promise — In the mean time I have been ~~this~~ Gray's List & have drawn out some rough notes relating to some species on your list & to some others, which I hope may be of some little use to you — They are very much at your service & I think you may rely on their accuracy as far as they go — I enclose them with this letter —

Hoping to write again as soon as I am able to send the birds

I am dear Sir

Yours faithfully

J. A. Harvey

"I find the shape of the nostril constantly is very different in stuffed specimens from what it is in those that are fresh — especially amongst the Eagles — which is a point worth bearing in mind —"

Mr Robert Ridgway

KESWICK HALL,
NORWICH.

August 18th 1916.

Dear Mr. Ridgway

I have now to acknowledge, with many thanks, the receipt of Vol. VII. of "The Birds of North America," which has, no doubt, been sent me by your orders.

This great work, which is a monument of research and labour, will surely remain the standard

authority for centuries.

I sincerely hope your life may be spared to complete it.

The seven volumes occupy a prominent place in my library.

Believe me,
Yours very truly,

J. H. Gurney

KESWICK HALL,
NORWICH.

9th March 1906

My dear Sharpe

My shelves are really too full to buy many books, and this is not a bird book however for old acquaintance sake you may put me down for Whites' Country, small edition.

I hope you are

better than when I saw
you at Cambridge at
the ornithological Congress;
poor Dresser is gone
but he reached a good
old age.

I am writing a
book on the Gannet with
Newton's help, when it
is published I shall run
you in for a copy

Excuse dictation

Yours very sincerely

J. H. Gurney

Keswick Hall
Norwich
England

29th June 1897

My dear Sir

I find I have to thank you for a valuable book on the Birds of the Galapagos Islands which includes two Owls and one Buzzard. Concerning Strix punctatissima I find the following manuscript note of my Fathers:— "Examined the Galapagos specimen ~~of~~ at the British museum

which is quite distinct and very small, as is a male in the Salvin and Godman collection (April 1885)." I think you have had most of my papers, except those which I now send you and which are hardly worthy your acceptance.

I am writing an article on the age which different species of birds have been known to attain to in captivity, or in a wild state. At present I have not discovered a single article on this subject in American literature, and

only two short ones in English literature. Herons which have been ringed by Hawking clubs and caught again are what would furnish me with the most reliable data, but I have only very few instances.

Excuse dictation &

Believe me

Yours very truly

J. H. Gurney

Robert Ridgway Esq.

Keswick Hall
Norwich
England
5th February 1896

My dear Sir

I am very much obliged to you for pointing out my mistake about Falco labradora which I had not discovered until you kindly drew my attention to it. Our Museum is pretty strong in Falcons, and last week we received a gift of 2 young Falco punicus taken from the nest in Morocco. I hope you

will like the "guide".

Rupornis gracilis is evidently an extremely rare bird in collections, and the Norwich museum would indeed be fortunate if you found you had one to spare us. I am afraid we cannot give any skins in exchange but we can offer £3 for it, though money always seems but a poor return for a very rare bird.

Last month I saw in Mr Rothschild's museum a skin of Megatriorchis doriae from New Guinea, which I think is almost the rarest bird of

prey there is, and one which I never had the chance of seeing before, or of getting for the Norwich museum

Believe me
Yours very truly
J H Gurney

Keswick Hall
Norwich
England

10th December 1895.

My dear Sir

I send you the new Guide to our Museum and some other papers.

Since I last wrote, through the kindness of friends we have had 2 nice additions, Buteo Kriderii, and Buteo galapagensis, and now we have got every Buzzard except one or two American ones of which perhaps the chief is your Buteo socorrensis. I daresay this is a very good

Island species and much wish we had one.

Your Rupornis gracilis is another bird we certainly ought to have in Norwich museum where it is not represented at present although we have a large series of R. magnirostris. Cuba birds seem impossible to obtain from anybody, for I suppose Dr Gundlach has left the island, and a Cozumel hawk would be harder still to get.

