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**Title:** Letters from Spencer Baird to George Lawrence (Apr. - Jun. 1869)

**Date:** April - June 1869

**Location:** MC 2000.11, B1, F2

### Contact:

Archives & Special Collections  
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Smithsonian Institution,

April. 26. 1869.

Dear Sir:

To save time in the disposition of the articles ordered for Mr. MacFarlane, we write to ask that you have the box (suitably packed) addressed to R. MacFarlane, care Hudson's Bay Company (N. W. Kittson, Esq.) St. Paul, and forwarded direct by Express.

Very truly yours,

Spencer J. Baird

assist. Sect. Smith. Inst.

Geo. N. Lawrence Esq  
172 Pearl St.  
N.Y.



# Articles WANTED for

~ R.R. MacFarlane. ~

6. (six) Dozen Round Dog-bells. smallest-size

6. " " " " " slightly larger.  
(of one or two sizes)

6. " " Small-open-bells. \_\_\_\_\_  
(3-sizes - 2 doz - each.)

1440 - Combustible-envelope-cartridge - for  
Remington Revolvers.  
(Hazard's-powder.)  $\frac{36}{100}$

2000. - Percussion-caps, - waterproof - to fit  
Remington Revolver. 36

Harpers Magazine and Harpers Wkly.  
for 1869,

(address R.R. MacFarlane, Hudsons Bay Co,  
Pembina, Dec.)



1st order

3/1302<sup>2</sup> Memorandum of Articles wanted for Antic  
Correspondents

✓ Bear wood pipes.	3 Oz. @	1.50		4.50
✓ " "	1 1/2 @	7.50		11.25
✓ Cases Sassar. 4 sizes	<del>3</del> 3 @	2.00	10.00	
" "	<del>3</del> 3 -	2.75	gold - 2.75 say	17.00
✓ G. Tint - sharp pointed dissolving Sassar	2 ?			4.50 <sup>2</sup>
✓ Sleigh bells; Small size 4 shops of 30 ea.		4.31		17.25
✓ Sleigh Bells @ 1 in. plates 90° 100 oz				Supper of Murray St
Seed heads printed sizes	10 50z			
✓ 6 Set. 1 bunch each color.				
✓ 6 Set. 5 bunches <sup>cont</sup> red: white: blue: green				
✓ 1/2 gross burning glasses	@	5.50		2.75
✓ 1/4 " "		13.50		3.38
✓ 1 1/2 Dozen <sup>mount</sup> Havana Cane.	@	7.50		11.25
in flared cloth pockets?	@		?	3.00
<i>(not used, as none of an advantage)</i>				
✓ 1 1/2 Dozen felt hats (drab.)	@	18.00		27.00
✓ 1/2 Doz. Emmert's Mucosa.		7.50		3.75
✓ 1 Snyflan Emment. Dutch. Sample.				3.50
✓ 1 Hunter Night Cap. Sample.				2.00
✓ 1 lb. print and best sewing silk. all colors, but black;				
say 8 principal colors				18.00
				129.13

Crystal Amelin Co - 125<sup>00</sup> according to color -  
 will explain - how to make  
 say 6 colors -

120050

Liquid dyes: various colors. Suitable for Percepsine  
 quills hwy doz etc

13<sup>c</sup> { White Green  
 80 Ring Blue Green  
 20<sup>c</sup> Ruby -

✓ 1 Linen seed heads all colors - hwy doz. etc  
 Killers & Lin 99 Ready to

✓ 1 Briar root pipes. per doz from 1.50 to \$5.00  
 550 to 99 Ready to  
 13.50 800. 500. 400. 300. 200. 100. 50. 25. 10. 5. 2.50  
 per dozen  
 good for 2.50  
 very neat for \$5  
 with covers \$5  
 Handsome - 7.50

8 Common Gray Felt Hat. doz \$12 to \$15 about to \$4.25  
 say \$3.00 off

✓ 2 Cases of Scissors about 4. in set | hwy doz. 250 Sold for cases (Rogers)  
 200 50  
 275 50 neat

✓ 3 Pocket Compasses doz \$15. in gold up to center covers  
 24 in " " " " metal dial  
 Jones, Melvoin 16.

