

SPENCER F. BAIRD,  
Commissioner.

United States Commission, Fish and Fisheries,

Washington, D. C. April 12, 1880.

Dear Mr. Ingersoll.

I have been somewhat remiss in not answering your letter of the first of April, & expressing my very great regret to hear of Mr. Ingersoll's break down. I sincerely trust your ministrations will succeed in curing him, & that in the course of a few months he may return to his census & other work, without any fear of consequences. My regret is, of course, primarily on his own account, & secondly for the interruption in obtaining the oyster statistics. I have, however arranged with Mr. Edmonds of Baltimore to undertake the collection of votes from the Chesapeake Bay, & may possibly place in the hands of some one else the Norfolk oyster department. In this way we can get the figures, which can ultimately be brought



together, & prepared for publication by Mr  
Engersoll, with the rest of his work if he is  
able to attend to it.

With kindest regards to Mr Engersoll,  
believe me,

Sincerely Yours.

Samuel B. Davis  
Commissioner.

Mrs Mary Engersoll,

Care Ernest Engersoll Esq,

Albany,

N. Y.

P.S. your second letter is just to hand.

This answers both



## SMITHSONIAN INSTITUTION.

(1 Enclosure.)

WASHINGTON, D. C., April 16, 1886.

Dear Mr. Sharpe.

In response to the request of your letter of March (April) first, I take pleasure in sending you my photograph. It is only lately that I have had any at my disposal.

I will forward to you with pleasure the desired publications of the National Museum.

We have not yet printed anything on the birds of Bermuda.

Yours Truly.

Spencer Baird

R. Bowdler Sharpe Esq.

Holmwood

Chiswick W.

London

England.



Smithsonian Institution  
Woodstock

SPENCER F. BAIRD,  
SECRETARY.

Washington, D.C. Oct. 7 1882.

Dear Robert:

How did you get along  
with Bendire at the American Ornithologists' meeting in New York? Was  
he cordial, & did he tell you any  
thing of his plans? What is his  
address?

Yours truly -  
S F Baird

Robt. Ridgway {  
Napamuck  
Water Co.  
NY



## SMITHSONIAN INSTITUTION,

WASHINGTON, D. C., December 1, 1881.

Dear Mr Sharpe,

Mr Ridgway has found & sent you specimens of <sup>two</sup> birds. They are not the best, but still, will probably answer your purposes.

We are always happy to do any thing to oblige our correspondents, engaged, like yourself, in original research.

Mr Ridgway is preparing a list of our special Old World desiderata & will send it to you, hoping that you may be able to fill some of the gaps from the duplicates under your charge. We have great stores of North American birds at the service of the Museum.

Yours Truly,

Spencer Baird

R. Bowdler Sharpe Esq.,  
British Museum,  
London,  
England.



## Smithsonian Institution

Washington Dec. 20 1883

Dear Robert:

The steamer *Enterprise* starts Friday or Saturday on a voyage, via Cape of Good Hope, to the East Indies, & will possibly traverse the region where the *Larus fuscatus* occurs. I wish you would make at once a sketch of this bird (after the figure lately published in the Proceedings of the Zoological Society or elsewhere) so I may send it to Captain Barker & call his attention to it. Give me a short description as to size & geographical distribution.



etc, If you can have it  
ready for me at one o'clock  
tomorrow I will be greatly  
obliged.

Yours truly  
N. Baird

R. Ridgway Esq.  
Smithsonian Inst  
Washington.



## U.S. Commission of Fish and Fisheries.

Woods Hole, Mass.,

SPENCER F. BAIRD,  
Commissioner.

Washington, D.C., Sept. 28, 1882.

Dear Robert:

I purchased two copies of Cones' Keys and endorsed the bill for payment. They are somewhere in the Smithsonian, probably in Miss Turner's room. I will write W. Rhees about them.

I have written to the Custom House, N. Y., in regard to the box from Germany.

Yours truly,  
Spencer Baird

Robert Ridgway, Esq.,  
Smithsonian Institution,  
Washington.



all letters to Sept. 25. / 82  
 RR

# Smithsonian Institution

Woodstock, Mass.  
 Washington Sept. 19, 1882.

Dear Robert:

return herewith the letters of Berlepsch. You can deliver the boxes for Berlepsch to Mr. Bochner for transmission whenever you think proper. They should be addressed, however, to Dr. Fliegel with Berlepsch's initials in the corner, and notification sent to him and to the Count of the direction. It is a pity that Berlepsch addressed the <sup>way</sup> boxes to you, as it will in all probability involve considerable difficulty in the Custom House. Everything intended for the Smithsonian should be addressed "Smithsonian Institution,



"

Care of Collector of Customs.

"

Write at once to him on the subject.

You will of course  
see that all the necessary invoices  
and letters of announcement to  
the Court are duly prepared.

Yours truly,

W. V. Brewster

Robert Ridgway, Esq.,

Smithsonian Institution,

Washington.



## Smithsonian Institution

Woods ~~Hill Mass.~~  
~~Washington~~ Sept. 15, 1882.

Dear Robert:

You may make any arrangement that you find most convenient in regard to young Shoemaker. He can have his month's leave, of course; but if he renders no service, either directly or by proxy, we cannot give him, at the outside, more than one month's leave with pay. If his brother, however, will answer his purposes, you can take him on as a substitute.

I am perfectly willing to have you take a good rest, as far as yourself is concerned.

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

Yours truly,  
 Spencer Baird



Ans Sept 14

SMITHSONIAN INSTITUTION,

WASHINGTON, D. C.,

Hood's Holly Mass  
Sept. 12 1884

Dear Robert:

I am entirely  
satisfied with the view you  
take of the exchanges offered  
by Story. The commercial ele-  
ment in these exchanges I do  
not like at all. I think you  
may as well let this matter  
drop where it is.

I hope you will be benefitted  
by your proposed trip. See  
what you can do in the way



of getting Indian relics.

2881 Since Mr. Lynde said  
any thing about putting  
Marshall, the one-armed  
assistant, to work on mount-  
ing birds for the London  
Exhibition? You might perhaps  
select a first instalment for  
the same.

I return the catalogue of  
Australian birds; they are all  
for the Museum.

R. Ridgway, Esq  
Washington,

Yours truly  
W. Baird



Smithsonian Institution

Woods Hole Mass.

Washington Aug. 28 1882.

Dear Robert:

It is all right about the loan to Brewster. Send him the birds whenever you wish; I only want to be sure as to the proper reciprocity. Bendire gave us no instructions in regard to the disposition of the birds; they were to be sent to Brewster who would be informed specifically as to their disposition.

I am sorry to hear of Shoemaker's indisposition. Give him all the chance he needs to get well.



Please apply to Mr.  
Goode for the leave of absence;  
I have no doubt he will give  
it to you with pleasure.

Sincerely Yours,

Spencer East

Robert Ridgway, Esq.,

Smithsonian Institution,

Washington.



