

The Gardens' Birds.

12th January 1887 From Broadment Bros. and Co Melbourne

Birds for Ballarat. Re. One cage birds ex Waihora a/c Mr Longley, Botanical Gardens Ballarat. Forwarded per passenger train @ 11.10 a.m.. The Lamp Trimmer in whose charge the Birds were states that he received 24 birds at Dunedin but three died during the voyage

13 January 1887 (Docket) 1 Case singing birds. ex Waihora
To Mr Longley. From James Oddie

Dear Sir. By the steamer which leaves here on January 6th I propose sending you down 2 dozen goldfinches in 2 cages of a dozen each to let them loose in the garden. They will be sent in charge of Boots and he will send on a telegram to say that they have passed on by the train. You had better arrange with Mr Gullock and Co. to take charge of them to with a view of making sure about them and if they turn up early Boots will be instructed to give them to the company. Would a consignment of Skylarks and Starlings be of any use to you as there are plenty here? It is possible that two or three could die on the way. The Gullock people might get an explanation (if any) write and say how things come but there is no need to return the cages. We are safely here and enjoying the changer of climate after a fair passage. Yrs faithfully James Oddie

1st. April 1887 From Charles Bills, Dunedin
Bird dealer and ornamental Wireworker and Cage Maker
To Town Clerk, Ballarat.

Dear Sir. Mr Oddie wished me to write you and enclose account of birds which I hope will reach you all right. Mr Bills guarantees the no. paid for so you will please let me know how many you receive and I will get the no. if any, sent you afterwards. I will be pleased to render you any assistance in this direction.

Yrs truly, F.J. Clinton. Coal Merchant Dunedin

* haste - the birds were forwarded yesterday.

Order from James Oddie March 27th. 1887

2 dozen starlings)
2 dozen skylarks) 5 Pounds complete
2 cages complete)

Deliver to the Ballarat City Corporation, Melbourne.

1/2/1890 From Charles Summers, 53B Via Margetta, Rome To J N Wilson.

Dear Mr Wilson. I have this afternoon forwarded to the P & O Agent, Brindisi, a wooden cage containing the four swans I promised to try and get from the Pincian Hill for the Lake at your beautiful gardens. I hope they will reach you safely. They are eight months old then not yet completely changed to their adult plumage. If, when you have any Black Swans to spare you could send me a few I would give them to the Gardens here. Yrs etc.

18/2/1890. From J. Noble Wilson J.P. to Mr George Perry, Town Clerk

Dear Sir. Will you please to inform His worship the Mayor and Members of Council that in a letter which i have read from Mr C. Summers of rome he says : - "Four swans from the Pincian Hills , Rome, seven months old will be shipped by the "Arcadia" leaving Brindisi on Feb 3rd for Ballarat. I have been asked by the director of the Botanical gardens if it would be possible to get four black swans in exchange for the white ones.. Mr Charles Summers address is 53 B via Margetta, Rome and I presume you will communicate with him direct when the swans arrive, Yrs, etc.

15/4/1890 Letter from P & O re. Black Swans.

Dear Sir. I am in receipt of your letter of the 14th inst. and in reply beg to say that I shall be happy to allow the four swans you are sending to Rome to be shipped to Brindisi free of charge for freight. Any charges that there may have to pay in connection with these birds (for transshipment etc.) will be duly advanced to you. They will be attended to on the voyage by the butcher who will expect a suitable gratuity for his services.

13/5/1890 From the Superintendent, P&O Melbourne To G.Peryy Town Clerk

Dear Sir. I have received your letter of 19 th Inst. enclosing Postal Notes, value One Guinea , the value of which ihas been paid to the Butcher of the "Carthage" as a gratuity for his attendance to the Swans shipped by your Council

From Mr W. Appleby 12/12/1891 To The town Clerk, Ballarat.

Requesting transfer of nest of Blackbirds and thrushes from the Gardens. for Clunes.... "The inhabitants of Clunes and the District by sending a nest of each and enable us to hear the sweet songs again of these birds we loved to listen to in the old country and bring back remembrances of our youthful days.

19/12/1891 To C.C.Shoppee Mayor of Ballarat. From J.H.Connor, Rynie St School, Geelong.

Dear Sir. I duly received te 2 pairs of Blackbirds for which i sincerely thank you. The Honorable E Morley was very kind in obtaining them for our Gardens here and will thank him personally for interesting himself on our behalf. Yrs etc.