Robert:

Mr. Goode has forwarded me your note in regard to the Audubon plates.

Perhaps you are aware that this chromo-lithographic reproduction of the original figures only embraced about 75 plates. The work had 15 parts of 5 plates each; having been published up to the time of the outbreak of the war, when it was

discontinued, as so
many of the subscribers
were southern men who
could not be reached.

How would it do
to touch up, by hand,
the coloration of the
defective pictures?

Yours truly,
W. B. Bass.

Robert Ridgway, Esq.

Smithsonian Institution,

Washington.

Smithsonian Institution

SPENCER F. BAIRD,
SECRETARY.

Washington, D.C. Feb'y 29, 1884.

Dear Robert:

I enclose a note from Dr. Bean in reply to your memorandum of February 26th.

I think that, as we have waited so long for the printing, it will be as well to continue ^{doing} it.

I am in hopes now that any day we shall be advised of the renewal of work at the Government Printing Office.

I would

rather not have the descrip-
-tion of any museum species
outside of the Proceedings.

Yours truly,
W Baird

Robert Ridgway, Esq.,
Smithsonian Institution

l. this S 33269

RR

UNITED STATES NATIONAL MUSEUM

UNDER DIRECTION OF

THE SMITHSONIAN INSTITUTION

WASHINGTON

Feb. 26, 1884.

Prof. Spencer D. Baird,
Director U. S. National Museum,
Sir;

I enclose a request from Mr. Ridgway for the return of some manuscripts prepared by him for publication in Proc. Nat. Mus. 1883. Of the first paper we already have proofs making 12 printed pages, which form only a small part of the article. These pages were received Dec. 29, 1883, and were promptly returned to Capt. Brian; since that time nothing has come from the Govt. Printing Office. The last of the copy for the volume of 1883 was sent to the Printer Dec. 11. Cannot something be done to hasten the completion of the comparatively small portion remaining to be printed?

Very respectfully yours,
Purinton H. Bean.

Smithsonian Institution

Woods Hole, Mass.

SPENCER F. BAIRD,
SECRETARY.

~~Washington, D. C.~~ Oct. 12, 1883.

Dear Robert:

I return herewith,
signed, the requisition for
Wallace's birds.

I am glad to hear
what you say about the
comparative excellence of
Marshall's work.

Yours truly,
W. V. Baird

Robt. Ridgway, Esq. }
Smithson Instn }
}

Smithsonian Institution

Woods Hole, Mass.

Washington, D.C., Oct. 10, 1883.

SPENCER F. BAIRD,
SECRETARY.

Dear Robert:

Your letter of Oct. 5th is
to hand.

I read Dr Allen's
letter on the meeting with
much pleasure; and had,
also, an equally satisfactory
communication from Dr. Bones.

The difficulty about
having the traps made
which you asked for was
in the absolute necessity of
stopping all expenditures
on Furniture account.

Owing to a misunderstanding

of orders a large number of cases were made that should have been deferred, and the result was a using up of so large a proportion of the appropriation that absolute cessation of expenditure became necessary.

If you will send me a memorandum of what you want, I will consider it as favorably as possible. Under present and special instructions, no requisition can be put in hand without my endorsement upon it.

Smithsonian Institution

Woods Hole, Mass.

SPENCER F. BAIRD,
SECRETARY.

Washington, D.C., Oct. 10, 1883.

Dear Robert:

You mention incidentally that you met Capt. Bendire in New York. I shall be glad to know something of your experiences with him, and whether he was cordial or not.

You may remember that he has sent all his collections of eggs to the Smithsonian, for careful overhauling and preparation of the work on American eggs that I have asked him to prepare. This

involves the donation to us
of his entire collection, and
incidentally probably that
of Dr Merrill.

Of course I shall
want you to do all you can
to facilitate the acquisition
of this important material,
as well as for the prosecution
of Capt. B's work. I do not
yet know where he can be
placed to do his work. Would
it be expedient to have part of
the gallery of the first floor
of the Smithsonian assigned him
for the purpose? Yours truly,
Robt. Ridgway, Esq. } W W Baird
Smithsonian Instr. }

Smithsonian Institution

Woods Hole, Mass.

SPENCER F. BAIRD,
SECRETARY.

~~Washington, D.C.~~ Sept. 25, 1883.

Dear Robert;

I enclose a very interesting letter from Capt. Bendire, which please return to me when read. I have sent Mr. Brown a memorandum of the Captain's wishes.

Yours truly,
SFBaird

Robt Ridgway, Esq.,
Wapamock,
N.Y.

Smithsonian Institution

Woods Hall, Mass.

SPENCER F. BAIRD,
SECRETARY.

Washington, D.C., Sept. 17, 1883.

Dear Robert:

I have your letter of Sept. 4th with enclosures. Salvini's letter I return to you.

Am very glad to know that you are improving in health.

Among the announcements in Washington I find one of a box from Bodman in London. This I suppose you have been advised of. — Yrs truly,
Robt. Ridgway, }
Hapavock N.Y. } J. W. Baird

Smithsonian Institution

Woods Hole, Mass.

