

No. 50 Lancaster Street,
Albany, N. Y., Feb'y 2^d 1895.

William Brewster, Esq.,
Cambridge, Mass.

Dear Sir:

Mrs. Austin F. Park, my Dec'd brother's widow, has handed me your letter to her of the 29th ult., relative to the Note books and collection of Birds about which she had written you; and she requested me to thank you for your kindness in writing her, and to send you the lists of the collection, on your offer to "pay the expressage on it both ways."

By to-days American Express I have sent you two lists, one of the Mounted Birds (503), and one of the skins (502). Please kindly return them to me when you have examined them as you wish, with such an offer for the specimens you would like, as you may feel disposed to make in case we are obliged to break up the collection in order to obtain money to supply the immediate wants of Mrs. Park; (said collection comprising almost all she has to rely on for support).

We still hope to be able to dispose of the whole collection; but, in "these hard times," the prospects are not bright.

In case any suggestion as to the probability of selling, should occur to you, it will be considered an especial favor if you will kindly let me know thereof.

Respectfully Yours,

Sidney W. Park, Adm'r
of Est. of Austin F. Park, Dec'd.

W. Park - Sidney N.
Feb. 2, 1895.

No. 50 Lancaster Street,
Albany, N. Y., February 19th 1895.

William Brewster,
Cambridge, Mass.

Dear Sir:

Yours of the 6th inst. was duly received,
as were also the lists of my brother's Bird collection.

Thanks for your promptness.

On the first opportunity, I consulted with Mrs. Parks
relative to your offer, and made arrangements to send
you all the Bird skins, as you suggested, in order that
you might select therefrom such specimens as you
desired in addition to those marked by you on the skin
list, and that you might allow the small collectors, you
mention, to do the same; and we would be pleased to receive
an offer from some party for such as remain after such se-
lection. Will not some one among you make an offer
therefor?

Mrs. Parks informs me that there are about 90 "forms",
which my brother had prepared for mounting certain
specimens. I also gave instructions to send said "forms"
to you, with the skins, as it might save considerable time
in mounting the specimens, and in order that Mrs. Parks
might receive such pay therefor as might be deemed proper.

I find that the prices offered by you, are, in most
cases, considerable less than those given in the list published by
"Ward's Natural Science Establishment, Rochester, N. Y." While

agreeing to let you have the skins marked by you, for the total amount offered, I do not feel that I can, in justice to Mrs. Park, agree to sell the remainder, or any thereof, for such amounts as parties might feel disposed to offer, without first knowing what they do offer. Please kindly send me such offers as you or others may make, noting the "A.O.U." as well as the Collection No's, both of which are noted on each specimen.

Relative to the Mounted Birds, I can now only say, that we still have hopes of selling that collection, entire; but, in case we do not succeed, will be pleased to write you again relative thereto.

The party whom I engaged to pack and ship the skins, has been afflicted with one of the prevailing colds, so that it may be that they will not reach you by the 20th; but, I am assured, they will be there shortly after. I will again write you when I receive word that they have been sent.

Please do not express me the skins not sold, until I request the same. Would you allow Mr. Webster, Jafidamist, to look over the specimens remaining after you and your friends have made their selections?

Respectfully yours,
Sidney W. Park.

Wark - Sidney W.

Feb. 19, 1895.

No. 50 Lancaster Street,
Albany, N.Y., Feb. 20, 1895.

William Brewster, Esq.,
Cambridge, Mass.

Dear Sir:

Mr. Campbell, an old friend of my brothers, whom I engaged to pack and send you the Bird skins, has reported to me that he has turned over to the Express Company, two Boxes containing the said skins, properly directed to you.

Those which you selected, and marked on the list I sent you, are in the same box with others; but separated therefrom. Of the skins thus marked by you, the following were not sent, not being found, viz.

A. O. U. No. 466a, Col. No. 906, Traill's Flycatcher, and
" " 514, " No's 964+965, Evening Grosbeak.

He did not include the "Forms" I mentioned, not having room in the boxes. If, by sending you such "forms" as these are made, for the specimens you and your friends may select, anything can be realized therefrom for Mus. Park, I will send them. Please let me know relative thereto.

Hoping you may find all satisfactory, and that all may be disposed of, I remain,

Yours Respectfully,
Sidney W. Park.

Wark - Sidney W.
Feb. 20, 1895.

No. 50 Lancaster Street,
Albany, N. Y., Feb. 23^d 1895.

William Brewster,
Cambridge, Mass.

Dear Sir:

Your discouraging letter of the 21st inst., inclosing a list of 30 skins on which you have given the collection No., followed by 7 descriptions under the heading of "Also the following Birds on which I should like the price only since they have full labels," (which last part of said list is herewith returned) was duly received.

Inclosed, I send you the prices asked for the numbered skins on the list you sent, to which I have added the A. O. U. No's, the only prices you noted on the old list I sent you, for the skins on this list, the No's of lines of description of each specimen as it appears on my brother's Note Books, and on which I have checked such specimens as have "forms" made therefor.

Please give the no. of each specimen named on that part of your list which I return, and inform me if you wish any information relative thereto except the price. If you would note thereon the price you are willing to pay, it will oblige me. As the skins are described, as arranged by No's on the Note Books and price list, you will save me much labor by giving such No's. Kindly give both Nos, where they are shown on the skins.