If you ever come to England you must come down and see our museum

Believe me
Yours very truly
J. H. Gurney

Robert Ridgway Esqre

Keswick Hall, Norwich
27th June 1892

R. Ridgway Esq

My dear Sir,

I have written by your advice to Mr Cory and to Mr Cherrie.

I am not sure that we have any Honduras desiderata, though I suppose several species of Leucopternis might be found as far north. I am offering £3 for a skin of either L. princeps, L. occidentalis, L. semiplumbea, or L. plumbea.

Of L. occidentalis, Salvin, I believe none have been obtained since the type in 1876; but I think Salvin & Godman have had four

or five L. semiplumbea from Columbia or Costa Rica.

Again thanking you very warmly for the interest you take in the collection of Raptores in this City.

I remain

Yours very truly

J H Gurney

KESWICK HALL,
NORWICH.

24th May 1892

Dear Sharpe

I observe you have lately described Accipiter buttikoferi, a new species, differing from A hartlaubi in having grey thighs, and no white spots on the tail.

We have only two adult A hartlaubi at Norwich, and one of these from Bissao is the type. In both the tails shew white spots, when spread, but the thighs are grey, quite unlike plate

in your Catalogue.

What inference to draw from this difference in colour I know not.

I still live in hopes that our lost *Henicopernis infuscata*, (Gurney,) will turn up in your stores.

Tristram remembers that it had his label on it, marked No 4423, male 9. 7. 79 typed, Lieut Richards R. N.

Excuse dictation and

Believe me.

Yours sincerely

J H Gurney

Keswick Hall. Norwich.
England 23rd May 1892

R. Ridgway Esq
My dear Sir

Enclosed is the amended list for the Norwich Museum from which Buteo alleni and Falco fealei are omitted as on further examination, I find my Father had several of the former, and two of the latter.

Can you give me the name of some Naturalist in Cuba, as we have four Cuban desiderata, and Dr Gundach, whom you thought I might perhaps get, Accipiter fringilloides from, has not answered my letter.

Accipiter salvini described by you is among our desiderata, but I know not whether any longer to seek

after it, after the rather disparaging words at p. 328, of the last number of the Ibis.

I fear I shall have great difficulty in getting any of our South American desiderata as Salvin tells me he is not going to employ any more collectors, and my Father had no Agent there.

Believe me
Yours very truly
J. H. Gurney

KESWICK HALL,
NORWICH.

26th Dec. 90

Dear Sharpe

I still cling to the belief that our lost *Heniocopsis infuscata* from New Britain will turn up at the Museum, — that it was an extremely bad skin.

and that it was
about November 30th 1890
sent in a small box
with two shell drills
and several little
green, shiny cuckoos.
chrysococcyx capensis
from Natal.
These were found
in a drawer of my
several weeks
Pantry, after I

sent you the first
and larger installment.

With kind
regards and wishing
you a happy new
year

Yours
Yours sincerely
J. H. Gurney

Keswick Hall, Norwich
England. 13th Aug. 1891

My dear Sir,

I will certainly write at once, to Dr Gundlach, about Accipiter fringilloides, and am much obliged to you for giving me his address. I have Mr Cory's plate of it.

Buteo lineatus alleni was included among my desiderata by mistake, for it turns out that we have 10 specimens from Miami, but eight of them are immature, according to my Fathers marking.

Falco pealei, I dont think we have, but it is not down on any of the lists, which you kindly had sent to me, so this dark Northern form is evidently very rare.

Mr Frazar sent me the Scops Owls, but the Curator and

I while admitting that they are sub species find that the Norwich Museum has already got all of them, but the skins sent will be useful as duplicates.

Believe me

Yours very truly

J. H. Gurney

Keswick Hall, Norwich
England
21st July 1891

My dear Sir,

I send you a short Memoir of my late Father by Mr T Southwell.

I have no more additions to report to his raptorial collection, but Boucard, the London dealer has got your Buteo ~~lucu~~ leucanus from Lower California, if he is right in its identification, which he gives me the offer of.

