

Boardman B. A.

May, 1873

Willtown 26 May 1873

Friend Brewster

I have been thinking about you for some time, anxious to know about your camera,

I hope long before this you are all right again, and can go out shooting specimens, write me and let me know how you are, and if you have got anything new, or strange, I

have not been shooting much, just at this time we have warblers in plenty, I was out last week got a very fine full plumaged male horned

grebe, and a friend sent me  
a partial albino Crow  
it is a yellowish drab, some  
brown, a queer color, I also  
got a nice Crow, Have shot  
no snipe, do not care to  
shoot game birds much  
this time of the year, they  
are breeding and very poor  
for food, I got one woodcock  
and was sorry to shoot him,  
he was very poor, but a nice  
plumaged male.

I go trout  
fishing instead of shooting  
this is the time for catching  
the little salmon, we have  
had a very dry pleasant spring,  
hardly a rainy day since I  
got home, but cool, frost most  
every night, with kind regards  
to your folks I am yours truly  
Geo A Boardman

got him last fall. I he  
would do about anything  
You could ask for me to do,  
I then hunted him for  
trappings they would not  
lay, but run, and I think  
did not do him any good,  
Since November, I have not  
dared to take him out, the  
farmers put poison out, & still  
foxes & several fox hounds  
have been poisoned. I am sorry  
I did not go to Florida with him  
last fall, instead of remaining  
at home, although we have had a  
very pleasant winter. I have just  
had sent me a head of a caribou, and  
head of a moose, and as I have  
nothing better to do will go to work  
at them. How shall I send the birds  
if I can get them to you at Cambridge?  
I have forgot the name of your street one  
is Park Avenue, & course has to  
Yours ever Geo. A. Boardman

Boardman, G. A.

Feb. 16-74

Milltown Maine 16 Feb, 1874

Dear Brewster,

I am  
very glad to hear you legs do  
well again, hope you will soon  
be all right again.

I wish you  
could spend a couple months to  
go to California, I want some  
one to go with me, that would  
come to stop along, and see the  
Naturalist folk, we could  
have a grand good time, go out by way  
of Chusago & Ojibwa, and come  
back by way of Fenwick, or St  
Louis and home by way of Washington.  
If we wanted any, Skooking, we could  
find Mipe, in March, I am told by  
the Million, or your friend old boy  
and catch Salmon, I hear

that March and April are  
the most pleasant months  
to see California, no dust, and  
no going away, I wish  
you would conclude to go, if we  
were not away, but a short  
time, we could collect some  
good things and see the Country,

Daddy

I hear your mother is ill, my  
mother has been sick all winter,  
has not been willing I should  
go away, as she thought she would  
never see me again, she is very  
old, appears some better, and  
am anxious to go away, for a  
couple of months if we were,

I have not time much in way of  
collecting, as most my time is  
gone, I think I am away, I do  
not send me any thing, the  
birds are about as common as

usual, the snow is very  
deep in the mountains, so nothing  
can be done shooting, I will  
try to get some the birds you  
write for if possible, If I  
was home in March, I could  
get some good water birds such  
as Bartramii, the large Golden Eye,  
the Golden Plover, Murre, Golden Plover  
&c. I hope to be able to get away before  
we have much winter weather, I  
have not seen a white owl, this  
winter, some few Hawks, & Eagles  
flying about,

My dog Jack,  
is as fat as a bear I let him  
out to have a good run, most  
every day, but cannot keep the  
fat off him, I hope Kisteth  
has a good litter pups, I think  
the old Slut very good blood,  
Jack is a splendid dog, I

B. Boardman S. A.  
Aug. 10 - 75

dog for water & get ducks,  
I hardly ever lose a cripple.

I shot a few days since a Grebe  
with the whole flock chicks, and  
put them up, they look very  
funny, she had several of the  
smallest on her back, I also  
got some Grebe's Egg out of a  
nest last week, they hatched very  
late, I think the pickerel caught the  
young bird, and they lay again, as  
I found one flock out in June.