## Smithsonian Institution

Woods Hole, Mass.

Washington Aug. 26, 1882.

Dear Robert:

Yours of the 23<sup>d</sup> is

wants to hand. You must not be  
impatient about the arrangement  
of the bird-cases, as it is  
necessary to find some suitable  
place for the mammals, and  
the cases for the same are not  
already completed. Mr. Goode  
and Mr. Trues will tell you about  
this.

The sea-weeds and  
corals are in Mr. Rathbun's depart-  
ment, and nothing can be done  
in regard to them until he  
returns in October.



Mr. Goode will arrange before long for the removal of the cases in the middle of the hall.

I am glad to know that you are making a synopsis of the water birds. When you have done this I would do the same for the land birds. If you think it is worth while we will then print the whole as a Smithsonian publication one that we can sell and not give away excepting on a very small scale. Is it worth while to introduce any illustrations? And can any generic illustrations be made still more specific and



# Smithsonian Institution

(3) Washington ..... 18.....

simple in character than those  
we have used for the history  
of the North American birds?

You better not send on  
any patterns or proofs to Agassiz  
until I come back. Of course  
the printing must be done at  
Cambridge under the contract  
already made with that gentleman.  
I do not think it worth while  
to get Paradise birds from Mr.  
Cory. They do not enter particu-  
larly into our plan of systematic  
exhibit, although they are very  
attractive. Still, if you wish it,  
I am willing that the offer shall



be made as proposed by you.

I would rather have an equivalent in new or rare South-American or West Indian forms.

I do not care to enter into relationships with persons who are too strictly commercial. I am perfectly willing to give what we can spare if others will do the same; but where a correspondent wants one specimen worth \$5- for two specimens worth  $2\frac{50}{100}$  each,

I feel like being off of any bargain.

If you think that Dr. Carey is a man that can be put on the most liberal basis, you may do practically what you please in dealing with him. I return your letter to him,



# Smithsonian Institution

(5) Washington.....18.....

to be mailed or not as you think best.

I will order the 2 copies of Bone's Key, as you propose. I have one copy here that belongs to myself. I would not like to ask the Doctor for the book.

Very truly Yours,  
Spencer Baird

Robert Ridgway, Esq.,  
Smith<sup>n</sup> Inst<sup>n</sup>,  
Washington.



# Smithsonian Institution

Washington Aug. 25 1882.

Dear Robert:

If you are entirely satisfied about lending Brewster the specimens of Ornithion, I have no objection, although I believe we have decided not to do anything of this kind in the future. If Brewster has put us under any obligations in the way of giving us desirable specimens, outside of anything in the way of an exchange, the case is still stronger.

It will be quite impossible to get the Zoology of Wheeler's Survey except by paying \$6- or \$8- for it. Of course if



of Mr. ? for California  
the connection is worth that to  
us I will endeavor to oblige him.  
I sent you Mrs.

Cannon's address a few days ago.

Yours truly,

W. B. Davis

Robert Ridgway, Esq.,

Smithsonian Institution,

Washington.

\* Hon. J. G. Cannon

Danville. Ill



Ridgway Collection

Aug 25/82  
Mem. to Mr. Good.

The bird referred to is a Motmot  
(Momotus lessonae) mounted and put  
on a walnut stand, at Professor  
Baird's request, for Mrs. Cannon.  
It is packed, ready for shipment,  
and Mr. S. C. Brown has both box  
and memorandum of packing.

Very truly yours

R. Ridgway.

Aug 25/82.



Mr. Goode  
Box ready to send  
today (Aug. 24). - RR.

Attended To.  
Aug 25/82 JCB

Smithsonian Institution

Woods Hill Mass.,  
Washington, Aug. 21, 1882.

Dear Robert:

Mrs. Cannon is the  
wife of Representative Joseph G.  
Cannon, of Danville, Illinois.  
In sending the specimen, ask  
Mr. Goode to write and say it  
is done by my request. Forward  
it prepaid.

Yours truly,  
Spencer Baird

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



Piedmont Aug. 23.

P

Smithsonian Institution

Woodliff, Mass.,

~~Washington~~ Aug. 18, 1882.

Dear Robert:

I return herewith  
[sent separately]  
the letters which you forwarded  
me on the 16<sup>th</sup> for perusal.

I have written to Belding  
thanking him for his contri-  
bution.

Please notify Mr.  
Brown of the announcement  
of the box from Mr. Wells.  
I have had no notification  
of it.

We must not use up  
all our Paradise trogons. Do  
you need some of the commoner  
short-tailed species?



Order a copy of Bone's Key wherever you can find it, and the Smithsonian will pay the bill.

Mr. Goode will furnish you any cases that you may find necessary for the proper installation of the bird collection. So far as the old cases will answer, they should be utilized. Do not hesitate to tear out the partition in the top room referred to by you. It has no particular business there at any rate. You better not send off any of the manuscript and illustrations for the water birds until I



## Smithsonian Institution

(3) Washington.....18.....

return and can go over them with you. Would it not be well to take advantage of having the manuscript at hand to prepare a synopsis of the species such as we made for the last board, and which although stereotyped was never printed. This might be different from the synopses prepared for the big book, in including the generalizations in regard to size, shape, number, and color of the eggs.

If you can find a cheap lot of showy birds, to



be mounted for presents, I  
will be glad to know it.

Yours truly,

W. W. Davis

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



+

Ridgway Collection

Smithsonian Institution  
Wood's Holl, Mass.,  
~~Washington~~ Aug. 15, 1882.

Dear Robert:

Please tell me  
what bird the enclosed wing  
belongs to, if not to the common  
mallard or duck.

Yours truly,

W. Baird

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



Smithsonian Institution  
Wood's Hole, Mass.,  
Washington, Aug. 14, 1882.

Dear Robert:

Mr. Lefebvre brings  
us an owl that he wishes put  
in order for sending to him.

Please see Mr. Leach about this,  
and have the specimen attended  
to at once.

Did you have that bird  
stuffed for Mrs. Cannon?

Very truly yours,

Spencer Baird

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



Smithsonian Institution

Wood's Hall, Mass.,

~~Washington~~ Aug. 12, 1882.

Dear Sir:

I am in receipt of your letters of the 7<sup>th</sup> and 10<sup>th</sup> August, in reference to report of operations for the preceding month, and also your wishes in regard to the cases in the lower hall of the Smithsonian Institution. I have written to Mr. Goode, asking him to take the necessary steps to place these cases at your disposal, by emptying them and having them put in first-rate order. There is no reason why you cannot have at once some cases made made for the



South American birds. If you will send a formal requisition on the regular blanks of the Museum (which Mr. Hobbs will furnish you), stating the exact character, and giving an estimate of cost as obtained from some of the carpenters, — Mr. Curry, for instance, — I will then instruct Mr. Goode to have them built for you. The only question now is where you will place them. Why would it not be well to have these made somewhat in the same style as the table cases in the new Museum, so as to be uniform? These could be possibly half the



# Smithsonian Institution

(3) Washington.....18.....

length. Probably it would be well for you to consult with Mr. Goode on this subject. I am very desirous that the collection should be in the best possible order. Perhaps you better leave the egg collection for Capt. Bendire to overhaul and put in order.