Yours truly
J H Gurney

R. Ridgway Esqre

Keswick Hall,
Norwich, England.
June 24. 1891

My dear Sir,

I was very much obliged for your kind letter of May 25th, which I ought to have acknowledged sooner, but I find the North American Owls extremely puzzling, and even now I cannot satisfy myself that we have not got Megascops maxwelli, M. mcallii, and M. floridanus, in Norwich Museum.

We have what my father considered to be Scops asio, from California, and two ditto from Texas, and a Scops tricopsis from Florida

I dont think this last can be your *Scops floridanus* however.

My father never got Hoskins pigmy owl, *Glaucidium gnoma hoskinsii*, of Brewster, but I am doubtful if he considered it a good subspecies, and Mr. Frazar prices it at $10. which is a good deal of money.

Neither did he get *Bubo saturatus*, from Labrador, which I should think I had better buy, though the Museum has a good shelf of American Bubos

Unfortunately, I possess very little of my fathers knowledge of Hawks and

Owls, which makes it difficult for me to go on with the collection.

Our Museum has no funds of its own to buy birds, and I naturally do not want to buy anything we possess already.

I will write to Sr. José C Czeledon in a few days.

Again thanking you for your kind reply, I am

Yours very truly
J. H. Gurney

R. Ridgway Esq

7 Sussex Square
London. W.

May 15. 1891

Dear Sir,

There are some species of American Scotts owls described by you which my late father appears never to have obtained for the Norwich Museum. These are *Megascops asatus* from Mexico, *Scops floridanus*, from Florida, and *Scops enano* from Mexico, and

Scops maxwellii, for which I have no locality; also Scops cooperi, and megascops vermiculatus, from Costa Rica. I will not add scops macallii, because it appears that he did not consider this distinct from scops trichopsis.

A catalogue of all the owls and hawks in the Norwich Museum, with localities, and names of collectors is going to be printed, but it will not go to press for six months, and meanwhile if you can help us to any of our desiderata the Committee will be grateful.

I find among my late fathers papers some long and interesting letters from you on the birds of prey, from which I have no doubt that you have helped the Norwich Museum before.

and I trust, if it is in your power, that you will do so again.

We would rather purchase skins than deal by exchange, as at present we hardly know the full extent of our treasures.

I must ask you to excuse correspondence by dictation, as I, unfortunately, suffer from weak eyes.

Believe me,

Yours very truly
S. H. Gurney

Robert Ridgway Esq
Smithsonian Institution.

KESWICK HALL,
NORWICH.

26th Septr 1890

My dear Sharpe,

I am glad the Skins are acceptable and think you will find most of them in excellent condition except one or two of Buxtons –

The Oedicnemus is in a shaky condition and the Night Heron has a broken neck and the lesser grey Shrike is very greasy and the Great White Heron too but I have given them a good dressing of Plaster of Paris and perhaps

your Bird Stuffer can do what more is needful -

I will write to Dr Gunther this evening and the boxes shall be addressed to him as that is your wish.

I am also going to send about 267 Skins to Tristram and some more to Newton & Clarke but in every case the Museum has had the first pick -

I have found a great many separately printed copies of Ayre's papers in the Ibis and am going to make up a set to go with each lot of Skins and then

will still be left four or five sets but incomplete -

I trust in all this I am carrying out my late Fathers wishes and doing what I can to help Ornithology -

Believe me

Yours very truly

J H Gurney

KESWICK HALL,
NORWICH.

17th Dec 1890

My dear Sharpe,

I have found three more drawers of my fathers South African birds in a Cabinet where I had never looked, and I have now the pleasure to send you 76 Skins of 44 species: this with the 456 Skins which I sent you before makes 532 Skins, and 416 species.

I am also sending you a hybred Goose, two Sheld-ducks and a few other European birds which as they are good

KESWICK HALL.
NORWICH

Skins will I hope not be
unacceptable, they will go in
two small boxes one by train
and one by parcels post
Excuse dictation and
Believe me
Yours truly
J H Gurney

KESWICK HALL,
NORWICH.