With  
kind regards to your father, also  
Mr Nesbit when you see him  
I am Yours very Truly

Geo A Boardman

Milltown N. H. Aug 10 1875

Friend Brewster Glad to

hear from you, rec'd your  
"bird paper", quite interesting.

I called to see you on my return from  
Florida last May, sorry you  
was out.

Write me when you  
have spare time some account  
of your doings this season,  
All about the new birdhouse?  
If you have done much collecting?  
If you have found any new things?  
Where you spent the spring?  
If you have had any good shooting?  
this fall; put up many specimens.

any of these things interest me.

I had a pleasant winter in Florida, had a very nice time. Have been collecting and shooting, but got nothing very rare. Went to Salmon fishing in May, had good success.

Since middle July I have done considerable shooting, have shot about thirty Woodcock, about as many snipe, and for a few days, young ducks have been flying, and I have shot a big lot, last evening I left about five and shot eleven ducks as they flew from the grass, have shot half a dozen several evenings. Mr. Boardman says she

don't want another one but to the house, they are most all dusky ducks, a few Wood ducks. They are more abundant than for several years.

My dog Jack is lively, and ranges too far for Woodcock, when he takes the scent, he goes so fast and far I have had time to find him. Some dog more timid, or slow would be better for Cuck, or Ruffed Grouse. I had a little pointer last winter when in Florida that would be just the thing, would hardly go out of sight, and not be so hard work to follow her. Jack is a splendid

Boardman's  
Aug 22 - '75

with me, when I started to go to the horse,  
the walking being very bad, did not  
pay any attention to the dog, not  
seeing him I called, and whistled  
and he did not come, was afraid  
he was lost, after a long time found  
he had run a stick between his  
collar, and neck, so he could not  
get away, and had almost twisted  
his neck off, before I found him.  
It was a wonder I found him, as  
the place was very thick, and he made  
no noise, should have been sorry to have  
lost him, as he is a dog hard to beat,  
only for Mordack too lively, I cannot  
keep up with him, If you get so  
far east, be sure and come to see me,  
I hope you will soon get your cabinet com-  
pleted, and cases filled up, Yours as ever  
G. A. Boardman

Milton Aug 22 1875

Friend Brewster I read  
your letter of the 15 very glad  
to hear from you, sorry you have  
had so dull a season collecting,  
and shooting;

I notice what you  
say about the little bittern;  
they have been common here,  
I have never before collected  
but two specimens <sup>here</sup>, this spring  
there was quite a number  
about, and I suppose some  
of them have been breeding, but  
have not found any, when out  
shooting, since I wrote you I

have shot quite a lot ducks,  
about a dozen Woodcock  
and some Snipe, also last  
Friday went fishing and  
caught three dozen nice trout,  
You write about shooting  
rail, I never shoot them,  
we don't consider them good  
to eat, at any rate when  
we have plenty Woodcock,  
Woodcock now are mounting,  
and I shall not go after  
any more until later, but  
I have shot all I know off,  
but suppose more will  
come along.

I have a son in  
Iona, says game is very  
plenty, when he goes to  
in the country, the roads  
are alive with chickens.

every wet place full of  
ducks, plovers, etc, etc. He  
has been with me in Florida,  
and says there is twice as  
much game in Iona, we have  
nothing here to be called game,  
He wants me to go out, but I am  
away so much winters, and  
this time of year get as much  
game here, as we can take  
care off, ~~this time of the year~~

I  
write more this time to tell  
you of an incident Friday,  
with my dog Jack, I took my  
rod, & gun, and went out a  
few miles, as the bushes were  
wet, went fishing, Jack had  
a collar, with a bell on his neck,  
so I could tell where he was  
along side the brook, he was



Boardman & A

May 17<sup>th</sup> 1876

Milton St. Stephen Marty, 1876

Dear Brewster,

I intended to have seen you when in Boston, and one day, started to go to Cambridge, but saw your father, who said you had gone out, and would not be home until night, I thought I would go another day, but was quite busy, and did not get out.

