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Title: Letters from Spencer Baird to George Lawrence (Jan. - Mar. 1871)

Date: January - March 1871

**Location:** MC 2000.11, B1, F9

#### **Contact:**

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2327. John Lawrence. Washington, Deb, Jan. 7, 1871 AVENUE 32 Came Duly ( whant of at about the Same time with the Fire Screen, for which Mrs Baind is extremely indebted byon. It is exactly what She wanted, I will be a great-protection to her, hereafter. I enclose the survey to pay for the Sains, which I hope will be more Ancceptul in reaching you than some little arms which Dhave lately forwarded to New York were in reaching their destriction. Please let me Know whenever it comes to hand. We have flut-you, I think all the Small birds of the Grayson & Kantus Collections, but not the Small birds of Mexico generally Do you want these, from all parts of Mexico, or only those from the western coast? Mr Kidgeway & I are whing, in our researches, all the northern Species, but you can have them in a little while if you need them. The Enfetures & Water birds are here, to will be sent after a while. There are

no Hummers Matyon have not sent, every Thing having gone, from time to time, as reclived. The Timamoos are all in London, I clater not having yet returned them: you will have to come on tollashington yourself, & have an overhauling; I are no help for your in this watter. Nobody but yourself can make sure that you glade that you need in you work. I do not remember any new Species from The Mexican islands, other than those you mention. We have Bent-you the entire heries, with the exception of a dingle Specimen, retained here when there was a duplicate. Dr Brewer, now here, thinks that the Ludhension of the Boston Journal is only Temporary & matin a little while they will begin to print again. The Fly- Catcher for which you ask I will try to forward at our carly day, growing you are for yourself, if we have it to Space. Very turk yours. Geo. N. Laurence, 172, Pearl Street: Wan York.

Schaler critis that the type of Mujanhu merrianu camor be four In the Derly Music Strents Rang Rooks A with him Askets his views about the tray on to bat. if but to publish m. Sp. w Annell on Ph. Pose. One of my then bends is a lectalhorn francocador when you down the 6. hammond a please send list there eligans from Immichant as I would like to see It I should have It to put andis Calperhales Bown could bring them of hehas not left - Inphone Mr Bowd man is with you by thes time perhaps he will herricase you to find find him been supply a en matornay as it is not all somethat Allower would bring out a snagnificent dellection of Ofommer I suppose he much have bught terrains G. Now both thriks 6. westo take central of the Park muen if he was fixed how permantly Bikmen counts me to meet with other at the Tomo, Rooms we cay a time, I was wishing to was dene-to full them take care or he may be ent out Much obliged for the Brem- from Somichant

Washington, D.C. Jan. 7, 1871

Dear Lawrence,

Yours of the 3d came duly to hand, & at about the same time with the Fire Screen, for which Mrs Baird is extremely indebted to you. It is exactly what she wanted, & will be a great protection to her, thereafter.

I enclose the money to pay for the Sarine, which I hope will be more successful in reaching you than some little sums which I have lately forwarded to New York were in reaching their destination. Please let me know whenever it comes to hand.

We have sent you, I think all the small birds of the Grayson & Xantus Collections, but not the small birds of Mexico. Do you want these, from all parts of Mexico, or only those from the western coast? Mr Ridgeway & I are using, in our researches, all the northern species, but you can have them in a little while if you need them. The raptores & water birds are here, & will be sent after a while. There are

#### [Page Break]

no hummers that <del>you</del> we have not sent, everything having gone, from time to time, as received. The Tinamous are all in London, Sclater not having yet returned them.

You will have to come on to Washington yourself, & have an overhauling; I see no help for you in this matter. Nobody but yourself can make sure that you get all that you need in your work.

I do not remember any new species from the Mexican islands, other than those you mention. We have sent you the entire series, with the exception of a single specimen, retained here when there was a duplicate.

Dr. Brewer, now here, thinks that the suspension of the Boston Journal is only temporary, & that in a little while they will begin to print again.

The Fly-Catcher for which you ask I will try to forward at an early day, giving you one for yourself, if we have it to spare.

Very truly yours, S F Baird

Geo. N. Lawrence, 172, Pearl Street, New York.

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Sclaters writes that the type Myiarchus mexicanus cannot be found in the Derby Mus.; thinks Kauss took it with him.