24th Sept. 1890

My dear Sharpe

I am desirous with your leave of presenting to the Natural History Museum a collection of about 456 Skins of South African Birds representing about 372 species the property of my late Father. They are all in excellent condition and the greater part of them have been collected by Ayres of Natal whose labels give full particulars of dates, sex, soft parts &c but

a few have been collected by Anderson, Smith & Buxton. A large proportion of them are genera which have not come out in your catalogue such as Herons, Snipes, Sand Grouse, Ducks, Francolins and Grebes, and there are also a good many small Birds, but no birds of prey

I am looking over much which is pleasant reading in my fathers natural History correspondence among which

I find as you may suppose
a great many valuable and
interesting letters from you
written to him from time to
time when you were mutually
engaged on the same subject

Believe me
Yours sincerely
J. H. Gurney

KESWICK HALL,
NORWICH.

17th Sept. 1890

Dear Sharpe,

In a letter received from Mr Thomas Ayres of Pochesstroom he mentions that he has got a new Finch from his correspondent Lucas, this I know would have greatly interested my father had he been alive but I have advised him to submit the Bird to you as he cannot send it to him and I hope it may prove something good –

I have a number of small

Skins of Ayres' of the Canary and Weaver Bird type but only one or two which seem to be strictly Finches -

Excuse dictation as I am suffering a good deal from my eyes -

Hoping that your health is now quite restored

I remain
Yours truly
J H Gurney

P. S. A. Red breasted Flycatcher and a Pectoral Sandpiper

ary
only

on

lth

tcher

were Shot in Norfolk on the
10th and two more Pectorals
on the 12th –

PARCELS TO
GREAT EASTERN
STATION, CROMER

NORTHREPPS HALL,
NORWICH.

TELEGRAMS
TO CROMER

14 Oct 1889

My dear Mr Sharpe

I very much want to get Bubo Milesi for the Norwich Museum — Can you help me to do so either by purchase or otherwise?

I hope you are well, I am fairly so, but unable to get far away from home, as travelling does not suit me

I am glad to impose one Norwich Series of Raptores as long

as I have the chance to
do so & shall be grateful
for any help in that line
which you can give me.

Yours Very truly
V A Crewdson

PARCELS TO
GREAT EASTERN
STATION, CROMER

NORTHREPPS HALL,
NORWICH.

TELEGRAMS
TO CROMER

9 Nov 1889

Dear Mr Sharpe

I have to thank you for telling me of the Bubo nikiei from Iceddale which Mr Dresser has kindly allowed me to have for our Museum in exchange for an Ascalaphus —

It strikes me that in B. nikiei we probably have the true species described long ago as Otus ~~[illegible]~~ alpinicus

If as I am writing about
Lundy matters I the Ibis
I propose I include this
hermine in my communication

Yours very truly
W. Greenway

RAILWAY & TELEGRAPH
STATION, CROMER.

NORTHREPPS HALL,
NORWICH.

20 June 1884

Dear Mr Ridgway

Since sending you some days ago a copy of my list of Diurnal Rapitores, I have found that by an unfortunate accident, one of the species that should have been included has been omitted from the genus Urospizias —

I have corrected the error, as far as I am now able to do so, by reprinting the page

of Errata & introducing in
it the omitted species, &
as I should like you to
have a corrected copy of the
book I send by book post
one containing this rectification
& I have also sent in the
same packet a copy which
I should be glad to be allowed
to present to the library of

the Smithsonian Institution or to
that connected with your
National Museum as you
may think best, if you
will kindly arrange this for
me, which I hope will not
cause you any trouble

Yours very truly

J. H. Newman

NORTHREPPS HALL,
NORWICH.

30 June
1884

Dear Mr Sharpe

I send herewith for your acceptance a copy of my list of Diurnal Raptores bound up with the Mis notes — I think you told me that you had some early numbers of the latter which you do not want — if so, I should be very glad of the

first five numbers
(ending at the Nos 1876
p 76) if you happen
to have them to spare
as they would enable
me to complete another
bound set –

I expect to be in
London next week &
hope to get a few hours

at the Museum over

yours &c

Sincerely yours

J. A. Freeman

NORTHREPPS HALL,
NORWICH.