I was in hopes you had begun to put your collections, into your new building, hope before I go next evening, you may have them well set up.

Mr. Taylor told me you had been some 3 Lepreaux shooting and met with a bad accident, you were fortunate

ing thing off, as well as you did,  
I want you to write me, what you  
saw. If you had good shooting, or  
any new specimens. You say  
it was a good place, for trout and  
ducks, in fall, and spring.

We are  
experiencing quite Old weather, the  
ice is not out of the lakes, and  
they say it will not go out, until the  
weather is warmer, and say also,  
that the weather will be warmer,  
when the ice is out, a bad prospect  
that, for an early spring.

I took my dog  
out to Florida, found him very  
useful, but in hunting with  
the other dogs, he could not get  
any back habits, but soon  
missed around all right. The  
Florida folks had never seen  
so good a dog to retrieve wounded  
birds, and they were quite aston-

ished to see him point birds, with a  
quail in his mouth. He got back  
all right, and I have had him out  
for weeks, but they have most  
all left. I had quite good shooting  
but did not shoot, as much, as  
usual, did not get any thing very  
new, or rare, but got some very good  
birds, such as Swamp Kill woodpecker,  
and eggs, of the Crying bird, Waver,  
I do not know of any collector, that  
has them, we were about a month on  
the way home, I saw most all our  
naturalist friends, had a week  
at Philadelphia, to see what the  
condition of the Centennial, it is  
a very big town, and some very nice  
houses birds, to see, I think I shall  
be back again, before it closes up,  
I was sorry I was not home, when you were out,  
if you could have come and see me, with  
me to go to your father, and visit Mr. Van  
der See here, I am Yours Truly, W. H. Woodman

Geo. A. Boardman  
June 2, 1878

Milltown N.H. June 2 1878

Dear Brewster

I intended to have  
seen you upon my return from  
Washington this spring, was in  
Boston the day you had to leave for  
Illinois, and thought you would be  
very busy and would not care to  
see company. So I did not go to  
Cambridge, and before this time  
suppose you have returned with  
lots of good things. Mr. Killgus  
told me you would return about  
the middle of May.

When I started for  
Florida as usual, thought I would  
remain a short time in Washington  
and start south as soon as the  
weather got rough, but found such

nice matter, and he had nice  
rooms, Mr. Boarman. Thought  
we had better remain where we  
were, he had a very pleasant  
winter, but no shooting, or collecting.  
I heard of you often through Mr  
Henshaw, and Ridgway, but I  
have never heard what you found  
that was new! Hope you found  
some good Florida specimens. Mr.  
Ridgway has written me after  
your return <sup>from the</sup> to let me know  
what you found that was new,  
but he has not done so.

We are all pleased Prof Baird  
has become head of the Institution,  
as he has been the manager, and  
life of the concern for a long  
time. I have been having some  
things sent me, <sup>the only</sup> rare  
bird was quite a good specimen.

So the Gull, not in full plumage.  
This bird is not uncommon in  
the bay, but there are thousands of  
Bonapartes, to one of them, and they  
(the Bonapartes) can hardly understand  
the difference, or why a So the Gull  
is of more value than a Bonaparte.  
The Cayenne Gull is not very  
uncommon, yet I never was  
able to get but one, have found  
no new birds, nor collected  
but few warblers this season  
was earlier than the birds, the  
leaves got out before many  
of the birds came along.

