Bowdler Sharpe Collection

BROWN'S HOTEL,
LONDON. W.
(DOVER St. & ALBEMARLE St.)

TELEGRAMS "BROWNOTEL" LONDON.
TELEPHONE No. 3696.

Please return

What a pity painting unfinished!

5 March.

Dear Sharpe

Will you do me the kindness of giving an opinion on a coloured drawing I have made of Hey's Partridges Ammoperdix Heyi, which I am asking Selt-Smit to let you see. I bred these birds last summer in our aviaries; the fact is not without interest as they have not been bred in confinement before, nor, until mine, do any appear to have been in this country since 1867, when the Lane appears on the Zoo. list

first bird drawing in colour I have ever done] I should immensely like it to be in the Magazine; but- I wanted you just to look at it first if you would and see how it strikes you off-hand. It would be very kind if you would then return it to Selt-Smit. I hope this is not too much presuming on your good nature.

The cock bird I have put in a very characteristic display attitude, when he shakes out all his smart feathers & trails them; my hen on the Summer was redder on the back than yours skins.—

I am leaving for Spain tomorrow for a few weeks, but- a letter would soon reach me at Poste Restante, Seville.

Believe me. Yours sincerely

A. Trevor-Battye

Off. receipt sent, 14 March 05

I am awfully disappointed not to have been put on the General Committee of the Ornithological Congress. No one could be more interested in it than I! This reminds me that I had meant to have sent a small contribution to the fund, but- while I was away the servants destroyed the papers with the address & your Christian name & place enclosed in the proper quarter. I wish it were now but- anything is done so just- now

(fide Pocock.)

I have written a paper on them for the Agricultural Magazine and made this drawing to accompany it. The colouring from my birds is absolutely correct that I can answer for. A point of considerable interest is that the young, neither in the down nor later, have any dark ~~lateral~~ dorsal ~~marks~~ stripe and I do not know of any other Galliinaceæ bird of which this is true. There may be others – you may know them. I do not.

Selk. Smith Editor of the Agricultural Magazine tells me it will cost about £20 to reproduce this drawing by chromo-lithography, and as the Society is not very rich I am offering to pay half [if the drawing is reproduced in colour]. Of course it could for less money be drawn on the stone and then hand-coloured. But I have never tried my hand at that yet. [Indeed with the exception of some Norfolk Plovers I drew the other day this is the

and at any rate they are copying & reproducing them in Black & White for the Circulating.

I looked in at the Nat. Hist. Museum yesterday to call on you but you were away. I was very sorry to hear of your horrid attack which I know must have been very worrying. Anyway I hope you are better & rather quite well again long before this.

I did not know that you were a historical Reviewer: that is "before my time" altogether though I now & then have written a little book notice for the Times.

You will have had work with your Corpses; don't you

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9th June 1905

TELEGRAPHIC ADDRESS,
"GRAND, EASTBOURNE."

GRAND HOTEL,
EASTBOURNE.

My dear Sharpe

I don't know what you must have thought of me, but a kind letter you wrote which was entrusted to the vagaries of the Spanish Post — which means that if you get letters at all they reach you sooner or later in England reached me at last at Lorne through the good offices of the Consul at Seville.

It was very kind of you to look at my birds for me, I did not hear your Criticism, but I expect they were too amateurish

well through it. I thank you very much for your kind thoughts in mentioning my name for the General Committee to Hartert. I see however by the last "proof" notice just kindly sent me by Bowdler Sharpe that he has not seen fit to include me. It doesn't really matter of course: no doubt a snubbing is good for the formation of character, as the old writers & the modern preachers tell us!

It will interest you to hear that I have spotted Sandpiper Pt. Senegallus laying (4 eggs) in my aviaries. I had a most charming little female Falco vespertinus absolutely tame who alas flew away one last week escaped.

Yours sincerely

A. Owen-Battye

P.S. Today I am visiting the Beachy Head & known the Dungeness "protected area"