SPENCER F. BAIRD,
SECRETARY.

Washington, D.C. Sept. 18, 1883.

Dear Robert:

I enclose an interesting letter from Prof. Hutton. It opens a chance of getting some of his ornithological treasures. Please make out a memorandum of the publications that we ought to send him.

Return the letter to me with any remarks as to desiderata, &c.

Robt Ridgway, Esq.

% James Atkin,

Hempstead, N.Y.

Yours truly,

SF Baird

Smithsonian Institution

Woods Hole, Mass.

SPENCER F. BAIRD,
SECRETARY.

~~Washington, D.C.~~ Sept. 5, 1883.

Dear Robert:

I am much obliged for the chance of reading your letters to Henshaw and Townsend. The latter contains some memoranda not given in his letters to me.

Are we to get any of Henshaw's collections, or does he hold them all for himself?

Yours truly,
W. Baird.

Robt. Ridgway, Esq., }
Smithsonian Instn. }

Smithsonian Institution

Woods Holl, Mass.

SPENCER F. BAIRD,
SECRETARY.

Washington, D.C., Sept. 4, 1883.

Dear Robert;

Your letter of Aug. 31st
is to hand.

I shall hereafter
forward, direct from Woods
Holl, any letters you may
send me for transmission,
instead of returning them to
Mr Rhees to be copied in the
office books.

When I spoke
about sending the specimens
of mounted birds to the
Indiana University, I was
under the impression that

you had a great lot boxed up
and ready for shipment that
you wanted to get rid of
immediately.

Of course there is
no hurry whatever, so far as
we are concerned at least, in
sending, and it may be
well to require Prof. Gilbert,
or some handy assistant, to
come on and receive that
which you have picked out.

I will send to Mr
Rhees the letters in regard to the
death of Mr. McKay, and ask him to
show them to you.

Robt Ridgway, Esq. }
Smithson Instn, }
Washn }

Yours truly,

W W Baird

Smithsonian Institution

Woods Hole, Mass.

SPENCER F. BAIRD,
SECRETARY.

Washington, D.C. Aug. 31, 1883.

Dear Robert:

Your letter of the 29th was received when I was confined to my bed by indisposition. I, however, immediately telegraphed Mr. True to give you a month's sick leave with pay.

Sincerely Yours,

SF Baird

Robt Ridgway, Esq.
Smithⁿ Instⁿ.

R.R.

Ridgway Collection

Smithsonian Institution

Woods Hole, Mass.

SPENCER F. BAIRD,
SECRETARY.

Washington, D.C., Aug. 28, 1883.

Dear Robert:

Your letter of the 25th is to hand. I sincerely trust that you will never again get up such a vain imagining in regard to myself as indicated in your previous letters.

I think you are very much mistaken in supposing that any one has attempted to poison my mind in regard to yourself. With the exception of the meaningless paragraphs in Bendire's letters, all of which you have seen, I do not think

that anybody ever breathed
a suggestion of criticism or
complaint in regard to yourself.

You have heard, I
suppose, of the death, by drown-
ing, of Mr. McKay, in April
last, at Bristol Bay. This is a
great loss to us. I think that
it would be as well to take
his collections of birds and work
them into the general collection,
so as to have them available for
distribution. This, however, had
better be left until after I get
back.

Mr. Gilbert writes ac-
cepting very thankfully the pro-
position to turn over the series

R.R.

Smithsonian Institution

SPENCER F. BAIRD,
SECRETARY.

(3) Washington, D.C., _____ 188__

of duplicate mounted birds and some skins. I suggested that it would be better for him to visit Washington, and look after the matter himself. I am willing that he shall have as large a number of the duplicate mounted birds as you think it advisable to supply; but if they are now packed and ready for shipment, and you are sure that there is nothing in there that you wish to reclaim, you might let them go forward without

any further treatment.

In regard to the skins, give him a good series; but do not, for the sake of giving him any very large collection, turn over anything that is of special importance to us in the way of exchange, the profits of which must be for our consideration.

I send you a list of eggs offered by a party in Charlottesville, Va, some of which, if genuine and collected by himself, would be of service; especially such as the American creeper, the wood-peckers, the gold-crested wren, &c. I have

R.R.

Smithsonian Institution

SPENCER F. BAIRD,
SECRETARY,

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written him to let me know
under what circumstances
these were gathered. I doubt,
however, if they are of any value
to us.

Yours truly,
W. F. Baird

Robt. Ridgway, Esq;
Smithⁿ Instⁿ.

Smithsonian Institution

Woods Hole, Mass.

SPENCER F. BAIRD,
SECRETARY.

Washington, D.C. Aug. 27, 1883.

Dear Robert:

I fully appreciate your motives in making application for rooms in the lower floor of the building, and if at all possible will comply with your request.

I cannot, however, say how many of the new rooms will be required for the regular business of the office, and the departments of exchange.

