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Carlisle, Penn.

Aug. 23. 1867

My dear Mr. Mack

Your letter of July 26. was forwarded to me here, and I haste to report what I have done in the matter of the humming birds. I gave the order to John G. Bell of New York, who you probably are aware is our best taxidermist, and he promises to do his best. I believe I wrote you that Bell has been actively engaged in furnishing live animals to the Menageries and Vivaria of the King of Italy, and that the King had invited him to visit Italy. He is also a correspondent and friend of Count Castiglione, and talks of going to Florence in September or October. If he does he will take the birds with him and deliver personally his own proposition as to take several pairs and let you make your own selection. I have advised to select our typical North America