

October 6, 79.

Oct. 7, 1879

Dear Mr. Brewster.

In reply to a letter written some time ago I have just recd. the enclosed reply from Mr. Peabody with reference to the eggs of *P. villosus*.

Although not as satisfactory as I could wish, it is the best I can do at present.

I hope by and by to get a better set of this birds eggs and if I do will be sure to let you know. I will exchange the set at any time for anything else of equal value on hand or will return the money at a word from you.

Yours sincerely

W. B. Garrow.

Prof. H. A. Ward

Feb. 7, 1879.

WALTER B. BARROWS,
PROFESSOR.

RUFUS H. PETTIT,
JESSE J. MYERS,
INSTRUCTORS.

ZOOLOGY, ENTOMOLOGY,
PHYSIOLOGY, GEOLOGY.

MICHIGAN AGRICULTURAL COLLEGE.

DEPARTMENT OF ZOOLOGY AND GEOLOGY.

AGRICULTURAL COLLEGE, INGHAM CO., MICH.

Mr. William Brewster,
Cambridge, Mass.

June 9, 1904.

Dear Sir:-

I am preparing for publication a work on Michigan birds to be issued probably next fall as a College bulletin. Naturally I am looking up every scrap of information obtainable in regard to the birds of our State. Your notes in the Auk regarding specimens of the Alder fly-catcher from Oden, Emmet County ^{suggest that} and you doubtless had other birds from that vicinity. I wonder if it would be asking too much of you to give me any notes you may have of the capture of any of the less common northern species in Michigan;— ~~Notes~~, I mean, of specimens of birds or eggs taken in this State. The bulletin will not go to press probably before next October or November and I should be very thankful for anything you could give me even if it were only a very few records. I have not been able to define at all ~~as to~~ the southern boundary of the breeding area of Canada Jay, the Winter Wren, the Junco, the White Throated sparrow and the Mourning Warbler. Moreover I have no positive record, backed by a specimen, of the Hudsonian Chickadee in Michigan. I sought for it in vain last July at Marquette, Munising and Grand Marais. Of course I did not make a very thorough search as the time was limited and the evergreen woods were ^{almost} uninhabitable on account of insects, but had it been even fairly abundant I ought to have found it.

It just occurs to me that I never kept my promise and sent you an

Mr. William Brewster, -P.#2-

account of my experience with the Passenger Pigeon in Mass. during
the last big flight in that State about 1870. I presume you have
already completed the work you were engaged upon when you ask^{ed} me for
that account, but if it would be of any use to you now I will write it
out and send it to you sometime within the next month. This is ^{always} our
busy season and I ^{this year} have even more than usual to do.

Yours very truly,

Walter B. Barrows

(Dictated)

Beacons, MB.
June 9, 1904.

WALTER B. BARROWS,

JESSE J. MYERS,
J. R. KELTON,

MICHIGAN AGRICULTURAL COLLEGE.

DEPARTMENT OF ZOOLOGY AND GEOLOGY.

ZOOLOGY, ORNITHOLOGY,
PHYSIOLOGY, ECOLOGY,
GEOLOGY, PHYSIOGRAPHY.

AGRICULTURAL COLLEGE, INGHAM CO., MICH.
FREIGHT AND EXPRESS OFFICE, LANSING; P. O. AGRICULTURAL COLLEGE.

March 15, 1907.

Mr. William Brewster,
145 Brattle St.,
Cambridge, Mass.

Dear Mr. Brewster:

I am sending you by express today, prepaid, the skins of
five ruffed grouse as follows:

<i>typical</i>	No. 5670,	Kalamazoo County,	May 25, 1882	} Agr. College Collection
<i>mount</i>	" 7385,	Ionia "	Dec. 26, 1896	
	" 8504,	Munising, Alger Co.	Oct. 22, 1906	
<i>mount</i>	" 8505,	" " "	" " "	
	No number, female, Chippewa County Oct. 26, 1906, private collection of W. B. B.			

