Ridgway Collection

UNIVERSITY OF ILLINOIS
MUSEUM OF NATURAL HISTORY
URBANA, ILLINOIS

OFFICE OF THE CURATOR

March 12, 1918.

Mr. Robert Ridgway,

Olney, Ill.

My dear Mr. Ridgway:

The head of the Mountain Sheep arrived yesterday and I unpacked it today. The muzzle does seem to be badly broken up but it may be possible to fix it up. I note that the break has extended into the hair of the face somewhat which makes it a little more difficult than it otherwise would be. Thank you for sending it to us.

In re the Wabash River Mollusca. My Illinois list included only records from the Illinois side of the River. I did not feel that I could include the Indiana list because some of the species came from territory in Indiana at places in the river before it reached the Illinois boundary. Then both Call and Stein include a number of synonyms which must be reckoned with. I have never felt that in a State list anything should be included that had not actually been collected within the political boundaries of the State. This is especially true for fresh water animals (except fish, of course) because they are usually extremely local in distribution, occurring in more or less extensive colonies. What is needed is a survey of the River along its entire length from the Illinois boundary to the Ohio. For nomenclature I suppose you have Simpsons Monograph published by Bryant Walker of Detroit. This is the best exposition of the subject yet published.

I am glad you are working on this subject and I will be glad to give you any information that I may have.

Very truly yours

Frank C Baker

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Feb. 28, 1918.

Mr. Robert Ridgway,

Olney, Illinois.

My dear Mr. Ridgway:

Your letter to Professor Forbes relative to the head of the Kamchatkan Big Horn has been referred to me .

We would be very glad to receive the head of this Big Horn. It will add another species to our mammal collection . I have just taken over the charge of the museum and am hoping to build up a strong museum both in the exhibition and the research departments.

I hope I may have the pleasure of meeting you at the museum sometime.

Very truly yours
Frank C Baker
Curator.

The specimen may be sent to 320 Natural History Building, by American Express, collect.