

Dear Mr Racey,

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

Thank you very much for your letter which I found~~xxxx~~-awaiting me on our return from Spain. I was very glad to Aug. 4. 52. learn therefrom that the parcel of skins had reached you safely, and that you were pleased with them. It is very rarely indeed now that I get a Burhinus oedicephalus, an occasional one in the wutumn or winter, they are sometimes brought to bag by sportsmen during the walking up of Partridges.

Concerning the white spot on the face of Bucephala clangula ♂♂- this feature is very variable and some have rather more extensive spots than the one sent. Would you like other examples of this species, ad-♂, ? I can certainly let you have some if you would.

I will in the near future pack up an example of Fulica atra, Crex crex, Charadrius hiaticula, Calidris maritima and Falco tinnunculus of the latter I have just prepared a nice female, first winter, so will send it to you. In the next few days our shooting season opens, and I shall hope to be able to get out rather more often than has been possible in the past. I am now getting through batches of page proofs of my Birds of Kent, so matters are progressing well in that direction. Are you wanting any examples of Buteo buteo buteo, I shall have several to spare. Another species of which I have some spares is Pyrrhocorax graculus. As these two are not on your list of desiderata I thought I would make a special enquiry. I fancy I can let you have the following:- Mergus merganser, skins but not recent; Mergus albellus, ditto; Aythya ferina ♂ & ♀, ditto; Coccothruastes coccothruastes (fairly recent and of my own collecting); Chloris chloris (adult ♂, ♀ and juvs.); Lullula arborea; Anthus ~~pratensis~~, Anthus spinoletta petrosus; Carduelis cannabina; Loxia curvirostra; Fringilla montifringilla, winter specimens.

Many of these will be spares ex Coll. N.F. Ticehurst, but I will supplement such as you may have a particular interest for by freshly obtained examples if you would be so good as to let me know of which species you would require replacements.

Was interested to hear that your son-in-law Dr Cowan is coming over to Edinburgh for some research work in zoology; I do'nt suppose he is likely to come so far south, but should he do so we would be glad to see him here.

David is now once more up at St Thomas's Hospital after our holiday and is House Physician to an old fellow student of mine, Dr Gardiner Hill, he will however be writing to you as soon as he is settled in.

We had a splendid time in Spain at S. Filiu de Guixols; of course the season was an off one for birds, though we did manage to get a small lot together with the 7 mm. stick; two races of the Parus-genus some Sylvia undata, Muscicapa striata, Sylvia melanocephala etc. They are of course in rather poor plumage, but the time of our holiday was determined as to when David could get free for his month. He managed