Yours truly,

Spencer Baird

Robert Ridgway, Esq.,  
Smithsonian Institution,  
Washington.



Smithsonian Institution

Woods Hole, Mass.,

Washington, Aug. 10, 1882.

Dear Robert:

By your advice I have written Dr. Sherfeldt accepting the donation of the specimens under the conditions indicated, and have sent the letter and list to Dr. Goode for his action and ratification.

Very truly yours,  
Spencer Baird

Robert Ridgway, Esq.,  
Smithsonian Institution,  
Washington.



## Smithsonian Institution

Washington Aug. 9, 1882.

Dear Robert:

An application has been made to me in behalf of Mrs. Cannon, wife of Hon. J. G. Cannon, Congressman from Illinois, for a bird; and as a gentleman to whom we are under many obligations I wish to send one to her. I do not know what you can spare; but if you can have a small common trogon, or other similar bird mounted, I shall be glad to have you do so. Report to me at once what the bird is, and when



it will be ready.

Yours truly,

Spencer Baird

Robert Ridgway, Esq.,

Smithsonian Institution,  
Washington.



x x X

SMITHSONIAN INSTITUTION,

Wood's Hall, Mass

WASHINGTON, D.C., Aug 1 1884.

Dear Robert:

I enclose a letter to Mr. Spock which please present to him & explain the circumstances. I think it will cover the ground. I am under the impression there is already a provision of a similar character in the Regulations.

I do not think there will be any objection to sending Berlepsch a first instalment of his specimens, especially if some are already on hand.

Robt. Ridgway &  
Hatch

Yours truly,  
S. Henshaw

I return the letters of Mr. Spock & Berlepsch.



(X)  
U.S. Commission of Fish and Fisheries.

SPENCER F. BAIRD,  
Commissioner.

8  
Woods Hole, Mass  
~~Washington, D.C.~~ July 31 1882

Dear Robert:

I return herewith  
Mr. Agassiz's letter. Of course  
they can do as they please in  
regard to the style of printing.  
Yours truly,  
SFB

Robt Ridgway, Esq.  
Nashua



SPENCER F. BAIRD,  
Commissioner.

United States Commission, Fish and Fisheries,

Woods Hole, Mass.

Washington, D. C., Sept. 21., 1881.

Dear Robert:

Your letter of the 14<sup>th</sup> is to hand.

I think your plan of establishing yourself is a very good one. It certainly has the merit of committing payments of rent into instalments on the purchase money, and I presume that you will have the privilege of paying off faster, if you wish. The problem of raising the money for the first instalment is a little more difficult, but it ought not to be insuperable; if I had the money to spare at the present time, I would at once lend it to you without any hesitation. I think, however, you might arrange to give some money-lender a lien



upon a certain amount of your salary,  
that would secure the refund within  
a reasonable time. Mr. Rhees could, I  
think, put you in the way of making this  
arrangement. I will talk more with you  
about it when I return.

I mentioned to Dr. Bean that you  
had some idea of buying a house, and  
he was much inclined to follow your  
example and said he would write to  
you on the subject.

Sincerely Yours,

W. W. Washburn

Robert Ridgway Esq.

Smithsonian Institution.



SMITHSONIAN INSTITUTION,

Woods Hall Mass.  
WASHINGTON, D. C., Sept. 15. 1881.

Dear Robert:

I thought we had received the Blue-mountain petrel, but was not sure. I do not think I saw the specimen.

It will be well to send copies of <sup>letter</sup> all our deficiencies to various parties, and have them made up as large as possible. A box of birds is just announced from Mr. Wells.

Yours truly  
W. B. Baird

Robert Ridgway Esq.  
Smithsonian Institution.



Am Sept 14

SMITHSONIAN INSTITUTION,

Wood's Hall, Mass.

WASHINGTON, D. C., Sept. 12. 1881.

Dear Robert:

I have a letter from Lucien Turner, dated San Francisco, September 1., in which he expresses his intention of returning home immediately. I have written to him at Mount Carmel, but as probably he will not receive my letter there, it being likely that he has gone to Washington, I want you to say that I received his communication and was surprised and sorry to hear of his displacement. I knew that something of the kind had been talked of but was not aware that it was to be so immediate. I hope that he will be able to arrange matters with the Signal Office, and that he will not refuse to continue in its service, as it is a good position until something



better can be had.

Mr. Brown mentions that six  
boxes of Turner's Collections have reached  
Washington. He did not enumerate  
any birds or eggs as being included  
in them. Do you know anything  
about this matter? I should think  
that he would have some nice things  
in the zoological line. I hope he  
will leave his invoices of the collections.

Yours truly,

W. Baird

Robert Ridgway Esq.

Smithsonian Institution.



Ans Sept. 12,

SMITHSONIAN INSTITUTION,

Wood's Holl, Mass

WASHINGTON, D. C., Sept. 10. 1881.

Dear Robert:

If you will give me a list of what remains as desiderata among the Jamaican birds, I will send it to Edward Newton to be filled out at his convenience. I know that we lack the deidroica coa. Have we ever had that blue mountain-petrel, described by Dr. Carte?

Yours truly

S. Mearns

Robert Ridgway Esq.

Smithsonian Institution.



SMITHSONIAN INSTITUTION,  
Wood's Hall, Mass.  
~~WASHINGTON, D. C.,~~ Aug 27. 1881.

Dear Robert:

I would very gladly  
lend <sup>Brewster</sup> ~~you~~ the specimen of *Cuspeza*  
but it was presented to us with  
the condition that we were not  
to allow it to go out of the build-  
ing. It would be a great pity to risk  
the loss of this unique specimen.  
Where it is simply a question of  
a species, the type of which is held  
elsewhere, although very rare, I  
should not for a moment <sup>think of</sup> declining.

Very truly Yours  
W B Baird

Robert Ridgway  
Smithsonian Institution



SMITHSONIAN INSTITUTION,

*Wood's Coll. Mass.*

WASHINGTON, D. C., Aug. 15 1891

Dear Robert:

Prof. Auges announces the  
finding of a Buteo albico-datus. It is  
of a light gray color instead of being  
black. He asks whether it is a male or a  
young bird. He will send it to you

Yours truly,  
W Baird

R. Ridgway, Esq.,

Smithsonian Institution,

Washington, D. C.



SMITHSONIAN INSTITUTION,

Wood's Holl, Mass.

WASHINGTON, D. C.,

Aug 6, 1871.

Dear Robert:

I have written to Dr.  
Grundlach asking him to send us  
specimens of Corvus minutus.

Have you written Dr. Comp  
about his identification?

