



# Smithsonian

*Archives of American Art*

Letters to Samuel G. Morton from  
Victor and John James Audubon

Archives of American Art  
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## Collection Overview

<b>Repository:</b>	Archives of American Art
<b>Title:</b>	Letters to Samuel G. Morton from Victor and John James Audubon
<b>Date:</b>	1836-1840
<b>Identifier:</b>	AAA.mortsamu
<b>Creator:</b>	Morton, Samuel George, 1799-1851 Audubon, Victor Gifford, 1809-1860
<b>Extent:</b>	1 Microfilm reel (16 items on partial microfilm reel)
<b>Language:</b>	English .

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## Administrative Information

### Acquisition Information

Lent for microfilming 1955 by the American Philosophical Society.

### Location of Originals

Originals in: American Philosophical Society, Samuel George Morton papers.

### Related Materials

The Archives of American Art also holds the microfilmed Victor Audubon letters to John L. Le Conte, 1852, and the microfilmed John James Audubon and Audubon family letters, circa 1783-1845. The American Philosophical Society holds the Samuel George Morton papers, 1819-1850.

### Available Formats

35mm microfilm reel P34 (fr. 224-237) available for use at Archives of American Art offices and through interlibrary loan.

### Restrictions

The Archives of American art does not own the original papers. Use is limited to the microfilm copy.

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## Biographical / Historical

Samuel G. Morton (1799-1851) was a physician, anatomy professor, naturalist, and physical anthropologist in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania. He is most known for his work, *Crania Americana*, which was widely accepted and endorsed by pro-slavery advocates.

John James Audubon (1785-1851) was an ornithologist, naturalist, painter, and illustrator. His work, *The Birds of America* was originally published as a four-volume elephant folio with 435 hand-colored plates of life-size depictions of individual bird species. The accompanying text was published separately in five volumes as *Ornithological Biography*.

Victor Audubon (1809-1862) was John James Audubon's son. Along with his brother, John Woodhouse Audubon, he assisted his father with the production and sale of *The Birds of America* and *The Viviparous Quadrupeds of North America*. Audubon continued to manage the business aspects of his father's work after John James Audubon's death.

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## Scope and Contents

This microfilm collection consists of letters to Samuel G. Morton from Victor and John James Audubon.

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## Names and Subject Terms

This collection is indexed in the online catalog of the Smithsonian Institution under the following terms:

Names:

Audubon, John James, 1785-1851

Occupations:

Painters -- United States