

Dear Doctor Dawson,

July 30, 79.

A work on the fishes of North America is still a desideratum, although I hope we may be in condition to furnish it before long. I have in press a very excellent synopsis of North American fishes by Prof. Jordan, which will embrace both the marine & fresh-water species. About 100 pages of this are in type, but the work is stopped during Prof. Jordan's absence in Europe. I think it probable it will be completed about the first of January. At that time you will renew your request about that time I shall be happy to send out to you one to the Governor General.

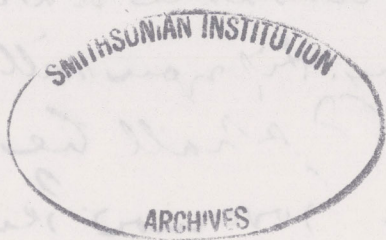
When I met Mr. Whitehead, the Minister of Marine & Fisheries in Halifax two years ago, there was some talk of a joint publication of a work on the Food Fishes common to the two countries.

I am having a most-magnificent series of drawings made, already embracing nearly 200 species. My proposition was that Canada should bear the expense of engraving these drawings, that I would then have the work published & furnished to Canada as many copies as could be obtained or in such a number as might be desired.

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engravings would probably cost about \$25
apiece, & I suppose 250 plates would cover the
series.

I have written to Mr. ^{Witcher} on ^{this}
subject - but have had no reply. I hope I
shall in time publish the work myself.

I am happy to say that the revision
of the water birds of North America is nearly
completed & that the text will be ready to go
into the press in a few months.

Yours very truly,
Spencer & Baird

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