Asked his views about the Grayson &c Cat. if best to publish N. Sp. in Annals or Ph. Proc. One of my New birds is a Cistothorus from Ecuador when you send the E. hammondi please send Cistothorus elegans from Sumichrast as I would like to see it & should have it to put

in his list - perhaps Brewer could bring them if he has not left - Suppose Mr Boardman is with you by this time, perhaps he will persuade you to find hawks I see by the paper today it has been very cold in Florida & some of the new visitors find it uncomfortable in many ways, think they have been duped "a la marnay" as it is not all sunshine & flowers I heard from him Mr. B. & from two sources since that Elliot would bring out  $\land$  here a significant collection of Hummers - I suppose he must have bought Verreauxi G. Newbold thinks E. would take control of the Park Museum if he was fixed here permanently Brickman  $\land$  told Mr. [?] counts me to meet  $\land$  him with others at the Mus. rooms in a day or two, I was wishing E. was here - to help them Coues must take care or he may be cut out. Much obliged for the Mem. From Sumichrast -

3 Nashington, De Jan. 19. 187 AVENUE. Dear Lawrence. I send you herewith the Specimens of Hammond's Fly-Catcher, which you are welcome to keep, also some shearness of the wrend for your examination. you have one with them, as we shall need them in a little while, in om Studies. Very mily yours Ger. N. Lawrence, Sperint Marra 172, Pearl Street, New York.

Washington, D.C. Jan. 19, 1871.

Dear Lawrence,

I send you herewith, the specimens of Hammond's Fly-Catcher, which you are welcome to keep; also some specimens of the wrens for your examination.

Please return these as soon as you have done with them, as we shall need them in a little while, in our studies.

Very truly yours Spencer F Baird

Geo. N. Lawrence, 172, Pearl Street, New York.

My sem Lawrence. I have yours of the 23 thoster to answer it. I send you all the Specimens of Attila for which you ash & hope Mey will help you to solve the problem I examined conefully the Parulo from the Thee Morias I appreciated a general difference from the S. American, hul was middle to identify it astrifactorily to myself, so That I did not give it a new name. I am not done hul the lype Specimen of the Island Wren had been in alcohol for some time, to that it was materially Changed in appearance. The Parrol-Iwould put in as a bunely (Brevipes). Too not-believe it is a Species, although well marked by its freculrin char-- acteristics. Jour com put in the Vires at the end of your paper as taken from my mones crift "This" for Detober Thave not Deen & doubt-if it has not her published. I shall be glad to get the Crop-bills nest time the owner ameting of equal or greater value.

Very huly yours.

The Pearl Street. Lev. N. Knurence 172, Prail Street. N. York.

Washington, D.C. Jan. 26, 1871.

My Dear Lawrence,

I have yours of the 23d & hasten to answer it. I send you all the Specimens of Attila for which you ask & hope they will help you to solve the problem. I examined carefully the <u>Parula</u> from the three Marias & appreciate a general difference from the S. American; but was unable to identify it define this satisfactorily to myself, so that I did not give it a new name. I am not sure but the type specimen of the Island Wren had been in alcohol for some time, so that it was materially changed in appearance. The Parrot I would put in as a variety (Brevipes). I do not believe it is a species, although well marked by its peculiar characteristics. You can put in the Vireo at the end of your paper as taken from my manuscript

"Ibis" for October I have not seen, & doubt if it has yet been published. I shall be glad to get the Crossbills nest & give the owner something of equal or greater value.

Very truly yours, S F Baird

Geo. N. Lawrence 172, Pearl Street, N. York.

13413 Washington, Dl. Feb. 1, 1871. Dear Lowrence. Schoter writes me that he has at last-obtained the type of Myjarchus Mexicams from Kaup himself, & that it is my M. Cooperi, The does not state, however, what-Karefis M. Cooperi is. Dehall write whim about - Most, Mis, of course Rettles M. Cinerasceus, bowhich, you at least-com have no objection. Very huly yours. M. Baird. Lev. N. Laurence. 172 Penel St. N. York.

Washington, D.C. Feb. 1, 1871

Dear Lawrence,

Sclater writes me that he has at last obtained the type of <u>Myiarchus Mexicanus</u> from Kauss himself, & that it is my <u>M. Cooperi</u>. He does not state, however, what Kauss's <u>M. Cooperi</u> is. I shall write to him about that. This, of course, settles <u>M. Cineraceus</u>, as a good species to which, you at least can have no objection.