Yours truly,

W Baird

R. Ridgway, Esq.  
Smithsonian.  
Hatch.



SMITHSONIAN INSTITUTION,

*Wood's Holl, Mass.*

WASHINGTON, D. C., August 3, 1887

Dear Robert. Thanks for your notes for Suzie, which I send him.

I am very sorry indeed to hear of Mr. Nichols' illness, & trust the case may not be as serious as you think. Please let me know more about him & the nature of his illness.

Do not trouble yourself at all about the question of hours. I am very sure that you give full measure to the Smithsonian.

Yours truly,  
Spencer Baird

Robert Ridgway Esq.  
Smithsonian Institution  
Washington.



SMITHSONIAN INSTITUTION,

WASHINGTON, D. C., July 27, 1881.

Dear Robert.

I am entirely willing you should have the chests made, of which you speak in your letter. Please confer with Mr. Groves on the subject - & get a requisition from him. He, of course, may have something to say about the size & general proportions.

I fully agree with you in the propriety of an elimination of worthless duplicates from the general stock; but I am quite confident that for many museums such material as this, embracing as it does many rare species, will be worth having, in the absence of any thing better.

I would, therefore, suggest - that, after picking out the duplicates from the general collection, you sub-divide these, selecting what you consider worthless. Make a catalogue of these, & I will offer them to one or more museums. Of course, if you have plenty of specimens suitable for this, we can dispose of them in exchange for something worth having at the angling stores.



These, after selection may be packed up  
& the corners of the boxes pasted, ready to be ship-  
ped, especially if you make them into series.

If you have any thing that is absolutely  
worthless, especially if infested, do not  
hesitate to burn it. We have destroyed thou-  
sands of for that reason.

Very truly yours,

W. B. Baird

Robert Ridgway, Esq.,  
Washington.



SMITHSONIAN INSTITUTION,

*Wood's Hall, Mass.*

WASHINGTON, D. C., July 25, 1881

Dear Mr Ridgway.

I am much gratified at the receipt of your letter, & the announcement of the formal transfer of your fine collection of birds to the National Museum. This is the most important <sup>ornithological</sup> single contribution we have ever had. It will be well to pick out the duplicates that are now coming in the collection so as to reduce the material for permanent preservation to the minimum. I think it will be well to have a catalogue of the duplicates checked off by their numbers in the new list of birds, so that we may know what can be disposed of.

You will find in a portfolio in my room, if you have not already had it, the proofs of the cuts of the heads for the water bird volume. I would be glad to have you commence coloring as soon as possible, beginning with the first of the series. Your proof came safely to hand.

Robert Ridgway, Esq.  
Washington. B

Yours Truly  
Spencer Baird



SMITHSONIAN INSTITUTION,

*Wood's Holl, Mass.*

WASHINGTON, D. C., July 21, 1881

Dear Robert,

I received the proof of your paper & have returned it to the printer.

Please find out from Mr. Mapp whether they object to forwarding canisters powder by express. If not, get Mr. Rhees to give you an order for five pound canisters, & send by express & not by mail.

Yours Truly,  
W. Baird

Robert Ridgway Esq.  
Smithsonian Institution.  
Washington.

Please send by express to  
James Bell  
Gainesville  
Florida.



SMITHSONIAN INSTITUTION,

WASHINGTON, D. C., May 21, 1881

Dear Robert-

It is barely possible I may do something for your brother in connection with the mounting of objects for exhibition in the National Museum, this requiring experience in the use of pins etc. I refer to the fastening on boards of fishery implements etc. I cannot decide this however until after your return. I will talk with Mr. Goode about it.

Yours Truly,

Spencer Baird

Robert Ridgway Esq.  
Wheatland  
Indiana.



## SMITHSONIAN INSTITUTION,

WASHINGTON, D. C., May 11, 1881

Dear Robert-

Yours of the 7<sup>th</sup> is to hand. I am glad to know you are finding some nice birds, although I presume you will get nothing very rare. You can use your own discretion about the time of your return.

There are a good many birds here from Florida & elsewhere, but nothing of much importance. If you can make a longer stay may in the interest of the museum you are welcome to do so. I will talk over the matter of your brother when you come back. Is he the telegrapher?

Yours Truly,  
Spencer Baird

Robert Ridgway Esq.  
Wheatland  
Indiana.



SMITHSONIAN INSTITUTION,

WASHINGTON, D. C., May 6, 1881.

Dear Robert;

I have your memorandum, and think I can find the drawings without doubt.

It will not be necessary to duplicate the snappers; but of the sliders, or terrapins proper I shall be glad to have them in considerable abundance.

I have seen Mr. Nichols about the wood cuts.

Sincerely yours,

Spencer Baird

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

P.S. - Shuemaker could not find the originals and props of cut sent back from Cincinnati.



SMITHSONIAN INSTITUTION,

WASHINGTON, D. C., May 4, 1881.

Dear Robert;

I will ask Mr. Brown to <sup>put</sup> copy ~~the~~ list of the reptiles you sent, so that we may know exactly what we have had. Do not attempt anything rash in the way of climbing trees for birds eggs. It will be very inconvenient for yourself, your family, and us if you come to any kind of grief from such an enterprise. All the collections of birds announced by you have come to hand and are given to Mr. Marshall to mount. They are going to make a very desirable addition to our collection.

(Yours truly,  
Spencer Baird

Robert Ridgway, Esq.  
Wheatland,  
Knox County,  
Indiana



## SMITHSONIAN INSTITUTION,

WASHINGTON, D. C., April 29, 1881

Dear Robert. The boxes sent by you were duly received, with the turtles in good condition. One of them is a little larger than any we have, & perhaps we will cast it, unless you think you can get a bigger one. The snakes are all right.

The Photo-Engraving Co. think they can do better than heretofore in the re-production of cuts, & I therefore propose to let them try the thing over again.

Where are the lists of specimens & original proofs, which had of these illustrations?

Yours Truly,

Spencer Baird

Robert Ridgway Esq.

Wheatland.

Knox County.

Indiana.



## SMITHSONIAN INSTITUTION,

WASHINGTON, D. C., April 27, 1881

Dear Robert.

Your letter of the 23<sup>d</sup> is to hand. If Spring is advancing with you at here, you will soon be in the full enjoyment of it. The reptiles, when they come will be acceptable. Can you not make a big collection of living salamanders & send in?

What did you do with the specimen of the wild goose from Indiana or Illinois, perforated by the <sup>Parasitism</sup> ~~the~~ arrow? The owner has re-claimed it, & I want to send it back to him.

Yours Truly,  
Spencer Baird

Robert Ridgway Esq.  
Wheatlands.  
Knox County.  
Indiana.



SMITHSONIAN INSTITUTION,

WASHINGTON, D. C., *Apr. 21, 1881*

Dear Mr. Ridgway:

I send you by  
to-day's express, ten gallons of alco-  
hol.

Very truly yours,  
W Baird  
Secretary.