As you are perhaps aware, I propose to ask for an appropriation to begin the new

building on the Twelfth Street side of the Smithsonian reservation, and in that event we shall be amply provided with everything that is necessary for the working force. Meantime, should it be impossible to spare any rooms in the east end of the Smithsonian, could we not make some arrangement to quarter you say on the east gallery? If necessary some of the cases can be taken out, so as to give larger continuous space. I presume that these cases are all empty, or will be, as the crania were to be

R.R.

Smithsonian Institution

SPENCER F. BAIRD,
SECRETARY.

③ Washington, D.C. _____ 188__

removed. It will not be at all out of the question to remove the old cases, and transfer the sets of drawers that are now in the west basement.

There is time, however, to consider all these matters after I get back; as I do not suppose that the new rooms would be ready much before December or January.

Yours truly,
W Baird

Robt-Lidgway, Esq., }
Smithn Instn }
}

Smithsonian Institution

Woods Hole, Mass.

Washington, D.C. Aug. 25, 1883.

SPENCER F. BAIRD,
SECRETARY.

Dr
Dear Robert:

Yours of the 23^d is to hand.

I cannot understand why the letter to Mr. Lawrence, which you sent me for perusal, failed to reach him. I have never suspended any of your letters, but have always sent them to Mr. Rhes, to be copied in the Smithsonian book, and then transmitted.

I will write to Mr. Rhes on the subject.

I return herewith
the two letters. / Sent in separate envelopes
Yours truly,
W. B. Burt

Robt Ridgway, Esq.,
Smith's Instn.

Smithsonian Institution

Woods Holl, Mass.

SPENCER F. BAIRD,
SECRETARY.

~~Washington, D. C.~~ Aug. 22, 1883.

Dear Robert:

I have your letter in regard to offering facilities to the A. O. U., respecting the nomenclature of North American birds.

I shall be very willing to have you make this suggestion at the forthcoming meeting, which I suppose you wish to attend.

Yours truly,

SF Baird

Robt. Ridgway, Esq., }
Smithsonian Institution }

U. S. National Museum.

SPECIAL ORDER.

August 2, 1884.

M^r. Frederick W. True has been appointed Acting Assistant Director of the National Museum, to serve until further notice. M^r. True will assume the duties of this office from the date of this order.

Spencer F. Baird.

Director.

THE WESTERN UNION TELEGRAPH COMPANY.

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THOS. T. ECKERT, General Manager.

NORVIN GREEN, President.

NUMBER	SENT BY	RECD BY	CHECK
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Received at *OLNEY, ILLS.* *6:55 pm* *May 31* *1885*

Dated, *Washington DC*

To *Robert Ridgway*

Can remain through June

Spencer F. Brand

UNITED STATES NATIONAL MUSEUM

UNDER DIRECTION OF
THE SMITHSONIAN INSTITUTION

WASHINGTON

June 2, 1886

Memorandum

Mr. Robert Ridgway,

Curator of Birds, U. S. National Museum.

Mr. James A. Murray, Curator of Kurrachee Museum, Kurrachee, India, has asked for birds from the National Museum, in part exchange for a large miscellaneous collection (acc. 12,523) sent about three

years ago. Will you send me a memorandum of what can be readily spared for him. I am aware that on December 1, 1881, we sent him a large collection ^{of birds}. This, however, was in exchange for collections previously received in 1878.

W. B. Baird

Secretary, Smithsonian Institution
and
Director, U. S. National Museum.

Smithsonian Institution

SPENCER F. BAIRD,
SECRETARY.

Washington D.C. Nov. 23, 1886.

Dear Mr Sharpe:

I will send you, with great pleasure, in the near future, a full set of the Proceedings of the National Museum, including the signatures for 1886, as far as published. They will be sent you by signatures hereafter, so that you will get the matter without delay.

We shall be glad to have the birds

to which you refer.
I will have
the package of books
addressed to you at the
British Museum.

Yours truly,
W W Baird

R. Boddler Sharpe, Esq;
Barn^{ow}gate Road,
Chiswick,
London.

Smithsonian Institution

SPENCER F. BAIRD,
SECRETARY.

Washington, D.C. Jan'y 14, 1884

Dear Sir:

I referred your letter of the 26th of December to Mr. Ridgeway who will proceed to select the specimens which you desire, and will indicate what must be returned, and what may be kept.

The specimens of Indian birds that you offer will be very acceptable.

There are several persons to whom you might apply for large collections of skins of American smalls etc. Among them are: N. Vickery of Lynn,^{Mass} Chas. H. Welch of Lynn, Raymond L. Stencumb of Salem, Mass.; John A. ~~Khurst~~^{Khurst} of Brooklyn, N.Y.; Chas. H. Worthen of Warsaw Ill. and Chas. C. ^{Dury} ~~Jung~~ of the ^{original sent} ~~Curier~~ Ethnological Society of

Cincinnati Ohio.

Respectfully yours
Spencer Baird

J. Boodler Sharp, Esq.,
British Museum,
London, Eng.