You will much oblige me to  
write what you have found this  
or are the winter & spring.  
With kind regards to all the rest,  
Sincerely yours  
G. A. Boarman

Gen. A. Boscman

Feb. 7, 1879

William Ste. Stephen Esq, Mar 7, 1879

Friend Brewster

Thanks for the bird papers, I have all such papers bound with a lot like, miscellaneous papers, and have many volumes, my most interesting books, I have had but little to do this winter and have read them all through, It is something very new to me to see so much sleigh riding, having been away, to see, the last winters, The winter however has been very pleasant not many low cold storms, but I cannot say I like our low cold winters, Florida or California, suits me much better,

I have been doing considerable work in my bird house stormy weather

changing all the birds to white stands  
and perches, and they are looking very  
nicely, You must come down and see  
the most private collection mounted  
local birds there is about, I have not  
found anything new or rare this winter  
as it is pretty hard to do so, but have  
some common birds to skin, Goswants  
Haw Kowts, Jan Wobs and a few such  
birds have not heard of a while. One  
this winter, There was a very dark Hawk  
about early in the winter could not  
get it. Redpolls and Pine Grosbeaks have  
been very abundant.

I was glad to see  
the appropriation for Prof Baird's new  
Museum. I must write and congratulate  
the Professor. - I have a letter once in  
a while from Ridgway, also from  
Mr Coes. Prof Baird writes very often  
so I hear from Washington, and think  
perhaps I may go that way the

last of the month and will try  
to call and see you

I shall try hard  
to get more Sabine's Gulls this spring  
I do not think they are so very uncommon  
but so few among so many Bonapartes  
they are not often shot.

I do not know  
where Rosses Gull winters, a few  
have been taken in the summer <sup>on</sup>  
the Arctic Coast and when coming  
they is frozen up. Think they must  
come south to winter. I do not know  
of one in any American Collection.  
I have been trying to get the Shooters to see  
what they could find of a Small Gull  
this winter but only get Kittiwakes

Write  
once in a while, tell me if you get any  
new birds. if you are all well of your lameness,  
Horr a Bout the dog, etc, etc, Kind regards  
to all the kind, Sincerely, Yours, Geo A Boardman

Geo. A. Boardman.

Feb. 6, 1880.

Willtown St Stephen N.D. Feb 6, 1880

Dear Brewster

I have not heard  
from you except by a letter from  
Mr. Wisbeth, for a long time,

Mr. Wisbeth  
writes me you have had a bad accident  
in getting your arm broke, I can sympathize  
with you as I sprained my knee last  
September and have been on crutches  
ever since, or until this week when I  
go about on the Cane, It was done  
by my horse, I did not think it was  
any thing serious but went out  
Woodcock shooting one day, and  
that about finishes me up, Hope  
by Spring I shall be all right  
again, It has kept me home this  
winter the second winter for 14

years, our plans were to go out west  
to Minneapolis, where I have three  
sons, to spend a couple of months  
then go from there to Jacksonville,  
but my getting lame upset all our  
plans, I amuse myself this winter  
fixing birds and sleigh riding, Mr  
Nesbitt writes me he is going out,  
to Western Iowa, will leave Cambridge.  
He did not say much arm was hurt  
but hope you will write me all  
about your hurt and how you  
are getting along, and if you get  
any thing new or rare in way  
of birds, also write me what  
has become of Mr Stone. I saw in  
Jacksonville and went away with  
you,

Was sorry to hear of the death  
of Dr. Brewer, also Prof  
Milner of the Smithsonian.  
We shall miss the doctor very  
much, The sparrow question

I am afraid mill will die out, and  
Cones will grow rusty, unless  
he has some one to poke him  
up.

I have found four bird men  
to my collection found here last  
fall, Black tern, Gull bills or Marsh  
Tern, Razor bill Shearwater, and  
Stone Chat

This winter I have  
not had any thing very rare, some  
Owls, Hawks, and water birds,

Hoping  
to hear you are getting better  
and will some time come  
in this locality, collecting  
and see me.

