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Title: Letters from Spencer Baird to George Lawrence (Jan. - Mar. 1870)

Date: January - March 1870

Location: MC 2000.11, B1, F5

Contact:

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21441 - *Am. Mus.*
Washington, D.C., January 15, 1878.

My dear Lawrence.

I received your note of the 11th & at once sent a memorandum to Mr Spofford, asking him to communicate directly with you.

We have not yet sent any specimens to Slater, but shall do so in a few days. You can send any thing you have for him at once to us.

Since Prof. Henry wrote to you that the last invoice was all that we expected from Prof. Sumner-Chast, we have had another letter, stating that he would probably make another transshipment, carrying the total number beyond a thousand, so you can make your calculations accordingly.

The bird to which I gave the numbers is probably one of the wrens, — ^{*Thryothorus*} *Pleuro. strictus*.

Ridgway continues to smash hawks & owls, his last exploit being that of knocking Kennicott's owl into one cocked-hat & Pittman's into another, one being a dark race of the screech-owl & the other the young of the Scudian. What will friend Elliot say to this, in his excessive aversion to the manufacture of nominal species?

Mr Boardman has been here a few days, & left to night for Florida. I wish you & I were both going with him. I think we could have a good time.

You had better, perhaps, send on

Those Exax from Sumichratt's collec-
-tion, & let them go on to Slater with the
rest.

Yours truly

N W Baird

Geo. M. Lawrence

Philadelphia, Pa

See about sending my *C. glabrata*
Wrote 2 2 Tang

Volunteer for Davis Bell

Salvadori

Willow & *C. glabrata*? of Davis

f b s? Sumichratt

There will be about 50 specimens for
Davis, quite as many as I expected.

Washington D.C. January 15, 1870

My Dear Lawrence,

I received your note of the 11th; & at once sent a memorandum to Mr Spoffons, asking him to communicate directly with you.

We have not yet sent any specimens to Sclater, but shall do so in a few days. You can send any thing you have for him at once to us.

Since Prof. Henry wrote to you that the last invoice was all that we expected from Prof. Sumichrast, we have had another letter, stating that he would probably make another transcription, carrying the total number beyond a thousand; so you can make your calculations accordingly.

The bird to which I gave the numbers is probably one of the wrens, Thryothorus - plenro - stichus.

Ridgeway continues to smash hawks & owls, his last exploit being that of knocking Kennicot's owl into one cocked-hat & Kirtland's into another; one being a dark race of the Screech-owl & the other the young of the Arcadian. What will friend Elliot say to this, in his excessive aversion to the manufacture of nominal species?

Mr Boardman has been here a few days, & left to night for Florida. I wish you & I were both going with him. I think we could have a good time.

You had better, perhaps, send on

[Page Break]

those Erax from Sumichrast's collection, & let them go on to Sclater with the rest.

Your truly
S F Baird

Geo. N. Lawrence
~~Philadelphia~~ NY

[the following notes were written in pencil]

See about sending my ♀ C. globicera wrote 22d Jany
Volunteer for Danien Bill Salvadori –
Will send ♀ G. globicera ? of mine + ♂ D. Sumichrast –
There will be about 50 specimen for Giraud, quite as many as I expected –

[Page Break]

[front of envelope]

Geo. N Lawrence

**172 Pearl St
New York**

[Give Giraud the S. specimen or even a 2^d of a com-species & in S. I. collⁿ The only claim is the Kentucky University – This if the specimen is already in yours]

[back of envelope]

[illegible] 3. 3.0

Biff 3. 3.0

Phin 22.1.0

Lnce 28.7.0

66.3.0

foc 28.7.0

int 37.10.0

450

23 ½ 11

2.7

1350

900

225

10575

21474

MS
S

Washington, D.C., Jan. 23 1870.

Dear Lawrence.

I have gathered to-
-gether, in compliance with your
desire, all the specimens of Carebi-
-dae lent to me by you, & shall return
them in a few days.

I am sorry to say that one specimen
of Chlorophanes from Cayenne cannot
-be found, although probably only mis-
-laid. All the rest, however, have
been duly eliminated from their
various hiding places. The Vireo-
-sylvia virginialis is also not to be
found, & I think must have been
returned to you at an earlier time.
If not, however, it will doubtless turn
up, as it cannot be lost.

When Coes was here he went over the
quills & brought his monograph up to

date. I am now myself reviewing
all the Collection with his manu-
- script before me, & shall probably
agree with him in most of his con-
- clusions. Are there any species
of the family that you lack? If so, now
will be the time to ask for them. I
cannot promise you any very good
specimens, of the rarer kinds; but
such as we have are at your dis-
- posal.

Yours Truly
W. Bant

Geo. M. Lawrence
172. Pearl St.
N. York.

P.S. June 7 22. Just to hand. The box has not yet gone to Delator
There must be some mistake about Salvador, as he is usually
very prompt and ever eager in his correspondence. Better continue
to send him. Do you write him at home.

Nothing of special interest in the Japan coll. has received
special eff.

Washington, D.C. Jan. 23 1870

Dear Lawrence,

I have gathered together, in Compliance with you desire, all the Specimens of Carabidae lent to me by you, & shall return them in a few days.

