## LETTER OF TRANSMITTAL.

U. S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE, WASHINGTON, D. C., July 28, 1900.

Siz: I have the honor to transmit for publication, as No. 19 of North American Fauna, a report entitled 'Results of a Biological Reconnoissance of the Yukon River Region,' by Wilfred H. Osgood and Louis

B. Bishop.

Under instructions dated May 11, 1899, Wilfred H. Osgood, an assistant in the Biological Survey, proceeded to Skagway, Alaska, and thence over White Pass to the headwaters of the Yukon and down the entire length of the Yukon River to St. Michael. He was accompanied by Dr. Louis B. Bishop, of New Haven, as volunteer assistant; Dr. Bishop has prepared the report on the birds observed during the trip. These are the first investigations of the kind undertaken on the Upper Yukon, and the results herewith presented will be found to contain many important facts concerning the distribution of mammals, birds, and trees in this region.

Respectfully,

C. HART MERRIAM, Chief, Biological Survey.

Hon. James Wilson, Secretary of Agriculture.