Very truly yours, S. F. Baird.

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

Scar Lawrence. S. Feb. 14, 1871. AVENUE. In our general review of North American Birds for the new book we, have come to the Warblers & Ridgeway is very anxious to all as large a Revier of the Alstiva Type as he can particularly trose with red heads, allied & the visillati. We sent you quite a runber of these from Marattan, which I would be glad to have you re--twom, with any others that you may popels of any form from the West- Indies, or from Cutral or South America. Mese will be Rent back toyou in a few Days after receiving them. Trusting Mut you are well thaving a good time, demani, Sincerely yours. Gev. N. Lawrence Erg.
172, Penel Sheet;
New york.

Washington, D.C. Feb. 14. 1871.

Dear Lawrence,

In our general review of North American Birds for the new book, we have come to the Warblers, & Ridgeway is very anxious to see as large a series of the <u>Aestiva</u> type as he can, particularly those with red heads, allied to the <u>vieilloti</u>. We sent you quite a number of these from Mazatlan, which I would be glad to have you return, with any others that you may possess of any form from the West-Indies, or Central or South America. These will be sent back to you in a few days after receiving them.

Trusting that you are well & having a good time, I remain,

Sincerely yours, S. F. Baird

Geo. N. Lawrence Esq. 172, Pearl Street, New York.

Deal Lawrence. Narlington, Slo. Feb. 22, 187 KNEW TO. AVENUE, "S Jam much obliged to you for the reference to the fish. That already received a fine Specimen, weighing about 16 pounds, from Mr I cott. I wish, however, you wald see if you camol-gel- a perfect- Specinen; the Drueller The better, without the whiles removed & send me entire in a tule of ice; & I will gladly pay the expenses of Jish, packing & transporta tion, as I wish to have a belter figure of the Species than those furnished by the 3 pecimen Leve by Me Scott. If there is more than one Species of these outlandish macket that and into Market at the present time, Iwould Who specimens of all of them. The Specimen Dent by Mr Scott is a West India fish, known there as the Sierra. I will kend as Roow as I get the copies, some of the circulars referred to, to Mu Clerke Lavould he glad to have hem distributed. The box of warblers came Rafely Whand. I have not- witten Scholer about - Cooper's Fily. Catche your had better do as & Stir him up

about it. yours very truly Geo. N. Lawrence 172, Pearl St. New York.

Washington, D.C. Feb. 22, 1871.

Dear Lawrence,

I am much obliged to you for the reference to the fish. I had already received a fine specimen, weighing about 16 pounds, from Mr Scott. I wish, however, you could see if you cannot get a perfect specimen; the smaller the better, without the insides removed & send me entire in a tub of ice; & I will gladly pay the expenses of fish, packing & transportation, as I wish to have a better figure of the species than that furnished by the specimen sent by Mr Scott. If there is more than one species of these outlandish Mackerel that come into Market at the present time, I would like specimens of all of them.

The specimen sent by Mr Scott is a West India fish, known there as the Sierra.

I will send as soon as I get the copies, some of the circulars referred to, to Mr. Clerke & would be glad to have them distributed. The box of warblers came safely to hand. I have not written Sclater about Cooper's Fly-Catcher. You had better do so & stir him up

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about it.

Yours very truly S F Baird

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

( ) mun 4. 12 Den Leum Silatin budy one all Bother Dend Lesbin by mine No word of Summeraus las. The Small Unitrilings of Summer a anthraina. By the way the bud labelled & 7 I pient what exactly for Bolina's the Arue U. Schurbaces the my one we have. interned in the Bryand but Cupa whall read to fruit of: wenting appropriate Jusani. Justani Let me kom remaining charges in

## March 6. 71

### Dear Lawrence,

Sclaters birds are all boxed: ready to send off. Better send Lesbia by mail.

No word of Sumichrast last.

The small <u>Urubitinga</u> of Sumichrast is <u>anthracinus</u>. By the way the bird labelled by you I forgot what exactly - for Bolivia - is the true <u>U. schistacea</u> the only one we have.