I am sorry to say that one Specimen of Chlorophanes from Cayenne cannot be found, although probably only mislaid. All the rest, however, have been duly eliminated from their various hiding places. The Vireo-Sylvia virginalis is also not to be found, & I think must have been returned to you at an earlier time. If not, however, it will doubtless turn up, as it cannot be lost.

When Coues was here he went over the gulls & brought his monograph up to

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date. I am now myself reviewing all the Collection with his manuscript before me, & shall probably agree with him in most of his conclusions. Are there any species of the family that you lack? If so, now will be the time to ask for them. I cannot promise you any very good specimens, of the rarer kinds; but such as we have are at you disposal.

Your truly
S F Baird

Geo. N. Lawrence
172 Pearl St.
N. York.

P.S. Your of 22. put to hand. The bird has not yet gone to Sclater. There must be some mistake about Salvadori, as he is usually very prompt and even eager in his correspondence. Better continue to send him. Do you write him at home.

Nothing of special interest in the Grayson coll. last received except eggs.

27⁸⁶

Washington D.C. March 18, 1870.

Dear Lawrence.

I received your letter of the 13th on my return from a short visit to Carlisle & Philadelphia. As to Sumichrast ~~we~~ have already written him in reply to his communications, expressing our regret that the state of our funds will not permit us to furnish the means to make the explorations he desires. If we had a few hundred dollars to spare, it could not be better bestowed than in helping him along; & it is very probable that the sale of his duplicates will realize that amount. We, however, are not in a condition even to advance the money, to be repaid at a future time. I wish the American Museum of Natural History could take stock in his enterprise & have a share of the proceeds. In that way the interest of all parties might be properly served.

We have already sent you, I think the biographical notices of the birds to which Sumichrast refers. They embraced some

Figures of birds, nests, & some other matters.

Have you not received it?

Enclose the money for the freight on the package. Please return the bill re-

-ceipted. We received quite a nice lot of Falkland Islands birds the other day from Solvin, embracing several species new to our collection. We are at present overhauling the South American ducks & geese & find much interest in the examination.

Sincerely yours,

Alexander Wetmore

George N. Lawrence
172 Pearl St., N. Y.

Washington D.C. March 18, 1870

Dear Lawrence,

I received your letter of the 13th on my return from a short visit to Carlisle & Philadelphia. As to Sumichrast - we have already written him in reply to his Communications, expressing our regret that the state of our friends will not permit us to furnish the means to make the explorations he desires. If we had a few hundred dollars to spare, it could not be better bestowed than in helping him along; & it is very possible that the sale of his duplicates will realize that amount. We, however, are not in a Condition ever to advance the money, to be repaid at a future time. I wish the American Museum of Natural History could take stock in his enterprise & have a share of the proceeds. In that way the interest of all parties might be properly served.

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We received quite a nice lot of Falkland Island birds the other day from Salvin, embracing several species new to our collection. We are at present overhauling the South American ducks & geese, & find much interest in the examination.

Sincerely yours
Spencer F Baird

George N. Lawrence
172 Pearl St. N.Y.

21845
Washington D.C. March 28, 1870.

Dear Lawrence.

I am much obliged to you for the extract of beef, which is very fresh & fine; I now enclose a Post-Office order for \$6, to pay for it.

I send you some more of Butcher's meteorite circulars, & shall be glad if the Central Park people can make a purchase of at least one of them. There are several applicants already, & I do not think the stock will be on hand more than a few weeks.

The cases at the Smithsonian measure $11\frac{1}{2}$ ft. in length, 5 in breadth & 8 in height, & form a very good size, at least for our purposes. The wall cases are of the same width & height & about 12 inches in depth.

I am quite confident there is now no more Smithsonian Surmiches but manuscript than that I have sent you, the figures in question being of nests & eggs that I did not forward.

When last in Philadelphia I was too
much in a hurry to make the long prom-
-ised visit to New York, & now hardly think
I can get there before the time of my
regular summer's trip.

Very truly Yours.

Spencer W. Baird

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

2 more of summer back boxes
will be here in a day or two
will send an order at once

Washington D.C. March 28, 1870

Dear Lawrence,

I am much obliged to you for the extract of beef, which is very fresh & fine; & now enclose a Post office order for \$6, to pay for it.

I send you some more of Butcher's meteorite circulars, & shall be glad if the Central Park people can make a purchase of at least one of them. There are several applicants already, & I do not think the stock will be on hand more than a few weeks.

The cases at the Smithsonian measure 11 1/2 ft. in length, 5 in breadth & 8 in height, & form a very good size, at least for our purposes. The wall cases are of the same width & height & about 12 inches in depth.

I am quite confident there is now no more ~~Smithsonian~~ Sumichrast bird manuscript than that I have sent you, the figures in question being of nests & eggs that I did not forward.

[Page Break]

When last in Philadelphia I was too much in a hurry to make the long promised visit to New York; & now hardly think I can get there before the time of my regular summer's trip.

Very truly yours,
Spencer F Baird

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

2 more Sumichrast boxes will be here in a day or two will send on birds at once