Sincerely yours

Ceo A Boardman



**B. H. WHITE & CO.**

BOSTON:

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W. H. Miller's office  
Street opposite  
Lake, Corner 7th &  
Duncan's Corner  
Savannah  
Box B

Boston, April 25 1890

Dear Mr. Brewster

I am sorry to say I shall  
be unable to go out and see you at this time.  
I rec'd your letter yesterday afternoon and expected  
to be here until Monday but Mrs. Boardman  
took a bad cold the day we left Washington and  
thinks she better be at home as she is afraid she  
will be sick here and we left Friday afternoon.

I wanted to see your collection and talk about  
the Hawk, as soon as I went to the Smithsonian  
I saw a mounted bird, European Sparrow Hawk I  
knew to be the same and is funny how it got to  
Florida and with Florida skins. There was two Englishmen  
in Florida making collections and purchasing anything  
they did not have. They had been in South West Florida  
where those two men were collecting, I think it had  
been they had European skins, and it may be some  
one they exchanged or something of that kind

Geo. A. Boardman

April 20. 1890.

would be more likely than that the birds  
flew across the Ocean, The men do  
not appear to know it was a stranger or  
he would have asked me some extra price  
or his partner might have made the exchange  
and he would have known anything about it,  
Those English fellows were getting a lot  
of Florida things and were into some place  
in fact some where birds were kept or to  
be seen, I wanted them to show me what they  
had but they were packed in boxes and I did  
not see them, as soon as I saw the skin I  
knew it was a stranger and thought it might  
be some straggler from the West Indies or  
South America, as I told you I could find out  
nothing of its history from the men, they did  
not tell me whether or his man brother in law  
did not pay as much as the men thought they should  
have and they were going with, Poubert, folks  
purchase any skins they can get low enough  
and would be as likely to have anything that come  
along. Now all this is only what might be,  
and there is a possibility it may be a Florida bird,  
and nothing as you write about the make up of  
the skin I remember of noticing it was made up  
longer than their skins and had a different look, I may  
be up to Boston again some and will try to see you, I saw in  
Robins stall in Market some wild pigeons from St. Louis and  
I saw at another stall a big lot of Saon buntings a good many  
hundreds - many in full summer black & white plumage -  
Sincerely yours  
Geo. A. Boardman

Wm. A. Bradman

Aug. 11-1870

and you can understand now  
a million people when he thinks  
is not so. Some new birds as  
I have discovered when  
in Florida or out of you, and  
Cory, and Can. which think  
is not so. In Florida, I do  
not care to know. I have  
no collection of European  
birds, but have a few that  
I have seen in the  
world. I was some where  
the "Pablo deca house" Florida  
has been the first. It is one  
of our topography.

Sincerely yours  
Wm. A. Bradman

Calvin's Museum Aug 11 1870

My dear Reverend

Received  
from you the 6<sup>th</sup> of August  
I had to hear from you, hope  
in some time or other you  
will get to Calvin's with  
see this part of the country,

I have but a small collection  
in (comparison) of birds to  
show you as my collection is  
only local and find a local  
collection with male, female  
chicks, eggs & etc take out  
a building, and our country  
people have no museum  
and let them all come.

and so, and in summer have  
a good many Strangers call,

I  
Should be much pleased to look  
over your collection as it is  
a good many years since I  
have been to your place, Mr.  
Cox living in the City &  
I see him while I am here. I  
found nothing new this season  
but found upon getting home this  
Spring that there has been  
a strange migration of the  
great finch in Uta cinerea  
the last winter, & near or  
nearly a dozen taken about  
here and only about half  
of them saved. They were  
thought to be like barred  
ovels, and quite a number  
of Swain birds were taken  
I got the very nice ones before

I left, and in a number of  
places since we have been  
my last day, and it is  
over about the flight of  
some our winter birds and  
winter we have a good many  
Swain birds, and the number  
greatly increased, then  
tame hawk birds, then  
parrots, then on what  
I have seen with hawks  
but I have been away so  
many winters and being  
no collector of birds here  
a good many good things are  
shot and thrown away.

