

Journal CW  
April 12, 1903

Ms. B. 6.65.116.1

Yale Library · Dr. Brewster  
Apr 12. 1903

Dear Mr. Brewster,

In looking over my  
field notes for arrivals &  
departures at Maspoia I  
came across some for the  
Cambridge region, which may  
possibly be of interest to you  
although you have had so  
many weed breakers lately  
that I dare say they are  
of no value - However, I  
send them on the chance -

[9 were entered there in  
the Lys. Notes as 1 bird in each  
case -

Fox Sparrow } here in locality  
Red Wing }

W.D.]

Blue bird . Arlington Feb 22. 1882

(1 seen) Many land yellow throat Arlington (Huron  
Nov 8. 1879 ground)

[Phoebe]  
1 shot] Blue Belmont Nov 15. 1878.

(1 seen) Tree Swallow. Belmont Oct 17. 1878.

Cat bird Arlington Oct 6. 1878

Fox col. Sparrow Dec 6. 1878.

Red wing h. b. Dec 9. 1878.

- Mr. J. R. Mann tells me  
he heard & saw a pine Creeper  
harden at Arlington on March 29<sup>th</sup>  
of this year -

W.D.  
C. J. Townsend -

Yerraultno St. Boston.

May 9, 1904.

Dear Mr. Brewster,

I must let you know that I obtained from a farmer at Ipswich yesterday a Dilom's plover that he had shot but a short time before. Isn't that a great find! I suppose he had wandered north with other Stone birds. Winter yellow legs were abundant & very much in evidence with their whistling. I also saw 6 or 7 least sandpipers, 3 black-bellied plover & 1 Semipalm-plover. The latter could not I suppose

Townsend - C.H.

May 9. 1904.

has been a Wilson's plover as

I heard its familiar call  
note, & ~~the~~ the books say

the Wilson's plover has a  
very different note.

Yours best regards

Yrs.

C. Townsend.

CHARLES W. TOWNSEND, M.D.  
76 MARLBOROUGH ST., BOSTON.  
OFFICE HOURS,  
2.30 TO 3.30 P.M.

Aug 15. 1906 -

Dear Mr. Brewster,

I want to

Congratulate you very much  
on the successful completion  
of your great work on the  
Birds of the Cambridge Region.  
I have been so busy since  
I came back from Labrador  
a few days ago that I  
have not had time to  
look at the book, but  
I hope to be able to get

at it before long, & I am  
expecting a great treat.

I had a fine time  
in Lahadn - most  
interesting in every  
way - and a great  
deal to tell,

Yours very sincerely

Charles W. Townsend.

7 Uxbridge St. Boston

Sept 13, 1916 -

Dear Mr. Brewster,

I have been reading  
your "Birds of the Cambridge  
Reserve" at my solitary meals  
and have just finished it.  
It is unnecessary to tell you  
how much I have enjoyed it,  
and I can thoroughly appre-  
ciate how much work it  
represents.

That it will always be  
a valuable work of reference  
to the bird life in Cambridge

during the past and at  
the present time goes without  
saying - It will also  
serve as a model of careful  
and thorough work for all  
writers of local lists.

I hope you are having  
a delightful time in the  
Country. As for myself -  
English Sparrows are about the  
only birds I see. However,  
I am living on the remembrance  
of Labrador!

Yours very sincerely,  
Charles W. Townsend.



76 Marlboro St. Boston.

Jan 1. 1907.

Dear Mr. Brewster,

I should be  
much obliged if you  
will submit the matter to  
the Council. I should need  
the lantern for the first  
talk only - a general description  
of the Sabado Court <sup>+ general areas</sup> <sub>60 lantern slides</sub>  
In case the Council decide  
against it, I will omit that  
talk + give the second only <sub>(notes on the birds)</sub>  
Wishing you a happy New Year  
Yours Charles W. Townsend.

76 Marlborough St. Boston.

March 1, 1907.