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



## SMITHSONIAN INSTITUTION,

WASHINGTON, D. C., April 20, 1881.

Dear Robert-

Yours of the 17<sup>th</sup> is to hand. Am I to understand that Wheatland is your post-office? I think you neglected to give me this information before.

If you can get any snapping turtles considerably above 30 pounds I shall be glad to have them. Is it not probable that you have the other species. Start with collecting the very biggest snakes of all varieties you can. You need not trouble yourself with moccasins, copper-heads or rattlesnakes. Send samples of all sizes alive.

It is not necessary for you to have stamps for marking packages. All you need to do is to <sup>on the bundle</sup> paste <sup>such as Pollock gave you</sup> up a penalty clause envelope addressed to the Smithsonian Institution, endorsing your name, Robert Ridgway, Assistant of the Smithsonian Institution. I will tell Pollock

to send you some of these envelopes if you have not got <sup>enough</sup> them.



I have no doubt - That - The express  
has been instructed to pay the \$4 charges,  
on the Chest. I will arrange that here  
after. I will ask Dr Bean to send you  
another tank. Collect as many speci-  
mens as you can, & do not forget to make  
careful inquiries in regard to Indian  
 relics, & send us all you can procure.  
Yours Truly,  
Spencer Baird

Robert Ridgway Esq.  
Wheatland,  
Knox County,  
Indiana.



SMITHSONIAN INSTITUTION,

New York  
WASHINGTON, D.C., Oct. 9, 1880

Dear Robert:

Yours of the 8th meets me in New York. - I received the corrected copy of your catalogue, but have not had time to go over it; will do so as soon as possible.

Keep the cuts until I tell you to forward them. Have you made the catalogue which you proposed?

Yours very truly,  
Spencer Baird  
Secretary.

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



SMITHSONIAN INSTITUTION,

Newport, R. I.

WASHINGTON, D. C., Oct. 6 1884.

Ans. Oct. 8  
Dear Robert:

Yours of the 4th is at hand and I answer hastily as I am about leaving for Boston.

You made no comments on Newton's collection. Has not the Desro-  
lata new to us? I have a careful  
inventory of all the cuts of the bird-  
book, but it will be just as well to  
take a new one so as to correct mine  
which I will show you when I return.  
I return Martin Tripp's letter. I  
trust his new swift may come to hand.

Yours truly  
J. Baird

R. Ridgway, Esq.,  
Washington



SMITHSONIAN INSTITUTION,

✓ Enclosure

*Newport, R. I.*  
WASHINGTON, D. C., Sept. 29, 1880.

Dear Robert:-

Nelson's collection, referred to in your letter of the 27<sup>th</sup>, & in *his*, herewith returned, and, I presume, already in hand, but I would prefer that none of his boxes be opened until I get back.

Better see Curry again & ascertain whether his offer includes the two cases for the sum mentioned; & if so, turn in the letter to Mr. Phelps for record, & tell Curry to go ahead at once. If the price is for only one, let me know.

Yours Truly,  
W. Baird

Robert-Ridgway Esq.  
Washington.



SMITHSONIAN INSTITUTION.

Enclosure.

WASHINGTON, D. C., Sept. 27, 1880

Dear Robert. I send you herewith, probably by express, proof of the re-production of the <sup>left</sup> wood cuts <sup>of book</sup> by the Photo-Engraving Co. Please look them over carefully & report - sending back to me any that you think are not satisfactory. Of the manuscript of the volume is all ready sent by Adams Express, not-prepaid, to Prof. Alexander Agassiz, Cambridge, Mass.; not earlier, however than the end of this week so that he may be sure. I hope that your portion is in such form that it will require little more than the ordinary proof reading. Have the wood cuts ready to forward whenever called for. I enclose an extract from the report of Lieut. Schwatka's expedition in search of the remains of Sir John Franklin. Can you form any idea as to what the duck is referred to therein? In another paragraph it is



stated that the collections are to be  
sent to the Smithsonian!

Yours truly,  
Spencer Baird

Robert Ridgway Esq.  
Washington

But for the color of the bill I should say  
the duck was the Pintail



Ans'd. Sept. 24<sup>th</sup>  
enclos'g Nelson's letter

SMITHSONIAN INSTITUTION,

WASHINGTON, D. C., Sept. 24, 1880.

Enclosure.

Dear Robert.

I was much interested to find Mr. Belding has sent us so many interesting specimens. Are not the eggs of Picus albolarvatus new to us?

I have sent your memoranda to Mr. Hyams, & told him he must pack his eggs better.

I am sorry you find so many mistakes in the new catalogue. These we can easily correct in the next edition. I hope they have duplicated its pages.

Confer with Mr. Hoode from time to time in regard to all matters of arrangement & cataloguing & take his instructions, as being the officer in general charge of the museum.

Return Belding's letter.

Yours Truly,

Robert Ridgway Esq. W. Baird  
Washington.



SMITHSONIAN INSTITUTION,

WASHINGTON, D. C., August 17, 1880.

Dear Robert.

I am in receipt of the package of proofs of engravings sent by you & will forward them to New York at the earliest possible moment.

I return herewith two drawings of Crane's heads & beg that you will draw these on paper one-half the present size, which will be one-fourth that of life, giving the bill alone of the same size as at present. Of course the outline of the bill will be the same length as the old figure, when reduced, & should be placed beneath it, the points of the two on the same vertical line. Draw these in lines for execution by the Photo-relief process.

Do the species actually differ as shown in the drawing, in the position of the nostrils, the thickness of the bill, & the outline of the feathers on the side of the lower jaw? If so, these constitute a very good character.



Let me have these as soon as  
possible.

W. B. Davis  
Yours Truly.

Robert Ridgway Esq.  
Washington.



SMITHSONIAN INSTITUTION,

*Newport, R. I.*

WASHINGTON, D. C.

Sept. 16, 1880.

Dear Robert;

Get an estimate from Curry of the cost of making the two new bird cases, and report. If he will do them at the same rates as charged by Wood, he may go ahead at once with them. In this event report to Mr. Rhees for entry. On my return Mr. Garde and I will confer with you in regard to the plan of rearrangement proposed for the collection of birds.

Yours truly,

S. Henshaw

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



+

SMITHSONIAN INSTITUTION,

Newport, R. I.  
WASHINGTON, D. C., Sept. 14, 1880.

Dear Robert;

If the *Actodomas*<sup>acuminata</sup> is not a new species it will do no special harm to leave it, and at any rate it is too late to make any change. We can say that this was done inadvertently, and that we are not responsible for it.

I will send you, if I can have them packed up properly, a small box of birds eggs for identification, from Charles Hyams, Statesville N. C.

Yours truly,

Percy S. Dainton

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



SMITHSONIAN INSTITUTION,

WASHINGTON, D. C.,

Newport, R. I. Sept. 10, 1880.