I shall be greatly obliged if you will examine these specimens and indicate which are nearest to togata, if not typical. The specimen from Chippewa County seems to me to be more nearly like the descriptions of togata, but I have no material for comparison. The specimens from this immediate vicinity, Ingham County, are all mounted and so not easily sent, but as far as my experience goes they seem to be essentially like the specimen from Ionia *typical* county, No. 7385.

Yours very truly,

Walter B. Barrows

Professor of Zoology.

Dictated.

WALTER B. BARROWS,

JESSE J. MYERS,
J. R. KELTON,

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FREIGHT AND EXPRESS OFFICE, LANSING; P. O. AGRICULTURAL COLLEGE.

March 22, 1907.

Mr. William Brewster,
145 Brattle St.,
Cambridge, Mass.

Dear Mr. Brewster:

Yours of the 18th inst. was received yesterday and the box of bird skins came back this morning. I am very greatly obliged to you for your kindness in examining these skins and for your opinion upon their relationships. What you say about the specimen from Chippewa County confirms the opinion which I had already formed. The location is in the eastern part of the Upper Peninsula and includes large stretches of spruce swamp and heavy timber so that the conditions are more like those of northern Ontario than elsewhere in the state, except perhaps on the Keweenaw Peninsula, from which region I have never seen any specimens. The region about Marquette, on the contrary, is more open, with fewer extensive spruce swamps and more hardwood, and while both forms might occur there, or an intermediate race, I should not expect to find typical togata. The two specimens sent me were said to have been killed from the same flock, at all events they were obtained on the same day from the same gunner, and one was decidedly rufous while the other was very gray.

I shall make a strong effort during the coming year to get adult males from as many northern points as possible. Unfortunately the law prevents our buying specimens, even for scientific purposes, and it is difficult for us to collect them during the open season and even more so during the summer.

W. B. -- 2.

I suppose you have seen a copy of Mr. Mershon's book on the passenger pigeon, just issued by the Outing Company. I am quite skeptical about some of the reports of living passenger pigeons seen in Michigan since 1900, but I am loth nevertheless to admit that the species is extinct.

Again thanking you for your kindness in examining these specimens, as well as for your list of birds collected at Cadillac and Oden, I am,

Yours very truly,



Professor of Zoology.

Dictated.

Michigan Agricultural College

EAST LANSING

ZOOLOGY
ORNITHOLOGY PHYSIOLOGY
EMBRYOLOGY GEOLOGY
PHYSIOGRAPHY

DEPARTMENT OF ZOOLOGY AND GEOLOGY

WALTER B. BARROWS, PROFESSOR

JESSE J. MYERS, ASSISTANT PROFESSOR

INSTRUCTORS

B. B. ROSEBOOM

ALLEN C. CONGER

FREDERICK A. BURT VERNE E. LEROY

March 4, 1913

My dear Mr. Brewster: Yours in regard to A. T. Wayne is just at hand. I am very sorry that my negligence has given him cause for worry. As a matter of fact he has done absolutely nothing to give me offence, and I was very glad to get his note on mistakes in my book. His last letters happened to come at a time when serious trouble in the family (the death of my wife's sister, the serious illness of another sister, and her own collapse from the nervous strain) added to the regular burden of college duties simply compelled me to drop everything in the way of correspondence which could not be delegated to a very incompetent clerk. Wayne's letters were barely read and laid aside with 60 or 70 more relating to "Mich. Bird News", and I had forgotten entirely that he did say that he feared he might have offended me. I am writing him this afternoon, and am sure I can satisfy him that my neglect was not intentional. My wife is able to be out of doors again and everything

looks brighter. I am already starting on the work which
has accumulated, and hope to get it in shape at
once. I can see exactly how a sensitive Southerner
might look at my silence.

What really troubles me is that I feel urgent to
write a score of personal letters to A.O.U. Fellows in
Wagner's behalf, hoping that we might elect him next
November. If enough people put his name on the in-
formal nomination blank which Sage sent out it
may yet be possible, but I'm doubtful.