Dear Mr Brewster,

I have been looking  
into the subject of lanterns and  
find that an excellent lantern,  
Darlow lens, using electricity,  
can be bought of A. D. Handy  
12 Bromfield St for <sup>\$</sup>5.00.

At 20 ft it gives a field  
about 6 x 7 ft with very good  
definition. It is easily  
managed and it would I  
think be an excellent investment.

in the Metall Club.

Many of the members take  
photographs, and with a  
good lantern there would be  
an inducement to bring lantern  
slides to the meetings -

I intend to bring this matter  
up at the next meeting, but  
I have written you this in case  
I should be prevented from  
coming.

Yours sincerely,

Charles W. Townsend.

76 Marlborough St. Boston.

August 17, 1907.

Dear Mr. Brewster,

You will be interested  
to hear that I shot an adult  
♀ leucorhynchalis at Spruce  
which will prove, I think,  
to be an unusually interesting  
specimen for study. It was  
feeding one young and one only -  
I watched them for  $\frac{3}{4}$  of an hour  
before shooting - which I also  
did. It was a Chrysoptera.

I also saw an adult Prairie  
Horned Lark at Eagle Hill & 2  
Caspian Terns on Spruce Lake.  
But my month's vacation is over

I am sorry to say, & I am  
back at work in Boston.

I was very glad to hear  
from you. I came over the  
telephone the other day that  
you had been at Umbagog -  
I hope your work on the  
side of that region is  
progressing.

It looks as if Brewster's  
Inn would soon become one  
of our familiar door-yard sides!

Very sincerely,

Charles W. Townsend -

Boston 76 Marlboro' St.

Aug 20. 1907.

Dear Mr. Brewster

Since writing you  
about my supposed leucorhynch.  
I am growing doubtful, &  
from considering it leucorhynch.  
with links between it and  
Chrysoptera as I first supposed,  
I am not sure but it may  
turn out to be merely a very  
light throated ♀ Chrysoptera.

Francis Allen & Spelman to  
whom I showed it at  
Ipswich thought it was  
leucorhynchialis, and if it

is it is an unusually  
interesting specimen.

hope to go over the series  
in your collection with

Mr. Deane soon so as  
to be able to decide.

I merely wish here to  
retract the printer's statement  
I made just.

Very sincerely,

Charles W. Townsend.

Yale Natural History Dept. Boston.

March 11, 1908.

Dear Mr. Brewster,

I am perfectly willing to  
have both the records you refer to cancelled  
if the Council see fit, but I am  
satisfied that these records are good for the  
following reasons:

1<sup>st</sup> - 34 very fine female Baldpates at Ipswich  
Oct 20, 1907. These were seen by me again  
on Oct 27 in the same place. Glover Allen  
& Nichols were with me the second time.  
I feel almost sure that Dr. John Phillips  
told me that <sup>he</sup> saw them also, but I can  
not confirm this latter statement for  
Mr. Phillips is abroad.

Furthermore I identified the birds  
with strong Lieder binoculars (not opera  
glasses) and a telescope, and I had  
a good chance to study them as they  
stood up in the water to flap their



mingo, or tipped up & showed their  
under Coverts & lower bellies.

2<sup>d</sup> The Jamaica plain ducks.

There is no doubt but that these birds  
had blue gray & not white wing marks,  
hence it was a matter of size to  
determine whether they were Ring-necked

& Red heads. Knowing there  
were mallards, <sup>Blacks,</sup> & Ruddies at the  
pond I carefully compared specimens  
of all ~~four~~ species in my collection  
before going to the pond, and again on  
my return. The birds were all

seen close together, at times not  
more than sixty yards off so that  
I was able to compare their sizes.

I say in my notes made on the spot:

"They are much larger than *E. jamaicensis*  
of which I hear, & not much smaller

than Mallards & Blacks. - So I  
concluded they were all Redheads

I should like to see three  
♀ Gadwall & eleven Ring necks  
very much!