The descriptions on the Note Books, showing locality, size, &c. &c., cover about 28 lines for each specimen; with abbreviations and technical terms, which I, not being at all familiar with, might not get correct, but which you would, doubtless, quickly and fully understand, and it suggests itself to me that it might be better that the note books be sent to you, so that you could copy therefrom such parts of the descriptions as you desired, and omit such as appear of no consequence to you.

As the prices given on the inclosed list were based mostly on those given on Ward's, and mostly agreed therewith, (with which I understand no descriptions are given save the names and numbers) and as I am told at the State Museum that the Note Book descriptions are of full as much value as the Birds, it appears to me that the prices on the list are full as low as they should be set, especially as the list you give are "the pick" of the whole. If, however, you think otherwise, please note on each the amount you will pay therefor.

I am informed that Mr. Webster, Taxidermist &c., has left Boston. Is this so? If so, please give me the name of some dealer there who might, possibly, be willing to make an offer for the skins; one whom you would be willing to allow to look at them while in your possession. If he has not left, would you allow him to thus look at them. If so, please give me his full address.

I will direct as to the return of skins of the skins as have to come back, as soon as I can; but, so long as they are so convenient to Boston, I would like to have some dealer there look at them. Please kindly send me the dimensions of the boxes in which the skins were sent you, as the place to which I will wish them returned, will greatly depend thereon.

Thanking you for your kindness in letting me know the condition of the skins, (I supposed they were all in good condition) I remain,

Yours Respectfully,
Sidney W. Park.

A.O.W. No's.	A. F. Park's Collection No's.	Description.	Price.	Price marked on ob. list by Wm. Brewster	Lines of Description etc. on No's Books.	"Form" made, marked "X".
2	807	Holboell's Grebe,	\$ 2 00	\$	34	
"	902	" "	2 00		32	
6	717	Pied-billed "	75		32	
11	1093x	Red-throated Loon,	3 00		42	
60	975	Bonaparte's Gull,	75		31	X
"	978	" "	1 00		30	X
"	805	" "	1 50		26	
106	757	Leach's Petrel,	1 25	1.00	33	
152	690	Barrow's Golden-eye,	2 50	1.00	46	X
154	1082	Old Squaw,	1 50		32	
202	938	Black crowned Night Heron,	1 00		23	
273	1085	Killdeer,	50		9	
326	791	Black Vulture,	3 50		41	
333	830	Cooper's Hawk,	50		30	
"	1102	" "	50		22	
339	942	Red-shouldered Hawk,	1 50		34	X
"	1055	" " "	1 00		36	X
"	1086	" " "	1 00		8	
"	1087	" " "	1 00		10	
357	1109	Pigeon "	1 00	1.00	36	
367	864	Short Eared Owl,	1 00		31	
373	1088	Scaevola "	75		14	
406	839	Red Headed Woodpecker,	20		31	
459	904	Olive-sided Flycatcher,	75		27	
486	681	American Raven,	3 00	2.00	33	X
536	846	Lapland Longspur,	25		23	
621	774	Northern Shrike	50		28	
703	795	Mockingbird,	25		27	
718	797	Carolina Wren,	40		23	
736	856	" Chickadee,	35		13	

x You gave this No. as "841", which is incorrect.

W. Parls - Sidney W.

Feb. 23, 1895.

No. 50 Lancaster Street,
Albany, N. Y. March 4, 1895.

William Brewster,
Cambridge, Mass.

Dear Sir:

Yours of the 1st inst. was duly rec'd.
The prices I named for the 30 specimens which you selected, amounting to \$35.²⁰, were taken from my brother's list, and were not in excess of Ward's Requested prices. In case said prices were not satisfactory to you, I hoped and expected that you would let me know tho' and you would be willing to pay therefor; and I now respectfully request that you will make such an offer for them, as they now are, at your office.

As my brother had prepared about 90 forms for mounting the birds, only six of which were for those on your selected list of 30, it would appear that he considered the large mass of the skins far from valuable; so I will still hope to be able to dispose of them.

I will have to go up to Troy before I can decide where to have the boxes sent, and as I am now - like most others here - having a severe case with "La Grippe", I cannot now go, but will as soon as I feel able.

Thanks for Mr. Webster's address, also for the measurements of the boxes.

Respectfully Yours,
Sidney W. Parks.

Part - Sidney W.
Mar. 4, 1895.

No. 50 Lancaster Street,
Albany, N.Y., March 22^d 1895.

William Brewster, Esq.,
Cambridge, Mass.

Dear Sir:

In reply to yours of the 1st inst., I wrote you on the 4th, asking that you would let me know the amount you would be willing to pay for the 30 Bird Skins you had selected from my brother's collection, as they now are at your office; to which I have received no reply. Will you please write me, on receipt hereof, what you will do? On receiving your reply, I will at once decide what to do. Hereafter, you can return the Boxes not wanted, directed to "Sidney W. Parks, Care W. & L. E. Husley, Fulton St., Troy, N.Y.," at your convenience.

I was not able to get up to Troy and make arrangements, until yesterday.

Respectfully yours,
Sidney W. Parks.

Parls - Sidney W.

Mar. 22, 1895.