

Feb. 17, 1943

Dear Pa,

I'm glad to hear Skipper is better. First news came with Ma's postcard two days ago. It does seem that it would be pretty tough for him to go so soon. Yet as you say from another point of view, it might be a good arrangement.

Both books arrived yesterday and both letters to-day. Both books and letters, especially birthday

Reading  
A Florida  
Sketch Book, by  
Bradford Torrey.  
While riding on  
the back seat of  
a plane!

comment of the latter, much<sup>2</sup>  
appreciated. Yes. That book  
looks nice, but Bradford  
Torrey's book is rather  
reasonably appropriate.

Published in 1894, it describes  
the country around here  
(St. Augustine, Daytona,  
etc.) from the point of  
view of a Yankee ornithologist  
who could really write,  
and he was here Feb. -  
April, very likely 1893  
- fifty years ago almost  
to the day. Perhaps the

reason I like him so is  
that he expresses so well  
so much that I feel when  
I go poking about the  
country, but his books are  
also of scientific interest  
being so full of accurate  
observations. To-day I  
took "A Florida Sketch  
Book" along on a cross-  
country hop (over to the  
region of the Suwanee  
River, a small, meandering  
stream, back to Daytona,  
thence up to Lee - night



over Cross Creek (perhaps)  
since I was in the rear  
seat (going along just  
for the ride and to see  
new country - we just  
saw the Gulf, but it  
was too smoky to see  
the mouth of the river)  
and read most of a  
chapter along one of  
the dullest stretches.

Weather much worse  
to-day.

Love to all  
T.R.