"Bowerwood House"
St Botolph's Road,
SEVENOAKS, Kent.

April 27. 5I.

Dear Mr Racey,

I have looked through my Garganey material and have found a nice pair of this species which I can spare. As I ex=lained in my previous letter to you this bird is becoming increasingly dificult to procure in its breeding dress in the spring, and also is ficult to procure in its breeding dress in the spring, and also is by no means always plentiful. A fair number of immatures and adults by no means always plentiful. A fair number of immatures and adults too in a good season are shot in the autumn. Neither of the two I am too in a good season are shot in the autumn. Neither of the two I am sending is very recent, but both are good skins and I trust that you will like them.

I will look out a pair of Common Scoter for you here the difficulty is getting birds that are free from crude oil contamination, but the ones I will select will be so, and these too I tamination, but the ones I will select will be so, and these too I hope you will find acceptable. In so far as the Razorbill is concerned I have looked through the series and find that the majority of mine are immature birds, I have however one or two adults, but they are birds of a long while back, though very good & ins. I have not looked one out for you incase you are not happy with specimens taken the latter end of the nineteenth century. I may get others but they do not often come my way, and those that do are generally oiled birds which cannot be made into good skins I find.

I am glad to say that I have received my Import Licence from the Board-of TRade; it has a new number 218160/2B2, ad is valid for six months.

I have for thepast six years been much preccupied with the book on the Birds of Kent, but yesterday I delivered the last batch of typescript to the publisher, Witherby, and so can now look forward to a little less intense work in a literary sense, though I have much proof reading ahead of mme for a while yet. The bove activities much proof reading ahead of mme for a while yet. The bove activities have certainly curtailed my activities in other directions with the gun.

I see from your letter that you have no specimen atall of Alca torda, I do'nt think you would be disappointed with one of the ones I can spare, so just let me know. I will however not include it in the pardel with the four duck.

and will post them on Monday or Tuesday next. I hope they reach you safely and that you will like them. There is little prospect of getting you a specimen of Netta rufina. Here that species is a very rare bird. I possess two, one a very poor female with no data, the other however is a very nice adult male which was shot in Sussex a good many years ago and came to me recently when I took over the Ticehurst collection. I was unlucky in not getting even a chance at this duck during the many trips I made in the Balkan Peninsula.

I have been so busy with the book that I have scarcely had time yet to examine critically the skins I got from Ticehurst,

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but shall hope before long to get them all determined and inoprporated where they belong. There are some very good things from many different areas: in the palaearctic region, thus filling a good many gaps in my series.

Well please excuse more for the time being.

Kind regards,

Yours very sincerely,

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