Did you find anything of interest in these Bryant birds Cooper owls all ready to print off. waiting appropriate

> Yours ever S F Baird

G N Lawrence,

Ny

Let me know remaining charges in the Hague box

Machingm Slo. March, 7, 187 TONEW My Sear Lawrence. I duly received your letters the 4th twas very glad to find that you were alive, Rolong an interval having elopsed since I last had the pleasure of hearing from you. Dam much obliged for your rugning respecting The fish, I shall be glad to have a specimen whenever a good one turns up. I have just had the pleasure of a visit from M. R. B. Roosevell, who is, as you know, a member of the new Congress. He expressed much gratification at hearing of my appointment, I was polite enough to day Mathe expected much good from the redults of my inquiries. I do not hick any tryidemist-went with The last Sarien expedition. I have had no offer-- turity of adding any one to that party. It is quite probable that I may have to go on to N. York for a few days next week, I hope then to have the pleasure of discussing & cloter's hopen to then matter of mutual interest. By that time I may have some Cofies of my fren Circular to show to Me Clerk.

By theway, I intend to make a Complete Collection of all the different kinds of Jish. ing apparatus for catching fish either by wholesale or retail, thall want to run. - mage pretty closely in Mr Clerk's extublish ment, for the purpose of Recurring Ramples of all the different- Pheninens of hooks & times, reels, honfrons, etc. Very huly yours. Spencer V. Baird Dev. N. Lawrence Erg. 172, Pearl Street, New York.

Washington, D.C. March 7, 1871.

My Dear Lawrence,

I duly received your letter of the 4th, & was very glad to find that you were alive, so long an interval having elapsed since I last had the pleasure of hearing from you.

I am much obliged for your inquiry respecting the fish. I shall be glad to have a specimen whenever a good one turns up. I have just had the pleasure of a visit from Mr R. B. Roosevelt, who is, as you know, a member of the new Congress. He expressed much gratification at hearing of my appointment, & was polite enough to say that he expected much good from the results of my inquiries.

I do not think any taxidermist went with the last Darien expedition. I have had no opportunity of adding any one to that party. It is quite probable that I may have to go on to N. York for a few days next week, & hope then to have the pleasure of discussing Sclater's paper & other matters of mutual interest. By that time I may have some copies of my fish circular to show to Mr Clerk.

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By the way, I intend to make a complete collection of all the different kinds of fishing apparatus for catching fish either by wholesale or retail, & shall want to rummage pretty closely in Mr Clerk's establishment, for the purpose of securing samples of all the different specimens of hooks + lines, reels, harpoons, etc.

Very truly yours, Spencer F Baird

Geo. N. Lawrence Esq. 172 Pearl Street, New York.

Dear Lamence. I was sorry to learn by yours of Me gth, Most Mis Lawrence is Ruffering from her foot, thuse- that she will before tong he re-- covered. As tomy visit to New york, the time is yet uncertain, how I hope to be there Towards the end of next week. When I come I Shall take much pleasure in boring you Just as much as I can, as I have done in trues past- denclose a memorandem og Lone additional birds that Bridgeway would like To see in the revision of our bird manuscript. I know very well that most of them are not in your popelion, but shall be glad whave you Dend, whatever you can. Mey will be promptly re-- turned byon as the last-motalment. I have met- Me Prosevell- two or three times Law inclined tothink I shall get- along weny well with him He seems disposed to take a very favorable view of my nipion, & Itaik will give me his aupport. Very truly yours. Geo. N. Laurence Eig. 172 Pearl Street. New York. Spenen V Baird

Washington, D.C. March 11, 1871.

Dear Lawrence,

I was sorry to learn by yours of the 9th, that Mrs Lawrence is suffering from her  $\land$  sore foot, & trust that she will before to long be recovered.

As to my visit to New York, the time is yet uncertain, but I hope to be there towards the end of next week. When I come I shall take much pleasure in boring you just as much as I can, as I have done in times past.

I enclose a memorandum of some additional birds that Ridgeway would like to see in the revision of our bird manuscript. I know very well that most of them are not in your possession, but shall be glad to have you send whatever you can. They will be promptly returned to you as the last installment.

I have met Mr. Roosevelt two or three times & am inclined to think I shall get along very well with him. He seems disposed to take a very favorable view of my mission, & I think will give me his support.

Very truly yours, Spencer F Baird

Geo. N. Lawrence Esq. 172 Pearl Street, New York.