Dear Robert;

If you can spare a skin of *Cygnus Americanus*, please pick it out and box it up, marked for shipment to Bergen, Norway. The name<sup>1</sup> <sup>appears</sup> is quite unpronounceable; but I will find out to whom to send it.

There will be no difficulty I think in borrowing any of the books of the Library of Congress for your purposes. I think ~~we~~ have the greater portion of Gould's monographs.

Yours truly,  
W. D. Fawcett

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



## 9. Disposition of offal, or "gurry"

~~In the course of~~

The question of a convenient or economical disposition of the offal of fish, especially of the heads and entrails is a serious matter to the fisherman. especially when ~~frustrated~~ the cleaning or preparation for markets is considered at sea. This waste matter constitutes a large (about a third) percentage of the entire mass, and what is thrown away every year by fishermen of any considerable fishing station, may amount to hundreds of tons. ~~Not only however~~. Men fishing in small boats however usually have no other convenient alternative.

The objections <sup>made to</sup> this disposition of offal are of two classes, one on the score of waste the other, ~~on the ground that the fishing grounds are thereby injured~~; Capture of fish at the locality is greatly interfered with. The In this same connection I may refer to the question of waste of fish by means of the trawl line, or the purse and gill net.



Spun

Alleged injury applied to cold & hailish ground 118  
water too cold to decompose

usage of fish by Norway Aug 113

Utilisation in Norway

Butler off land

quantity of fish the ground

Machine around



As already mentioned a serious complaint  
brought in North America against the appa-  
ratus referred to, is that large numbers of ~~heavy~~  
fish a lost from the trawl line, or from the  
nets in consequence of storms or otherwise: and that  
apart from the waste of fish, & these fish  
falling to the ~~the~~ bottom, contaminate the  
fishing grounds by their decomposition and  
drive other fish away, as shown by the  
inability to make successful catches until  
after a period sufficient to allow this matter  
to be decomposed or removed in some manner

Prof. Spencer F. Baird's  
hand-writing. M.B. for  
Report of the U.S. Fish Comm.  
for 1881-2



## SMITHSONIAN INSTITUTION,

WASHINGTON, D. C., Sept. 8, 1880.

Dear Robert.

Yours of the 4<sup>th</sup> is to hand. You may consult Dr. Cones in regard to the proposed rearrangement of the <sup>mammal</sup> skins in the middle room, as they are especially under his direction. If he has no objection, I am willing you should take all the space for the birds, & we will make some other arrangement for the mammals. If transferred they must, however, be kept in trays & systematically arranged & marked on the outside with the contents.

I cannot advise you in regard to the circulars, you must use your own discretion entirely.

I return herewith the proof of your paper on hummingbirds.

Yours Truly,

Robert Ridgway Esq.  
Washington

W. S. Saur



SMITHSONIAN INSTITUTION,

Newport, R. I.  
WASHINGTON, D. C.,

Sept. 6, 1880.

Dear Robert.

A gentleman <sup>in Bergen, Norway</sup> named Leon-  
hard Stejneger, <sup>interested in *Cygnus bewickii*</sup> wants to know whether  
we can furnish a specimen of *Cygnus Am-*  
*ericanus* in exchange for birds & other  
specimens; & if this cannot be done, he  
wishes a response to the following queries.  
First; Is the skin of the throat <sup>carapaceous</sup> black?  
Second. Are the nasal openings parallel  
Third. Are the middle toes & the tarsus  
in proportion as they are in *Bewickii*.  
Fourth; Is the bill differently shaped?

I think our better plan will  
be to offer in exchange a skin of the  
*Americanus* for one of *Bewickii*.

Yours truly,  
W. B. DavisRobert Ridgway Esq.  
Washington.



SMITHSONIAN INSTITUTION,

Newport, R. I.

WASHINGTON, D. C.,

Sept 4, 1880

Dear Robert:

Mr. Goode has just handed me your letter to him of the 31st August in regard to the card-catalogue. Still it will be better to <sup>add</sup> furnish a blank for sex & age of the specimens? If I understood aright each card is to be used only for one specimen & may justly have all the history so that it can serve as the basis of a printed label. Should it not be better to put the headings in vertical column on the left-hand side & not attempt to throw it in tabular form? Suppose you try it in this way and include all other headings you can think of.

Robt. Ridgway, Esq.  
Boston.

Yours truly,  
W. Baird



SMITHSONIAN INSTITUTION,

*Newport, R. I.*

WASHINGTON, D. C.,

Sept. 2, 1880.

: Dear Robert.

The idea of hanging up a map, to show the faunal regions of North America is a good one; we can discuss it on my return. It might be placed in a window as a transparency, where attention would be readily drawn to it.

Cope, in his paper on the fauna of Texas, of which you can get a copy from Solomon, gives some important suggestions as to the <sup>faunal</sup> sub-divisions of the United States.

Yours Truly,

Spencer V. Baird

Robert Ridgway Esq.  
Washington



## SMITHSONIAN INSTITUTION,

Enclosure.

WASHINGTON, D. C.,

Sept. 1, 1880.

Dear Robert.

I have just-looked over the proof of the catalogue, which I return, with some corrections. I am not quite satisfied with the typography of the supplementary part; if I had seen it earlier would have made some changes.

The appendix should have been spaced & I think the names would have been better, either in plain Roman or Antique, rather than small capitals. The headings as inserted, should be in antique type, as they are not-sufficiently conspicuous at present. There should also be a list or analytical table of contents. I think that either in this edition or an extra that we shall publish, an alphabetical index of genera & species should be made, wherever they occur in the entire paper.

You can ask Mr. Shottswood to please



To strike off the usual extra 15-0 copies  
as soon as possible, so that they can be  
distributed promptly. Ask him also, to  
furnish a duplicate set of stereotype  
plates. We will then decide what to do  
with them. We cannot stop the printing of  
the Proceedings to make corrections; but  
we can alter as we think proper, in the  
other edition.

In a recent letter from Nelson he urges the re-  
quest that I will not allow any use to be  
made of his zoological material until after  
his return. Have you not nibbled a little  
at his facts in your catalogue? If you have,  
it is not too late, I think it will be safest to  
eliminate this matter, especially anything  
in the appendix & defer the references to  
a future edition.

Yours Truly,

Spencer D. Baird

Robert Ridgway Esq.  
Washington.



SMITHSONIAN INSTITUTION,

*Newport, R. I.*

WASHINGTON, D. C., Aug. 26, 1880.

Enclosure.

Dear Robert. Mr. Goode is at present at the meeting of the American Association, but he will write you in regard to the Card Catalogues as soon as he gets back. Is not his Memorandum already sent - sufficient for the purpose?

Ask Mr. Brown to show you the Card Catalogue of mounted mammals, which will give you exactly how his system is carried out.

I have already written you, authorizing the construction of as many traps as you may require for your purposes.

I return Mr. Lawrence's letter.

Yours Truly,

Spencer Baird

Robert Ridgway Esq.  
Washington.