9 Haven Mosquito Shield doz. 750 each color  
 1 in diameter

4 Smallest sized Aleph bells (for Dogs) per doz.  
 3.45 for 30 Bells

Emmerich  
 5 Sewable spyglasses. hwy doz { 3.50 each 39  
 6.50 " " 39  
 closed about 8 in  
 closed about 10 in  
 3 1/2 in  
 1 1/2 in  
 1 1/2 in  
 1 1/2 in

9<sup>00</sup> Microscopes 3 legged 7.50 Doz to examine flower, insects

Emmerich { Pocket Compasses all metal german silver inside  
 45 millimeters 275 each brass covers of gold caps  
 50 " " 300 25

For Ladies neat cases with sewing implements &  
 Leather Portfolios - Porte monnaie  
 Papier mache Portfolios - inlaid &c &c

Compasses, Hunter, paper dials 150 to 250 } 25%  
 pearl & jewel caps 425 to 600 } off

Pocket Japanese Rods & Cases 7.50 \$12 to \$13 Complete -  
 10 joints - 12 ft. Rods -

345  
 80  
 432 slight bill

Smithsonian Institution

April 26. 1869

Dear Sir:

To save time in the disposition of articles ordered from Mr. MacFarlane, we write to ask that you have the box (suitably packed) addressed to R. MacFarlane, care Hudson's Bay Company (N.W. Kittson, Esq.) St. Paul, and forwarded direct by Express

Very truly yours,  
Spencer F. Baird  
Assist Sect. Smithn Inst.

Geo. N. Lawrence Esq.  
172 Pearl St.  
N.Y.

[page break]

Articles WANTED for  
~ R.R. MacFarlane.~

b. (six) Dozen Round Dog-bells smallest-size  
b. " " " " " slightly larger (of one or two sizes)  
b. " " Small - open - bells. (3-sizes - 2 doz. - each.)

1440 - Combustible - envelop - cartridge - for Remington Revolvers (Hazards - powder) 36/100

2000. - Percussion - caps, - waterproof - to fit Remington Revolver, .36

Harpers Magazine and Harpers W'k'ly, for 1869,  
(address R.R. MacFarlane, Hudson Bay Co. Pembina. Dac.)

[page break]

Memorandum of Articles wanted for Arctic Correspondents

Briar wood pipes	3 Doz.	@	1.50	4.50
"	1 1/2	@	7.50	11.25
Cases Sassons 4 Dozen:	3	@	2.00	10.00
" "	3	"	2.75 gold	2.75 say 17.00
6. fried - sharp founded dressing sasson	@	?		4.50?

Sleigh bells : smallest Dozen 4 shop of 30 ea. 4.31. 17.25  
 Sleigh Bells 0-1 in staled 90 of Doz. ordered - [Ingreen?] 81 Murray St.  
 10 Doz-

Seed heads finest sizes

6 set 1 bunch each color.

6 set 5 bunches each red: white: blue: green

1/2 grass burning glasses	@ 5.50	2.75
1/4 " "	13.50	3.38
1 1/2 Dozen Haven ^ Matquet Frames	@ 7.50	11.25
in glazed cloth pocket	@ ---	? 3.00
not used so now of no advantage		
1 1/2 Dozen Felt hat/ drab	@ 18.00	27.00
1/2 Doz. Emmerichs [Murnife?]	7.50	3.75
1 spy glass Emmerich [birch?] Sample		3.50
1 Hunter Night Compass Sample		2.00
1 lb. finest and best sewing silk. all colors, but black, say 8 principal colors		<u>? 18.00</u> 129.13

[page break]

Crystal Annelia Co – 12502 according to color - say 6 colors -

140 - will explain - has to make

Liquid dyes: various colors. Suitable for porcupine quills half doz. sets

{13@ (White Green

6 Finest seed heads - all colors - half doz. sets {a brush {80 strip (Blue

Kellers & Lins 97 Reade St - (204. Ruby.

1 Briar root pipes. per Doz from 1.50 to \$6 for Dozen good for 2.50

very neat for \$6 – Do with }net price

7 Burning glasses Doz 97 Reade St. do with covers \$6 - Handsome 7.50

550 to 13.50 800 - 506 size

8 Common Gray Felt hats Doz \$12.75 about to \$[?]?2

any # 20 difference

2 Cases of Scissors about 4. in set/ half Doz. 250 Sold to case

260 D - }Rogers

275 D neat

3 Pocket compasses Doz \$15. in solo [?] center covered

24 Doz " D D metal deal  
Tumes, Melvain & C.

9 Haven Mosquito shield Doz. 750 assd color

add 25% - 3.45 for 30 Bells 4 smallest sized sleigh bells (fr Dogs) per Doz.

Emmerich - 5 Sensible spyglasses half doz ( 3.50 each close about 6 in 39 Morocco covered 3 to  
be miles

( 6.50 D double size closed about 8 in -  
Do Microscopes 3 legged 7.50 Doz. to examine flowers, insects +c

Pocket Compasses all metal german silver [one word illegible]  
Emmerich { 45 millimeters 275 end brace crown agate caps  
50 D 300 D<sup>e</sup>

For Ladies neat cases with sewing implements &c  
Leather Reticules, Porte Manias  
Paper Maché Portfolios, inlaid, &c &c.

Companies, Hunter, paper dials 150 to 250  
Pearl - & jewel cobs 425 to be }25% off  
Pocket Japanese Rod Hoses 7.50 \$12 to \$13 complete.  
90 joints. 12 ft. Rods.