The  
little Hawk I got in Florida  
and gave you was never one as  
I had never had an American  
bird and thought it some West Indian  
or South American bird, & it is

Mr. Miller tells me that  
the Grinnell Smith collection  
contains a Swainson's Hawk  
killed in New York State  
N. B.

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Calais Maine Dec 5 1892

Friend Brewster

I have not  
seen you for a long time, I was  
in Boston twice last summer  
and enquired for you and was told you  
was not well and up at Concord  
Hope you are all right long before this

I  
write at Christmas Day that that  
a Young Swainson Hawk was shot  
here about two months ago which  
I have in my collection in very nice  
plumage, Don't you think it a long  
way east for the bird? makes a new  
one for my collection,  
Sincerely Yours Geo A Boardman

Boerdman - Geo. A.

Dec 5, 1892.

Geo. A. Boardman

~~Sept. 6~~

Sept. 6 - 1893

Calais Maine Sep 6, 1893

Dear Brewster

I have a bird  
of the Sandpiper kind sent  
me to name and I cannot  
just make it out but do  
not like to tell him so.

If you  
are at home will sent you  
to name for me. It was  
shot in May in Nova Scotia  
and probably in change of  
plumage and I have none  
like it.

Sincerely Yours  
Geo A Boardman

Calais Oct 20, 1893.

Dear Brewster I recd your letter saying you would be away Oct 20 and will now write you and say I sent the bird to Ridgway, I wrote him if it had been larger and yellow feet should have called it a ruff and he calls it a Ruff in Young Changing Plumage, a male, I have several Ruffs all much larger and yellow feet and legs, this one had very black feet & legs.

Hope you have had a nice fall in the woods and good success, Deer are very plenty this way and boys shoot them most every day in town Yours as Ever  
Geo A Boardman



Geo. A. Boardman

Oct. 20 - 1893.

Geo. A. Boardman,  
Dec. 1-1894.

Cuba Dec 1, 1894

Dear Brewster

The Taxidermist  
address that mounted the White  
Syr Falcon is Walter J Clayton  
Lincoln Maine, He put it up  
for a woman. I wanted to purchase  
it but Clayton could not get it for  
me, I had some doubts about it when  
I first heard, thought it might be some  
albino, but Clayton was at my place  
this fall and I shew him a picture of  
Audobon's White Syr falcon and he said  
it was the same, also shew him a skin  
of a Greenland bird.

I hope he may get it  
from the woman and send to you so  
we can be sure I have been

Collecting birds and looking over  
all the Taxidermist Shops and  
Collections for about fifty years  
and have seen Gyr falcons in a  
good many plumages but never  
saw what we call a Greenland  
bird with the light plumage taken  
in North America. and my last  
talk with Ridgway said he never  
had, They had one at the Smithsonian in  
skin without a tail marked Labrador  
but he had doubts about the locality  
I

wrote you about a queen Ruff sent  
me by T. J. Egan of Halifax last year  
that I afterward sent to Ridgway.  
Mr Egan wrote me last summer that  
he was coming this way and would  
call and see me. He was going on to  
Boston and New York I wrote him  
to take the bird and show you and give  
him a letter to you, I have not

heard from him since, Hope  
he saw you and you saw his Ruff.

As  
Mr Clayton might not know you  
and send the birds. I wrote a card  
saying he could depend upon the  
bird being returned all right  
I will enclose the card to you  
I

am sorry you have lost your taste  
for shooting, I have not done  
much this last season as my folks  
think I am too old almost seventy  
seven, Birds have been quite plenty,  
and all the boys shoot deer, They  
have to go out of town to find  
them, My Granddaughter went out with some  
friends last week for Partridges and had a little  
22 Cal Rifle and Mr Dexter shot and got two  
from others at one shot and one Buck deer  
another shot.  
Sincerely yours  
Geo A Boardman