Don't mind throwing out  
the records - I shall not  
feel hurt the least bit, but  
I am satisfied I used due  
care, & had good strong glasses  
& was not engaged in hunting  
for eggs, shooting or photographing  
at the same time

Yours  
Charles W. Townsend.

March 16. 1909.

7 Marlboro St. Boston.

Dear Mr. Brewster,

In referring to my notes  
I find several points not  
mentioned by Allen last night  
in the Courtship actions of the  
Whistler. I have also seen

these actions in November, an  
example of the "autumnal  
recrudescence of the amatory  
instinct". I mentioned these

slightly these actions in the  
"Birds of Essex Co." but I had not  
then made any study of them.

Willie H. Moore, Scotch Lake,  
N. B. in Bird Lore, Oct., 1900, vol II, p. 157.

Gives a brief description of these  
Courtship actions and describes  
the note omitted. I did not  
read this volume of Bird's  
until after I published Essex Co  
He certainly had an  
interesting meeting last night.

I hope you will write out  
your paper on the Courtship  
of the Golden-eye & read  
it at the N.O.C.

Yours

Charles W. Townsend.

The first time I heard this ~~note~~<sup>song</sup>  
of the Whistler was here 6<sup>th</sup>, 1906 -

7 Elmwood Ave. Boston

Nov 11, 1909.

Dear Mr. Brewster,

I have had sent  
me a head and portion of  
the skin of a Ruffed Grouse  
typical in plumage but with  
a red line piece above the

eye. The head of another  
<sup>no certain but presumed</sup>  
I showed this one piece almost

to the extent of a comb as  
in the Spruce Partridge.

Both birds were shot in

this state. Yours Roman

We have this pattern or is  
it possible that the presence  
of this pattern in a bird  
otherwise typical of Pomarine  
indicates hybridism with  
the Spruce Partridge? Is  
there any chance of hybridism  
with the European Black Grouse?  
(i.e. with no skin attached)  
The first head was somewhat  
larger than Pomarine which made  
me think of the Black Grouse  
Very truly  
Charles W. Townsend.

CHARLES W. TOWNSEND M.D.  
76 MARLBOROUGH ST BOSTON  
OFFICE HOURS.  
2.30 TO 3.30 P.M.

March 17. 1910.

Dear Brewster,  
It was on March 15<sup>th</sup> 1910 about 5 in the afternoon that I saw the Horned Grebe in the Back Bay Basin of the Charles River about a hundred or a hundred + fifty yards off the end of Fairfield St. It appeared to be in adult or partially adult plumage, although I could not see the color of the lower neck as I had no glasses + the light was bad - It was actively diving (with wings closely folded as it went under water) & appeared on one occasion to be eating a small fish. Our new members + our dinner last night were certainly successful!  
Yours - Charles W. Townsend.

Helena Ave. Boston.

July 6. 1960.

Dear Brewster,

I have just read with  
much interest your reply to  
Bright about the Red-legged Black  
Duck and it seems to me  
that your arguments are all  
good & more excellently  
moderately stated. Particularly  
you make it clear that he  
has only one heading bid to  
found his evidence on, & that  
as you show may have been  
an escaped Park bid.

The one I read and

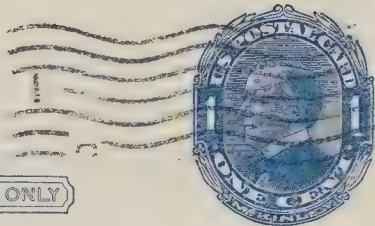
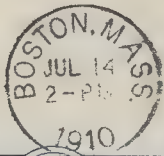


Observe + think on the subject,  
the more interesting a one it  
seems to me, + the less I  
wish to state any opinion.

I am sure that Mr. Wright  
deserved an answer to his  
paper, + he was fortunate  
to have such a cautious adver-  
sary as yourself.

When can you go with me  
to see the year old pair of  
Black Ducks in So Sudbury?  
I have not seen them for some  
time + am anxious to look  
them over with you.