345

86

431 sleigh bells





June 3. 1869

Dear Saurem

On my return yesterday from Rhode. I found  
your letter of May 30. and if I had not been absent  
myself during the period when you might  
have been expected - could have been very  
much pleased had you not come back by way  
of Washington. I had anticipated much pleasure  
in a visit and greatly regretted an imperative  
call to Rhode.

I am very sorry to hear you will  
still continue and hope the summer will  
cure you. Perhaps a sea voyage would be  
your best remedy - and a visit to Europe. Turn  
up and get rid of it as soon as you can.

We have received a fine pair of  
which Dr. Flügel got for us from one of his  
German friends. It is much better than  
the Acad. specimens.

Mr. Baird returned your letter  
which I suppose you received

Ever yours

Spencer W Baird

Yours sincerely  
My

June 3, 1869

Dear Lawrence

On my return yesterday from Philad. I found your letter of May 30, and if I had not been absent nightly during the period when you might have been expected - could have been very much vexed had you not come back by way of Washington. I had anticipated much pleasure in a visit, and greatly regretted an imperative call to Phila.

I am very sorry to hear your cold still continues and hope the summer will cure you. Perhaps a sea voyage would be your best remedy - and a visit to Europe. Hurry up and get rid of it as soon as you can.

We have received a fine great Auk which Dr. Fleigel got for us from one of his german friends. It is much better than the [Aural?] specimen.

Mrs Baird returned your letter which I suppose you received

Ever yours  
Spencer F Baird

Geo N Lawrence  
NY

19939



June 5 1869

J. J. Lawrence

You have ere this had the two boxes  
of Semerara and Belyzi birds: and on  
Monday we shall send the following

- |             |              |                           |
|-------------|--------------|---------------------------|
| Procellaria | mendicinalis | returned                  |
|             | glauca       | "                         |
| Puffin      | cinereus     | "                         |
| Alerna      | pikoi        | "                         |
| "           | discolor     | "                         |
| Jaeger      | flandrum     | "                         |
| 2           | Empidonax    | minimus for D. W. S.      |
| 3           | Icterus      | xanthinus for examination |
| "           | auratus      |                           |

Series of West Indian Trochilidae of the  
Bryant Collection. Please look over this soon  
as you can and name so that the series  
can be used to label the others. We are  
nearly through the working out of these West  
Indians.

I wish you would run in and spend  
a few days with us: our house is empty and  
we will take excellent care of you and cure  
your cold. I won't make you work a bit

J. J. Lawrence  
Mr

Ever yours  
W. Baird



June 5 1869

Dear Lawrence

You have ere this had this two hexe of Demerara and Belize birds; and on Monday we shall send the following

Procellana mendrenalis	returned
glanalis	"
Puffinus cinereur	"
Sterna pikei	"
"  discolor	"
Graculus flandaun	"
2 Empidonax minimus for [one word illegible]	
3 Icterus xanthamus for examination	
"  auratus	

Series of West Indian Trochilidae of the Bryant collection. Please look over this soon as you can and name so that the series can be used to label the others. We are nearly through [one word expunged] working out of these West Indians.

I wish you would run in and spend a few days with us: our house is empty and we will take excellent care of you, and cure your cold. I wont make you work a lot

Ever yours  
S F Baird

G N Lawrence  
NY

20064

June. 14. 69



Dear Sauren

Jan 19 I do not find any reference to a species like the Puna Island one. See Sclater's list of birds Chile in Pr. I.S. for indications of Chilean species. fuller than for

What would you say to the Gymnogeomys newtoni as valid. I find the Porto Rican or at least one to be very different from that of laurensis, and as the redifex is based on the Porto Rican, I don't see why your name would stand. Will send it on if you would like to see it

Mr. Sauren lot is not yet to hand. The Semichal boxes have arrived. but are not yet opened

Address C. K. Rott. Leon. Nicaragua  
Dr. Elliot Coates. N. Mason. N.C

Ever yours  
J. W. Baird

J. Sauren

June 14, 69

Dear Lawrence

I do not find any reference to a species like the Puna Island one. See Sclaters but of birds Chile is Pv. Q. S. for indications of Chilean species - fuller than [gap?]

What would you say to the Gymnoglaux Newtons as valid. I find the Porto Rico bird or at least one - to be very different for that or laurencus, and as the nudipes is based on the Porto Rican, I dint see why your name wont stand Will send it on if you would like to see it.

Mr Latimers lot is not yet to hence, the Sumichrast boxes have arrived, but are not yet opened

Address C N Rolte, Seon, Nicaraguas Dr. Elliot Coues, N. Macon, N.C.