## SMITHSONIAN INSTITUTION,

WASHINGTON, D. C., Aug. 23, 1881.

Enclosure.

Dear Robert—

I received to day the  
revises of some fish papers of the Pro-  
ceedings, which extended from ~~27~~ 247 to 271.  
As the last page I had, was 261, I inferred  
that, in accordance with your wish, they had  
inserted your entire paper on birds. I think  
it would be well to have an extra set of  
the stereotype plates of this paper, so that we  
can print it as we did the old History of  
N. A. Birds. By publishing <sup>in</sup> the Proceedings  
we get the date for priority. In the extra  
form we can make any alterations we  
think proper from time to time.

I would however, like to see the entire  
set of ~~Proceedings~~ proofs of the papers,  
before putting in form for the new  
edition. They should have a special  
title-page, introductory & perhaps table  
of contents & alphabetical index,  
which you better prepare.



Perhaps we might omit in the edition for the Proceedings the Concordance table, & show the equivalent of the numbers of the old Catalogue, arranged correspondingly with those of the new.

The drawings sent of the heads of the cranes will not work in Photo-relief. The lines are not sufficiently firm & distinct. If you choose you may ask Mr Todd to draw them in his style; though I think you can do it yourself by remembering that each stroke must be of the same firmness throughout, & be sharply defined in very black ink against white paper. The Winsor & Newtons Liquid India Ink, answers a very good purpose.

Would it not have saved labor, if you had pasted the bird names directly <sup>on the</sup> ~~from~~ cards ~~from~~ <sup>from</sup> the ~~old~~, on the new Catalogue?

You can have as many trays made as you think proper. This will be my warrant to Mr Wells, for giving the order. I will talk with you, when I get back in regard to the transfer to the Institution of your collection.



(2)

SMITHSONIAN INSTITUTION,

Newport, R. I.

WASHINGTON, D. C.,

18

I would much prefer to have it, if  
we can agree upon the price. You will,  
of course, hereafter, find a benefit in  
the opportunity to refer to your own ma-  
terial. What do you think you ought  
to have for the collection. What will  
Allen give you for it?

Yours truly,  
W. Baird

Robert Ridgway Esq.  
Washington.



SMITHSONIAN INSTITUTION,

Newport, R. I.

WASHINGTON, D. C., Aug. 13, 1880.

Dear Robert.

Mr. Nelson advises making a great many interesting collections, some of which, I suppose are on their way to Washington. Among them, whether sent or not, is the skin of *Larus rospie*. It will be well not to distribute this collection until my return.

Yours truly,  
W. Baird

Robert Ridgway Esq.  
Washington.



SMITHSONIAN INSTITUTION,

*Newport, R. I.*  
WASHINGTON, D. C., August 12, 1880.

Dear Robert;

The things offered by  
Mr Trippe will be very acceptable.

If you think proper  
you may send Dr. Cooper a copy of  
the Proceedings of the National Museum,  
volume I.

Suppose you ask Mr  
Spottswood about Mr Lawrence's extras.

Yours truly,

*Spencer Baird*

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



SPENCER F. BAIRD,  
Commissioner.

Ridgway Collection

Sent Aug. 13

United States Commission, Fish and Fisheries,

Newport, R. I.  
Washington, D. C., Aug. 11, 1880.

Dear Robert.

Do you remember the species  
<sup>engraved by Nichols</sup>  
of North American Water birds, the blocks of  
which were not found. You gave me  
a list of them, but - I do not know whether  
or you presented the cuts themselves.

If you have a series of these proof  
cuts please send them at once home,  
as I think that Mr. Agapiev is inclined to  
have them done, & the work of reproduction  
put immediately in hand.

Yours truly.

SF Baird

Robert Ridgway Esq.  
Washington.



United States Commission, Fish and Fisheries,

✓ Enclosure.

Newport, R. I.  
Washington, D. C., Aug. 9, 1887.

Dear Robert-

I am in receipt of your letter of the 5<sup>th</sup> of August, in reference to Cataloguing, & after a discussion on the general subject with Mr. Goode, I now enclose a memorandum which embodies our joint-views on the subject. Uniformity in plan is very desirable in a work like ours, & as we have commenced a certain system with the mammals, reptiles & fishes, it should be extended to the birds. Let me know if you understand it.

I will ask Mr. Spotswood to lend you <sup>proof of</sup> your article on the birds direct to you, & also a set of proofs of the stereotype plates.  
Yours truly,  
S. F. Baird  
Robert-Ridgway Esq. }  
Washington. }



SPENCER F. BAIRD,  
Commissioner.

Ridgway Collection

United States Commission, Fish and Fisheries,

Washington, D. C., August 2, 1880.

Dear Robert;

I have your letter of the 29th. of July. I have no objection to your having an assistant in the work you have in hand for, say three months, at \$25. a month. Show this letter to Mr. Rhees and ask him to make a note of it. The engagement will terminate at that time unless its renewal is authorized. I must exercise very great caution in the matter of increasing the force of the Institution. I will also pay the balance of \$5.55. due Mr. Jory, although it makes the cost of his trip rather expensive.

Robert Ridgway, Esq.  
Washington,  
D.C.

Yours truly,  
Spencer Baird



SPENCER F. BAIRD,  
Commissioner.

Ridgway Collection

United States Commission, Fish and Fisheries,

Am. Aug. 3.

Enclosure.

Washington, D. C. July 31, 1880.

Dear Robert: I telegraphed you last night, on receiving your letter of the 29<sup>th</sup>, asking you to go at once to Major Davis & get from him a duplicate of the proof. I think the one returned by me must have reached the Institution, as it left here all right.

Probably there will be no serious question of priority between you & Cope, in the two lists. If so, then ask Major Davis to insert this as part of the Proceedings of the National Museum, to be printed off, & the signatures dated as usual. You can then furnish the supplementary portion to <sup>him</sup> me, & let that go in the same way. I will have it reproduced as one of the Smithsonian Miscellaneous Collections, ~~re-paged~~ as us &



make a separate work of it. This will  
be better than to make it into a Bulletin.  
There is plenty of vacant space in the Pro-  
ceedings for the list. I enclose a letter to  
Major Davis, on the subject.

Yours Truly,

Spencer Baird

Robert Ridgway Esq.  
Washington



SPENCER F. BAIRD,  
Commissioner.

Ridgway Collection

United States Commission, Fish and Fisheries,

Washington, D.C. July 28, 1880.

Dear Robert;

I hardly think it worth while to negotiate with Cope for the birds referred to in your letter, as he probably has his own views about them. I would keep them until he calls for them, and in that event, write and ask him if he will not allow us to retain them in exchange for something else.

I received the package of proof containing the last of your list, and gave instructions to have it sent to you. It may possibly have gone to Major Davis. Your best plan will be to go and see him, and



STANDARD  
(continued)

if he has not ~~had~~<sup>got</sup> it, ask him to give  
you a duplicate. You can present your  
case to the Major, and I have no doubt  
he will be willing to bring the matter  
forward more rapidly.

