

# Dickinson College Archives & Special Collections

<http://archives.dickinson.edu/>

## Documents Online

**Title:** Letter from George Lawrence to J. H. McIlvaine (Draft)

**Date:** June 26, 1870

**Location:** MC 2000.11, B1, F20

### Contact:

Archives & Special Collections  
Waidner-Spahr Library  
Dickinson College  
P.O. Box 1773  
Carlisle, PA 17013

717-245-1399

[archives@dickinson.edu](mailto:archives@dickinson.edu)

NEW-YORK,

25<sup>th</sup> June 1860

My dear Sir

I have just received a letter from Prof. Baird speaking of the collection of birds brought by Christ. Wood from Venezuela & Panama, & advising me to write you about them, as he is now anxious to dispose of them - I heard of them when in Phil. about 3 weeks ago from Mr. J. Knicker & Wood's brother, now with Mr. K., but I got the impression, they could not <sup>then</sup> be seen, <sup>that</sup> the Smithsonian was to have the first choice - at least so I <sup>also</sup> understood one of them to say. but that would seem not to be so -

I will thank you to inform me as to their present position whether any selection ~~any~~ selection has been made from them, I mean scientifically; about the number of species brought, <sup>when collected</sup> also the localities; I understood most of those from Venezuela were lost - I am sorry I did not know, that they could have been seen when in Phil. - as I infer from Prof. B.'s letter they could -

Please let me know also how he wishes to dispose of them & his prices - ~~if~~ <sup>also</sup> if he would allow a selection should there be <sup>any</sup> among them I might want -

Glad to hear you still take an interest in birds -

I have just rec<sup>d</sup>. Plate III of  
Tool Proc. for 1870 - & was much  
surprised to find Sel. Sel. in  
Sec. <sup>which I described by Gen. G. & G. & G.</sup> Describe the Progon, I had  
sent <sup>over</sup> to them <sup>in</sup> the spring, with  
its name & status, it was new  
& pointing where it differed from  
minidisc - it was returned marked  
Probably number C. 14 - <sup>which</sup>  
had in weight with me, as I  
was quite satisfied before that  
it that it was new

I take advantage of their position.  
I do not believe they want  
act so regardless of the rights  
& feelings of others —

Now I want your opinion  
of such conduct, & advice  
what to do. Mr S says she  
would not allow such treat-  
ment to pass, <sup>unacted</sup> & that I would  
be wanting in self respect

If I did — ~~please give me~~

I believe <sup>that</sup> really my name  
was first published, unless  
they put it out <sup>before</sup> on a slip.

~~I will be obliged if you will~~  
<sup>Please</sup> answer at once as I wish  
to write before leaving town  
& get a vexatious matter of my  
mind if I can —

26th June 1870

My Dear Sir

I have just received a letter from Prof Baird speaking of the collection of birds brought by Christa Wood from Venezuela & Panama, & advising me to write you about them, as he is now anxious to dispose of them. I heard of them when in Phil. about 3 weeks ago from Mr. J. Krider & Wood's brother, now with Mr K., but I got the impression, they could not ^ then be seen, as ^ that the Smithsonian was to have the first choice. ~~at least so~~ I ^ also understood one of them to say but this would seem not to be so.

I will thank you to inform me as to their present position whether any selection ~~any selection~~ has been, made from them, I mean scientifically; about the number of species brought, ~~also the localities~~; when collected I understood most of those from Venezuela were lost. I am sorry I did not know, that they could have been seen when in Phil. as I infer from Prof. Bs letter they could.

Please let me know ~~also~~ how he wishes to dispose of them & his prices. ~~if also~~ & if he would allow a selection should then be ^ any among them I might want.

Glad to hear you still take an interest in birds.

[Page Break]

~~I have just read Part III of Zool. Proc. for 1870 & was much surprised to find Sel & Sal in Dec described the Trogon ^ which I described by you in Feb & ^ had ^ sent over to them ^ in the spring, with its name & stating it was new & pointing out wherein it differed from vinidis &c. it was returned marked "[two illegible words] C. & H." which had no weight with me, as I was quite satisfied before I sent it that it was near~~

[Page Break]

& take advantage of their position I could not believe they would act so regardless of the rights & feelings of others.

now I want your opinion of such conduct, & advice what to do. Mrs L says she would not allow such treatment to pass ^ unnoticed & that I would be wanting in self respect if I did. ~~please give me~~

I believe ^ that really my name was first published, unless they put it out ^ before on a slip.

~~I will be obliged if you will~~ ^ Please answer at once as I wish to write before leaving town & get a vexatious matter of my mind if I can.