Ever yours  
S F Baird

G N Lawrence



20140 +

June 22. 1868



Dear Lawrence

The box with specimens had returned  
 came out to hand yesterday and has been  
 unpacked, and contents distributed. Coccyzus  
Julieni is rather a queer form; for present at  
 least, it had better be accepted. All  
 right about the retentions.

As to Porto Rico. wh: if there are  
 two species in the island - all right. If not  
 one, then it is true nudipes. Daudin's dis-  
 cription answer as well to that I have here  
 as to any other; and it is not the N. Thomae  
 specimen. Will ask Mr. Salinger to collect one  
Aegialitis. is the more correct, or was  
 original reading at least.

I enclose some old notes, which  
 please return when looked over especially

Your ever  
 W. Baird

J. Lawrence

ms

June 22, 1869

Dear Lawrence

The box with specimen birds returned came back to hand yesterday and has been unpacked, and contents disheveled. Coccyzus Julieus is rather a queer find: for present at least, it had better be accepted. All right about the retentions.

As to Porto Rican owls; if there are two species in the island - all right. If owl one, then it is true nudipes. Dandins description answers as well to what I have here as to any other: and it is not the G N Thomas species. Will ask Mr. Latimer to collect owl Aegralitis in the more correct, or more original reading at least.

I enclose some old notes, which please return when looked over [especial?]

Yours ever  
S F Baird

G N Lawrence  
Ny

20132  
332 NEW YORK AVENUE  
Washington D.C.

June 24. 1868

Dear Lauren

I shall soon have to take up the question of Pipilo and determine relationships of our species to Mexico. If you have any Mexican skins of any *Pipilo maculatus albicollis mesoleucus* etc. please let me have them including any of Sumichrast

Very truly  
Wm Brewster

J. B. Lauren

Sent 28<sup>th</sup> June

Ent Note Book	}	Pipilo mesoleucus	}	Sumichrast
		" macronyx		
		" albicollis		
		" maculata		

June 27 - 1868 -

Sent by Adams today Pipilos - also the Notes last sent together with some papers Notes etc of yours - <sup>Would like to have seen</sup> If I believe *P. vitula* was that when examining the Yucatan species I have put it as *albicollis* but say may nevertheless be *vitula* - my remarks on *Catherpes albifrons* & *S. Groggii* are much as in your notes my extra ones



being delayed by a troublesome technical  
paper which precedes it, has been all ex-  
pected for weeks hope to be able to send  
them may not get them for 2 weeks yet -  
we expect to leave town next Thursday  
for Niagara to be absent about a fortnight.  
Hope should be much pleased if their  
proposals to P. Rice - Ouellet & Newton  
established -

Exam the wings of *B. sulcatus* they  
may be painted over Lombroso fashion.

In company W. J. Harris see if  
you can find where *Colymbus solus* &  
*Chloroceryle* & *Lousivortum* differ I doubt  
I have doubts of their distinctness - or  
I may not have seen the true *solus* specimens  
some specimens of *Chloroceryle* has bills  
over an inch in length -

Sitter for Grayson thinking for *B. Rice* bat-  
end on *Susmechus* <sup>newly</sup> by mid of July  
specimens of *Idon* another from Mexico -  
all I have seen are for *Trinidad* & *St. Mark*

June 24 1869

Dear Lawrence

I shall soon have to take of the question of Pipilo and determine relationships of our species to Mexica. If you have any Mexica skins of any styles - Maculatus, albicallis, mesoleucus, etc. Please let me have them including any Sumichrasts

Sincerely yours  
S F Baird

Geo N Lawrence  
NY

[*The following were added in pencil*]

Sent 28th June

                  {Pipilo mesoleucus  
Ent C - { " macronyx  
note { " albicallis }  
Book { " maculata } Sumichrast

Send by Adams today Pipilos - also the Notes last sent - together with some papers Notes of yours - Would like to have seen [one illegible word] O. vetula ~~you that~~ when examining this Yucatan species I have put it as M. Ballii but say may nevertheless be vitula - my remarks on Contenus albifrons & St. Congi are much as in your notes my extra. over

[Page Break]

being delayed by a troublesome whimsical paper which preceded it, ~~has been all~~ [illegible] needed for weeks like to be able to send them - may not get there for 2 weeks yet - We expect to leave town next Thursday for Niagara to be absent about a fortnight.

[one word illegible] Should be much pleased of there proves to be 2 P. Rico - owls & Newtons established-

Examine the wings of G. Sulieni they may be pointed over sombrero fashion -

In comparing W. I. Hummers are if - you can find where Eulampis holosericeus chlorolaemus & conirostris differ. I have doubts of their distinctness - or I may not have seen the true holosericeus some specimens of chlorolaemus have bills over an inch in length -

Letter for Grayson thanking for C. Rica Bat - send on Sumichrasts new bird by mid of July & specimen of Icton another from Mexico - all I have seen are from Trinidad & St Martha