Yrs Sincerely,  
Charles W. Townsend



THIS SIDE OF CARD IS FOR ADDRESS ONLY

Mr. Wm Brewster.  
Brookline.  
Cambridge  
Mass.

I saw the Bl. ducks yesterday wr.  
+ am very much interested in  
their progress which seems now  
to be having out your views. I  
want to see them again in Oct or  
Nov.

July 14. 1910.

Yrs.  
Civ. Townsend.

W. L. Brewster, Jr. Boston.

May 3, 1911.

Dear Brewster,

I was much interested  
and amused by your letter.  
Of course it was the only thing  
I do, & I am only sorry that the  
notice of Thayer's talk could not <sup>have</sup> been  
given so that some members could  
have been present. The Mergansers  
can write till next time.

I am sincerely sorry for Thayer,  
but as he is so supremely confident  
of himself and his theory, I dare  
say he does not need my pity.  
What you say about his expressions  
of absolute truth and absolute fact  
as regards his theories, goes to  
show of course how daft

the poor man has become on  
the subject.

I am sure we did right  
in discussing with him, although  
like you I thought at first  
it was nice to say nothing.

I hope he will not come again!

He can not accuse us of being  
faint-hearted like F. H. A.!

I hope that I was not discourteous.

I was sorry to learn before it was  
over but I had to make a

late visit.

I thank you very much  
for the copy of the Concord & I  
enjoyed reading your paper again.

Yours  
Charles W. Townsend

76 Marlboro' St. Boston.

August 23, 1911.

Dear Brewster,

I hope you have not  
forgotten that you are coming  
down to spend a Sunday  
with me at Ipswich. There  
has been a White Egret, so I  
told, there lately & still  
Sandpipers & others at Clark's  
pond. It shall be  
most delightful to have you  
come any time that is  
convenient to you if you

Will set the date -

I heard from Glover Allen  
what a good time you  
had with the birds of the  
Atlantic.

I have finished my paper  
on the Black Duck & have  
these titles for it which I  
offer for your criticism

"The Validity of Brewster's Red-legged  
Subspecies of Black Duck"

"The Black Duck - a vindication  
of Mr. William Brewster"

Perhaps you can give me a  
better one — I left

Write Drane a Copy of  
"Captain Cartwright and his  
Lahada Journal" for your  
thinking you would not care  
to be troubled with it while  
you are visiting. It has  
just come out.

I had a delightful time  
in my vacation going with  
my whole family for a  
four weeks trip to St John  
& the river. We stayed  
at several places on



the river & I got a  
fairly good idea of the  
Summer bird fauna -  
Bobolinks & Hudsonian  
Chickadees in the same  
tree seemed a queer  
combination! There is a  
good deal that it is smothered  
in this sheltered valley.

Hoping you can arrange  
to come to Ipswich,

Very sincerely,  
Charles W. Townsend

The Woodhenge Dr. Boston  
August 28, 1911.

Dear Brewster,

I am delighted that  
you can spend Sunday  
September 10<sup>th</sup> at Ipswich.  
As to trains - I shall probably  
take the 3.30 train Saturday  
afternoon & shall look for you  
on that.

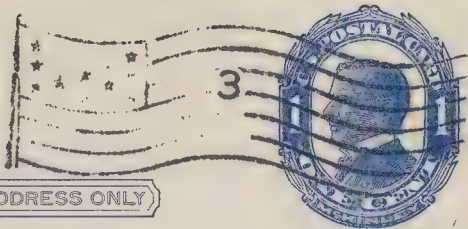
Thank you for your criticism  
of the title of the Black Duck  
paper and I think you are

Entirely right. Perhaps you  
can suggest some little  
where we meet.

Glover Allen & his wife  
have just spent Sunday  
with us at Sprinckle, and  
a fine mocking bird was  
flying about close to the  
house when he left. Two  
were seen yesterday!