Thanking you sincerely for calling my
attention to the matter, I am

Yours very truly
Ralph B. Barnock

27x 39.0.2

WALTER B. BARROWS,
JESSE J. MYERS,
J. R. KELTON,

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FREIGHT AND EXPRESS OFFICE, LANSING; P. O. AGRICULTURAL COLLEGE.

March 6, 1907.

Mr. Walter Deane,
145 Brattle St.,
Cambridge, Mass.

Dear Mr. Deane:

In reply to yours of the first inst. I would say that I am anxious to get reliable facts about the presence or absence of a considerable number of birds which have been attributed to Michigan, but which thus far I have not been able to find in the state, or else have found restricted to particular parts of the state instead of being generally distributed as claimed. Knowing that Mr. Brewster has had collectors in Michigan and has done some field work here himself, I thought it possible he could give me facts with regard to some of these birds. Among those in which I am most interested are the following: wood thrush, olive-backed thrush, mockingbird, Hudsonian chickadee, cardinal, lark sparrow, Harris's sparrow, white-crowned sparrow, raven, three-toed woodpecker (arcticus), red-bellied woodpecker (carolinus), and several of the warblers, particularly the prairie warbler, parula warbler, black-poll warbler and bay-breasted warbler.

I should also like very much to get data which would help to define the southern border of the nesting ground of the junco and the white-throated sparrow, and any nesting records for either of these species would therefore be acceptable.

I wonder if Mr. Brewster has any specimens of Bonasa umbellus togata from Michigan, or has ever examined any from this state? I have three specimens of Bonasa from the Upper Peninsula, two of

which answer descriptions for togata fairly well, but I am not satisfied. I wonder if Mr. Brewster would be willing to examine them for me if I were to send them on?

You notice that I am asking for everything that I want, but I shall be very grateful for even a little assistance, and shall be best pleased if I know that neither you nor Mr. Brewster is putting himself to any special trouble on my account.

Yours very truly,



Dictated.

Professor of Zoology.

WALTER B. BARROWS,

JESSE J. MYERS,
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March 12, 1907.

Mr. Walter Deane,
145 Brattle St.,
Cambridge, Mass.

Dear Sir:

Please accept my thanks for your letter of the 9th inst., and the full list of species collected by Mr. Brewster and Mr. Dwight in Michigan in 1888. I find several very interesting records in this list and I am very glad to get the entire list, since it confirms other observations made in the vicinity and helps me to map the distribution of the species.

I will send tomorrow by express the skins of the ruffed grouse for comparison. I am very sorry that I have not more, but I am never able to get away from college work during the open season for these birds, and have had great difficulty in getting specimens from others.

Yours very truly,

Walter B. Barrows

Professor of Zoology.

Dict.

WALTER B. BARROWS,

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AGRICULTURAL COLLEGE, INGHAM Co., MICH.
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April 18, 1907.

Mr. Walter Deane,
145 Brattle St.,
Cambridge, Mass.

Dear Mr. Deane:

Many thanks for your note of the 16th. I shall be glad to hear from Mr. Brewster on his return.

I am very glad to hear of the large numbers of fox sparrows. During the thirteen years which I have lived here I have not seen altogether one hundred fox sparrows. Sometimes an entire spring or fall goes by without seeing a single one, and I have never seen more than three or four at a time. When I lived at Reading, Mass., from about 1868 to 1876 the fox sparrows fairly swarmed both spring and fall, and as I remember it (I have not my notes at hand) they were equally abundant every year. I know we trapped scores of juncos and some song sparrows, but were never able to get a fox sparrow into the trap cage, although scores of them would come and get the seed scattered about it.

Yours very truly,

Walter B. Barrows

~~Professor of Zoology.~~

Dictated.

*Please excuse the official appearance
of this note. I have to save time when
I can!
W.B.B.*