

June 20th 1905;

Simon Davis.
 Penn Mutual Building
 Boston, Mass.

Dear Mr. Ridgway: Your note rec.^d Absence
 from the city prevented an earlier reply. I'm
 not so sure that you are 'nt correct in the
 matter of price. At first I thought you were
 about \$1.50 too high but upon reflection I believe
 you are correct. The great desideratum is to
name you color than the party with whom
 you are talking a corresponding can find out
 exactly what you mean by reference to your book.

I think you are to be highly commended for your
 courage in engaging upon such a task. May the
 best of success attend your efforts. Everybody having
 occasion to use colors should feel grateful to you.

I certainly do. With my best wishes ^{and hoping}
 soon to see your book before me,

Yrs.

Robt Ridgway.

Yrs Sincerely,

Simon Davis.

Simon Davis,
Henn Mutual Building
Boston, Mass.

April 25, 1905.

Prof Robert Ridgway,

My dear Sir: In 1886 Little, Brown & Co. of this city published your book entitled "Nomenclature of Colors". It is out of print. I cannot buy a copy anywhere in Boston or New York. As one interested in mycology I have constant use for a good standard of color. Your book fills this want more completely and satisfactorily than any publication I am conversant with. I write to ask you whether you can't arrange with L. B. & Co. to issue a new work upon this subject? It is greatly needed and will facilitate describing the colors of mushrooms so that every mycologist from the Atlantic to the Pacific will know just what is meant by the words, red, yellow, lilac etc.; as it is "color" today is a very elastic, almost slippery and at times positively misleading term. I believe your book revised to date could be printed and published at a reasonable price owing to the advance ^{the art of} printing in colors. If the price is reasonable I believe you would be recompensed for your trouble and expense.

Interest in mycology has greatly increased since 1894 and I know there is a demand for such a work as you can produce. I hope you will look upon this matter favorably. With personal respects
Yours,
Simon Davis.