Looking forward with great  
pleasure to your visit

Very sincerely  
Charles W. Townsend.



THIS SIDE OF CARD IS FOR ADDRESS ONLY

Mr. Wm Brewster.  
Concord -  
Mass.

1911 - Sept 21. 76 Marlboro

I said I had not seen Jackles Catcher  
fish. But I find in my notes that  
I saw one in the Back Bay Basin splash  
its whole body into the water & immerse  
with "what looked like a small silver  
fish". They are certainly interesting  
birds! I'm proud my Sunday with you all  
at Spruce very much -  
Yrs -  
C. W. Townsend

76 Marlboro St. Boston

Jan 28. 1912

Dear Brewster,

We missed you very much  
at the January feast which  
was most interesting, satisfying  
and warming. I trust

that your cold is better -

I have just read your Gull  
Flight paper with great pleasure,  
and as I have heard you read  
it twice and have also talked  
much about it, I feel fairly  
conversant with the subject.

I think you have expressed  
the whole thing admirably, &  
I suspect that all the theories

You mention may have a  
hand in the matter.

It occurred to me that  
it might be interesting to  
send a reprint of the paper  
to an Aeronautical Magazine  
& thereby obtain possibly  
an interesting review and  
criticism.

I have not heard today  
from any of the Medicians but  
I trust they all prosper!

Sincerely,

Charles W. Townsend

Seal Net Print about  $\frac{1}{2}$  way  
between Cape Whittle & Harrington.  
July 16. 1915.

Dear Brewster

Just a line to tell you  
I am having the time of my life  
on this trip. Harold St John, botanist,  
& I are cruising along the coast in  
a little 40 ft schooner under a Captain  
who knows every rock & who takes great  
interest in following Audubon's steps.  
I have his Labrador journal with me  
& we read it frequently. We have  
been on two islands that had not  
been disturbed & where the Capt found  
the conditions were the same as  
20 yrs ago. Cormorants: double crested,  
about 600 nests on one island and 400  
on the other containing eggs & young of all  
ages. Many of the old birds allowed us  
to come fairly near. Among these on  
both islands were one or two thousand  
murren - many rings and eggs everywhere.  
Razor-billed auks, Black Gullenots,  
Sider & Great Bl. backed gulls on the  
periphery. Auks are abundant



everywhere. I have seen 4 or 5  
Caspian Terns & the Cape. hopes to  
know me an island where they  
feed. - le grand esterlet. Today  
I visited an island on which  
at least 400 Ring billed gulls, <sup>(meuve)</sup> were  
breeding, obtained photographs &  
eggs, young & adults.

One of my most interesting experiences  
was that of spending five days with  
M. Johan Beetz - the Belgian who  
has been on this coast at Fiastre Bay  
since 1896. A most delightful  
family - I enjoyed studying his  
collection of birds - found no less  
than six hitherto unrecorded  
for the Brindola.

You can imagine my time  
is well occupied. We have had  
much bad weather - one severe  
gale but were fortunately in a  
secure basin surrounded by islands.  
The Captain is a delightful man

162  
one in whom we have the greatest  
Confidence. There is a post  
office & telegraph station & fishing  
post here - all in one house  
the only one for miles along the  
Coast. A little Schooner will

Call here in a day or two for  
the mail. It occasionally

get news of la guerre in an  
official telegram if, as here  
it come to a station. But the

one seems to have passed out  
of our lives to be but a bad  
dream of the past.

In hope to get to Blanc Sablon  
about July 29<sup>th</sup> & I shall  
take a steamer on the 31<sup>st</sup> day  
to Newfoundland & so home  
Best regards to all - The Capt  
is going ashore now to mail

Sincerely

Charles W. Townsend

May 10, 1918.

Dear Brewster,

I am very sorry I did not get to see you before you went away to Concord - but I put it off until it was too late. I was very glad to hear from Harry & Walter - that you were better & I am sure the trip at Concord will help you a great deal.

