

British Museum  
26 Dec 1844

My Dear Sir

I enclose as you wished to send you the following abstract of my letter to the Secretary of the British Museum respecting your collection

"Mr Hodgson wishes the Museum to prepare at once  
" a short description of the new species to appear in one  
" of the Monthly scientific Journal, and then to print a short  
" catalogue of the specimens and drawings presented by  
" Mr Hodgson to the Museum referring to where he has  
" described them that he may have the credit of his  
" discoveries which have been very numerous."

"The collection of specimens and drawings are  
" certainly the most extensive and complete materials  
" which have ever been collected together for the Fauna  
" of any country out of Europe (excepting perhaps those  
" made by Mr Gould in New Holland) and it is very desirable  
" that Mr Hodgson should have every credit for the  
" very great exertions he has used to make us acquainted  
" with the Natural History & habits of the Mammalia



and Birds of the Northern provinces of India & Thibet"

"With the Patronage of the India Company, and the  
list of subscribers which Mr Hodgson informs me he has in  
India I think it is very probable that before the end of the  
two years specified by Mr Hodgson (during which he has reserved  
himself the exclusive privilege of using his figures as specimens)  
it is very probable that some artist with the consent of Mr Hodgson  
may be induced to undertake the publication of a Selection  
of them & that should be the case I have promised Mr Hodgson  
that every facility & assistance which it can be in the  
power of the Judicial Department (consistent with their  
other duties) to afford him shall be given when he  
forward his wishes."—

Your Very Truly

John Edw Gray



1844

Gray's pledges  
report to the  
Trustees

- He promises
- 1<sup>st</sup> to describe new species within a month,
  - 2<sup>nd</sup> to make Catalogue in 3 or 4 months
  - 3<sup>rd</sup> To exert himself touching publication of Drawings

N.B. Catalogue to be distributed with each set of duplicates forwarded to the following viz. Brit. Mus. Paris. Leyden. Ind in House. Canterbury. Newcastle. Plymouth. Manchester. Liverpool. Edinburgh. Dublin  
Their address?