Bowdler Sharpe Collection

metallic markings. No. 31 frequents the wild figtrees.

I should be much obliged if you would kindly have the few small mammals contained in the tin to Mr. Oldfield Thomas & the spider's nest to Mr. R. I. Pocock.

Hoping to hear from you soon of the safe arrival of this & the previous parcels.

Yours Sincerely

Guy. A. K. Marshall

Salisbury
Mashunaland
13th June 1895.

My dear Dr. Sharpe.

Sometime in last October I sent you a tin containing a number of Mashunaland butterflies; and again just before Christmas I sent a small lot of 20 birds skins. I should be glad to know if these 2 parcels ever reached you, & whether you wrote acknowledging them, for I have never received any letter from you. The postal arrangements are so beautifully erratic in this Country, that

it is quite possible they may have been lost in transit.

I am making a third & last attempt now, and am sending you a small tin containing a few more birdskins.

The only species which seem to be [1]Oriole no. 32, which looks very much like what I remember of O. Galbula, and no. 36. ([2]Brachyrhis). I have not seen many of the Sooth billed Barbet no. 33, wh. fly in small flocks of 3 to 6. No. 34 only frequents the open veldt where there is no bush, preferring low lying & swampy ground. No. 30 I take to be the ♀ of no. 26, as I have nearly always found them in company. The only place near Salisbury where they seem to occur, is among a row of small kopjes, composed of boken granite boulders. The ♂ has a short but very pleasant whistle, whereas the ♀ has a regular trilling song, lasting for several minutes.

I know of one other Cinnyris besides the 2 I send, but have never been able to secure a specimen, as it is a good deal scarcer than the others. As far as I have been able to see the ♂ appears to be entirely glossy black, without any