

I hope the old mother is none the worse. There is another whole holiday soon; we have leave from twelve on Friday till nine on Saturday. Birds'-nesting time is almost over now, as there are young birds in almost all the nests I find. I found a nest of three young jays the other day, and they were awfully pretty. We began bathing last Thursday; the water was awfully cold for the first two days, but after that it was warmer. I have got two papers for you, only I have always forgotten to write and ask you for a paper-wrapper, as we cannot get them here. I saw an eagle on the Queen's Birthday, up at a place called Berry Pomeroy, near Totnes. It was a huge great brown bird, three or four times as big as a sparrow-hawk. I will send you a list of my eggs to tell the others, and will you ask Helena to send me the cole-tits' without their other eggs to be blown? Will you get somebody to ask Tizard whether he has got me any snipes' eggs yet, and also what other eggs he has got for me?—Your loving son,

EDWARD A. BAIRD.

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XVIII.

H.M.S. *Britannia*.

20th July 1884.

MY DEAR MOTHER,—Our instructor gave a prize of a bag of stodge to whoever did the best chart in our class the other day, and I got it. I got ninety-three marks for it out of a hundred full. I want to know if I may have 5s. so as to pay my share in