Bowdler Sharpe Collection

5 Jan 1900.

Dear Dr Sharpe

I cannot tell you how concerned I am about the Apteryx. I had some misgivings when on opening the parcel I saw that only one of the wings was contained within but I consoled myself with the hope that it had left the museum in that state

Now there seems no doubt that the other delicate bones must have escaped in Transit and are irrecoverable. in Apteryx without there must interesting Studies as Hamlet without the Prince. I hope you will order a perfect specimen wherever it can be got & send the bill to me

I had hoped to have written you a letter to thank you most heartily for your kindness and time

I do not mean I am
only sorry I had to
replace my words with
two paragraphs I was so
sorry to have to write

Yours truly

Robert S Ball