

William Reese Company

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Stuart Gentling
902 Boland Street
Ft. Worth, Texas 76107

April 3, 1985

Dear Stuart,

After talking to you on the phone today, I once more admired the photo of the Audubon. I really don't think there can be any doubt, although I still want to see the original to make sure, but it is so distinctive a piece that I cannot imagine anyone else doing it. It also fits so perfectly with the whole Audubon-Bonaparte story and the published print in Bonaparte's work that it must be right. Do get ahold of a copy of the Prints of the American West work and read my article. I have garnered some additional data since (including the letter Don Cresswell cites in his description), so I would revise some points in the story, and this picture is plainly a further major piece of evidence in the alteration of the original by Audubon into the print as it appeared.

I send along a copy of the book My Style of Drawing Birds, which I produced for my friend and customer Michael Zinman, who owns it. I hope you like it.

I really congratulate you on getting this piece; I can only wish it had been me.

All the best,

Bill Reese

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