I think probably it may  
be best to issue this as a Bulletin  
of the National Museum, and not as  
Proceedings.

Yours truly,  
Spencer Baird

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



SPENCER F. BAIRD,  
Commissioner.

United States Commission, Fish and Fisheries,

Enclosure.

Newport, R. I.

Washington, D. C.,

July 24, 1880.

Dear Robert:

I return herewith the proof of the catalogue, to be sent by Major Davis.

Yours of the 20<sup>th</sup> is received & I am much interested in its perusal.

I was surprised to hear that you went to Cobb's Island, after the death of his wife. I suppose <sup>however</sup> he needed rest.

Arrange with Mr. Phelps about the form of the bill of perquisites.

Yours Truly.

SF Baird

Robert Ridgway Esq.,  
Washington.



SPENCER F. BAIRD,  
Commissioner.

United States Commission, Fish and Fisheries,

/ Enclosure,

Washington, D. C., July 19, 1880.

Dear Robert;

I enclose herewith a letter from Mr Johnson, which I think will interest you. I will try to send you or someone else down to him in the Spring. I tell him it would be better to be there just before the Winter Waders are preparing to go northward, so as to get them in their Spring plumage, and also to have the benefit of any migrants from the south. Please write him as to how he can diagnose the Trumpeter and American Swan.

Any balance of the expenses for Cobbs Island,



you can pay back to Mr Rhus.

Yours truly,

Spencer Ward

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



SMITHSONIAN INSTITUTION,

✓ / Enclosure,

WASHINGTON, D. C., *July 17, 1880.*

Dear Robert;

I enclose herewith a letter from Dr. Atkins, which please answer to him, telling him about the *Cyanospiza*, and asking him whether it is in the habit of making its nests in trees. I have asked him to send the specimen.

Yours truly,  
W. Baird

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



SMITHSONIAN INSTITUTION,

1 Enclosure,

WASHINGTON, D. C.,

July 15, 1880.

Dear Robert;

I enclose a letter  
inquiring about a duck. If you  
can answer the query please write  
Mr Leach direct.

I suppose by this time  
you are back from your journey.  
Please report the result.

Yours truly,

W W Baird

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



SPENCER F. BAIRD,  
Commissioner.

## United States Commission, Fish and Fisheries,

Washington, D. C., July 7, 1880.

Dear Robert:

Your letter of the 4th is to hand,  
 & gives a very interesting account of your  
 adventures.

I am sorry to say there is no prospect  
 of your joining your wife. His wife is very  
 ill & cannot be left. I do not know  
 any one else who can go with you.

I have secured an appropriation, so as  
 to have as much of it as possible.  
 You can doubtless get a full variety of  
 species, even if you cannot get as large a  
 number as you could with your help.

Yours truly,

Robert Ridgway Esq.  
 Cobbs Island  
 Virginia.

Spencer Baird  
 you will find all the  
 remainder of your  
 check list in your box  
 in my office



SMITHSONIAN INSTITUTION,

WASHINGTON, D. C., May 18, 1880

Dear Robert.

Yours of the 17<sup>th</sup> is at hand. I am glad to know that you have been benefitted by your trip; & hope your little boy is none the worse.

How would it do to get a good lot of skins of the Fish Crow. I think we must be abundantly provided with them.

Yours very truly,  
Spencer Baird

Robert Ridgway, Esq.  
Care of Mr. E. M. Cron,  
Falls Church,  
Fairfax County,  
Virginia.



United States Commission, Fish and Fisheries,

Washington, D. C. Mar. 25 1882

Dear Robert

I have just learned from the  
Government printing office that your matter  
is all in type, and was sent over yesterday  
by mistake to Dr. Conner. Better go over  
S. I. and see if it is in his room so that  
you may secure it in time to send back to  
the printer tomorrow morning. If you  
can do this, take it up to Major Davis  
~~and~~ to the Government Printing office, and  
he will put it right through: so that one square  
time at least can be printed off this week.  
If Conner has not had it, telephon to

me as soon as you find out

Yours  
S. F. Baird



ADMIT

*E. Ingersoll*

*On Special Duty at the Inaugural  
Reception in the National Museum.*

MARCH 4, 1881.

*J. F. Baird.*

*No. 85*

*Secretary Smithsonian Institution.*



work on birds is exhausted.

Yours Truly,

Spencer W. Baird

Ernest Ingersoll Esq.

Tribune Office,



## THE WESTERN UNION TELEGRAPH COMPANY.

Ridgway Collection

ALL MESSAGES TAKEN BY THIS COMPANY ARE SUBJECT TO THE FOLLOWING TERMS

To guard against mistakes or delays, the sender of a message should order it REPEATED; that is, telegraphed back to the originating office for comparison. For this, one half the regular rate is charged in addition. It is agreed between the sender of the following message and this Company, that said Company shall not be liable for mistakes or delays in the transmission or delivery, or for non-delivery, of any UNREPEATED message, whether happening by negligence of its servants or otherwise, beyond the amount received for sending the same; nor for mistakes, or delays in the transmission or delivery, or for non-delivery, of any REPEATED message beyond fifty times the sum received for sending the same, unless specially insured, nor in any case for delays arising from unavoidable interruption in the working of its lines, or errors in cipher or obscure messages. And this Company, is hereby made the agent of the sender, without liability, to forward any message over the lines of any other Company when necessary to reach its destination.

Correctness in the transmission of message to any point on the lines of this Company can be INSURED by contract in writing, stating agreed amount of risk, and payment of premium thereon at the following rates, in addition to the usual charge for repeated messages, viz: one per cent. for any distance not exceeding 1,000 miles, and two per cent. for any greater distance. No employee of the Company is authorized to vary the foregoing.

No responsibility regarding messages attaches to this Company until the same are presented and accepted at one of its transmitting offices; and if a message is sent to such office by one of the Company's messengers, he acts for that purpose as the agent of the sender.

Messages will be delivered free within the established free delivery limits of the terminal office—for delivery at a greater distance, a special charge will be made to cover the cost of such delivery.

The company will not be liable for damages in any case where the claim is not presented in writing, within sixty days after sending the message.

THOS. T. ECKERT, General Manager.

NORVIN GREEN, President.

| Receiver's No. | Time Filed. | Check. |
|----------------|-------------|--------|
|                |             |        |

Send the following message, subject to the  
above terms, which are hereby agreed to.

December 15 1882.

Copy

To F. H. Raymond, American Arms Co

103 Milk St. Boston Mass

Send forty five dollar "Fox" gun, twelve gauge  
twenty-eight inch barrel, left barrel choke,  
right cylinder, weight about eight lbs, medium  
stock, three inch drop, to C. C. Nutting of Pacific  
Mail S. S. Co's Office, New York. Have John fit  
twenty two gauge auxiliary barrel. Must be  
there by Dec. 19.

(Signed) S. F. Baird  
per R.R.