

appreciate this favor.

It is very kind of
Mrs. Ridgway to remember me.

Very respectfully

Wm. D. Carpenter,

Salisbury Point

Amesbury, Mass

March 12th 1892.

(I think there is no possibility of mis-
identification. The collection contains
specimens of each of the curlews, which
enables comparison, and the Carolina
parroquet, beside its label with locality
is very evidently a Carolina parroquet!)

I heard the songs of two different song
sparrows this morning!

My dear Mr. Ridgway:

It was exceedingly
kind of you to grant me the letter
which you did. After mailing my
request, I thought of various complications
as to the possibility of mistaken identity
etc. that might make my letter very
embarrassing, which in my enthusi-
asm I had overlooked. In fact, as
I know full well, a request for a
letter is usually more embarrassing
than almost any request that can
be made, and I have worried that
I did not act with more deliberation.
You can imagine therefore what
a relief and how very much I

for which I hope I can secure an
autograph letter from you pointing
out their value. One is a Caroline
parakeet from Florida and the
other an Esquimaux curlew which
was killed locally. The bird collection
is of "old fashioned" mounts, some of
which are grotesque to say the least
and to the popular ^{mind} open only to ridicule
so that when they have two such
treasures as those enumerated, I feel
sure that the library authorities would
appreciate to the full a letter from
you that would display to the public
some of their treasures.

Thanking you in advance
for this favor, and requesting that you
remember me to Mrs. Ridgway, I remain

Sabine Point Very respectfully
Amesbury, Mass. Wm. D. Carpenter
March 6th 1913.

Ridgway Collection

Mrs. McKell

Mr. Robert Ridgway,
Curator of Birds,
U. S. National Museum.

My dear Mr. Ridgway:

I feel that I know
you well enough to be quite sure, that
you will not mind doing the great
favor that I am now going to ask of
you.

The town of Amesbury through
some public spirited citizens of whom
the poet Whittier was one, have
recently erected a new library building
the top floor of which is devoted to
Museum purposes. The entire collection
is beautifully labeled and taken care
of. Among the birds are two specimens