3 June 1889

Dear Mr Sharpe

I received yesterday the final part of your Edition of Layard & I must send a line (which needs no answer) to congratulate you on the completion of this undertaking —

I have just dipped

into the last part
which seems to me to
be excellent, & the
whole will make a
most ~~tempting~~ volume
for S. African use —

Van Voorst has
just sent me some
copies of my list and

I hope to take one for you & the binders tomorrow & a lot of my notes & be bound with it

Yours very truly
J. H. Newman

PARCELS TO
GREAT EASTERN
STATION, CROMER

NORTHREPPS HALL,
NORWICH.

TELEGRAMS
TO CROMER

1 March 1889

My dear Mr Sharpe

Wardlaw Ramsay had in his collection a very large specimen of Scops lempiji (?) from the Hills N Western Sumatra & as I suppose this skin is now in the Br: Museum I should be particularly glad if you would kindly tell me whether you think it is really referable to S. lempiji & not to any other species

I am the more desirous to

know this as we have two similar fossil specimens which I described in the Ibis 1879 p 471 –

Hoping that you are well & flourishing

I remain yours very truly

E A Newton

NORTHREPPS HALL,
NORWICH.

25 April 1884

Dear Mr Ridgway

Since my return to Norfolk I have been comparing the description which you kindly sent me of your Japanese Parus with the Norwich Museum series of P. apivorus & P. ptilorhynchus & like yourself I have felt much doubt as to which species the Japanese bird should be assigned. But in the result my verdict is in favor of apivorus.

I am sending your description to the Ibis accompanied with the following remarks which I copy, thinking that you

may like to see my views on the matter in some detail –

"On the whole, this description appears to me to point to P. apivorus rather than to P. ptilorhynchus, although the "very distinct deep black stripe along the side of the throat posteriorly connected with a cluster of deep black guttate spots across the upper part of the jugulum" is, it must be admitted, especially when existing in an adult bird, much more like P. ptilorhynchus.

I have seen such markings in P. apivorus, but only, so far as I recollect, in immature specimens, and then not so distinct or so dark as they usually are in P. ptilorhynchus, in which latter species they also occur more frequently than in

P. apivorus; On the other hand, the description of the axillaries in the Japanese bird is, if mistaken not, conclusive as to its being an example (though somewhat abnormal as regards the dark markings on the throat) of P. apivorus —

This specimen, judging from the grey upon the head and from the character of the markings on the tail, is, I believe, adult, but the circumstance of the grey on the crown of the head being limited to the forehead probably indicates ~~that it had~~ its having only recently attained the adult dress, and ~~that~~ that as not quite completely.

So far as I have observed, the adults of P. apivorus always have the axillaries distinctly and broadly banded with alternate

bars of brown and white, though in birds of the year the white bars are sometimes absent.

In P. petilochrysus, on the contrary, although some young birds have the axillaries brown banded with white and others have them brown with a spot or two of white towards the end of the feathers, the adult gray-headed birds have always, so far as I have been able to ascertain, the axillaries either entirely brown without bands or else banded with pale brown on a darker ground, but not with white as in the adults of P. apivorus; — believing this distinction to be a constant one as regards the adult birds, I would

refer the specimen under consideration to P. apiocrinus and not to P. ptilorhynchus.

I may add that although the fact of this specimen being crestless is in favor of identifying it with P. apiocrinus, which always is so, it does not in itself prove this identification to be correct, as P. ptilorhynchus is also sometimes crestless, although such specimens are very much in the minority and must be considered as exhibiting an exceptional variation from the normal form."

Anyhow your museum has been fortunate in obtaining this very interesting

Specimen which would seem to be only the third Japanese Example seen — one having been apparently lost & the second preserved at Leyden

Sincerely yours

D D Gurney