I am planning to get out a Supplement to my Birds of Essex County to appear in 1920 on the 15<sup>th</sup> anniversary of its original appearance. I have a number

of species to add & a great many dates & notes - the observers in Essex County have increased.

There were no members of the  
A.O.U. in the County in 1905  
& now there are eight -

I hope the Club will publish  
it for me, but I am writing  
to you to say that I do not  
wish to interfere with the  
publication by the Club of  
your birds of which I believe  
should of course have precedent.  
Please let me know.

I intend to bring up the  
matter at the Council meeting  
next time if you have no  
objection.

You will be glad to hear that  
we have at last secured plots,  
of Bent & Harbour by purchase  
& he fitted in to the great group  
& you will receive your copy in  
due time.

I wish you could have been  
at my house when we  
celebrated Walter's 70<sup>th</sup> birthday.  
He was as youthful & happy &  
cheerful as ever -

I went out to the Annual  
Arboretum Wednesday morning Apr  
7 to listen to the hooking bird

them & was given a great treat.

He sang and danced magnificently.  
I recognized the <sup>mimicked</sup> calls & songs of 21 birds  
& if my ear had been better I should  
have recognized still more. These were  
Blue Jay, Brown Thrasher, Robin, Song Sparrow,  
Flicker, Red eyed Vireo, Red Sh. Hawk  
Cob. bird, Bob White, Kinglet, Baitan  
Cock, Carolina Wren, Field Sparrow,  
Crow, Wood Pewee, Barn Swallow, <sup>Chimney</sup>  
Plover, Blue bird, Oriole, Tanager.

Some of the imitations were  
brilliantly good.

I also saw & heard a Tennessee Warbler.  
I trust you are doing some good things.  
It must be beautiful in Concord now  
Don't get moles

Yrs

Charles W. Townsend.

✓ Merula migratoria

(Feb 16. 1878) Arlington Mass.

Came upon a flock of 6 or a 700 Robins  
(probably more) Found a nest many  
feet in a Cedar wood & by the  
prospects in the snow, it is probable that  
they passed the night here. They were all  
uttering their call & alarm notes, frequently  
& loudly, many were singing well & over  
the rest part of their song but not joining  
with it, while two or three were singing  
the whole of their Summer song. The  
noise was great & it sounded very queerly  
& I hear the peculiar Summer song of  
the Robin when the ground was covered  
deeply with snow. Most of the  
Robins appeared in "pale plumage  
from Yellow Hills."

[Dr. C. W. Townsend]

The warblers to. Boston.

Aug. 24<sup>F</sup> 1903.

Dear Mr. Drake,

Sayornis phoebe 1 shot at

Belmont Nov 15. 1878.

T. bicolor 1 seen at

Belmont Oct 17. 1878.

G. trichas "saw me at

Arlington Nov 8<sup>F</sup> 1879; seen on  
ground".

Can you tell me about  
two miniature horned larks.  
supposedly Prairie sent you by



24 Aug 03 ©

Mr J. L. Bradley taken by him  
in Ipswich on August 1<sup>st</sup>. He  
writes me they were the northern  
variety, but I suppose he is  
mistaken. I shot at Ipswich

On Aug 13<sup>th</sup> a young Prairie  
Horned Lark & Hoffman saw  
two adults & one young on Aug 9<sup>th</sup>

So to him belongs the priority  
of discovery. H. was with me on the 13<sup>th</sup> also -  
It looks as if

the Prairie H. L. had pushed  
on its breeding place to Ipswich.  
I have just returned from my  
incubation today, but expect to go  
down for Sunday.

With you & Mrs. Drane

(3)

Come down Saturday afternoon  
Aug 29<sup>th</sup>  
+ spend Sunday with us?

Mrs. Townsend & I will

be delighted to have you -

Sincerely yours,

Charles W. Townsend

Townsend, C. W.

Aug. 24, 1903

*[Decorative flourish]*

*[Faint, illegible handwriting]*