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Title: Letters from Spencer Baird to George Lawrence (Oct. - Dec. 1871)

Date: October - December 1871

Location: MC 2000.11, B1, F12

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Banta Oct. 7. 71

Dear Laureen

I find I cannot leave
till Monday. We then take
shore line 11 am. Can see in
my about 7.

I have telegraphed Madam
Square House

Yours ever
W W Burt

Boston Oct. 7. 71

Dear Lawrence

I find I cannot leave till Monday. We then take Shore Line 11 AM. Train due in Ny.
about 7

I have telegraphed Madison Square House

Yours ever
S F Baird

2338
Wahington, D.C. Nov. 9. 1871.

Dear Lawrence.

You are perhaps aware that we have been looking for a good taxidermist, for some time past, with the intention of having some of our Collections for mounting prepared here. This to be in addition to the work that we may see fit to have done in New York by Bell & Wallace. I have just learned that Julius Stoenzen has been burnt out in Chicago, & is in N. Y., working now probably with Wallace.

I wish you would manage to drop in there at some convenient time & make such inquiries in regard to this man as may not excite a suspicion on the part of Wallace of any desire to take possession of him; & find out some thing of his merits as a taxidermist.

You can doubtless have an opportunity of seeing something of his work, & judge from it whether he be really as accomplished

as some of our Chicago friends think him
We need some such man very much, &
could, if he satisfies us, give him a per-
manent engagement, probably.

Very truly yours,

Spencer F. Baird

Geo. W. Lawrence,

172. Pearl Street,

New York.

Washington, D.C. Nov. 9. 1871.

Dear Lawrence,

You are perhaps aware that we have been looking for a good taxidermist, for some time past, with the intention of having some of our collections for mounting prepared here. This to be in addition to the work that we may see fit to have done in New York by Bell & Wallace.

I have just learned that Julius Stvenser has been burnt in Chicago, & is in N.Y., working now probably with Wallace. I wish you would manage to drop in there at some convenient time & make such inquiries in regard to this man as may not excite a suspicion on the part of Wallace of any desire to take possession of him; & find out some thing of his merits as a taxidermist.

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Very truly yours
Spencer F Baird

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

2545
918
NEW YORK AVENUE.
WASHINGTON, D. C.

Washington, Nov. 21, 1876.

NEW YORK AVENUE.
WASHINGTON, D. C.

My Dear Lawrence.

When your letter of the 4th came, asking for sundry birds, I gave it to Ridgway, asking him to attend to this memorandum. He looked at it & straightway forgot it. On receiving yours of the 15th I made inquiry & found the matter had been forgotten by Ridgway. But he proceeded to take out your desiderata, ^{as far as you knew them} & they were sent forward to you by express yesterday.

I have not yet got out the remaining Sumichrasti's, but will find some of them before a great while.

Yours very truly.

Spencer V. Baird

Geo. N. Lawrence Esq.

172. Pearl Street.

New York.

Washington, Nov. 21, 1871.

My Dear Lawrence,

When your letter of the 4th came, asking for sundry birds, I gave it to Ridgeway, asking him to attend to this memorandum. He looked at it & straitway forgot it. On receiving yours of the 16th I made inquiry & found the matter had been forgotten by Ridgeway. But he proceeded to take out your desiderata, as far as we have there & they were sent forward to you by express yesterday.

I have not yet got out the remaining Sumichrastians, but will find some of them before a great while.

Yours very truly,
Spencer F Baird

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

Wishing you the compliments of the season
satisfactory demand, especially as you say the
drawings are not all first class or up to the
present standard - what is your opinion, I
take it for granted Mr G. would ^{expect} some ^{compensation}
on it but probably would ^{not} like to take any risk
of its ^{not} succeeding. Do not send the package on until
I notify you as I could not give much attention to
it before the New Year & in the mean time these
specimens can very fittingly rest on your
broad shoulders.

Col. S. Peters would be of great ^{interest} ~~importance~~ ^{importance} in the list of North American birds - ~~but there is a~~
~~considerable part~~ of his collection I think not yet
sent me - ~~therefore not to send~~ it would perhaps be
best to publish first a Cat. of some choice collections for sale

There are more can now come from them
this I think is common & very common

Dec 23d 1871.

Baird

I have delayed answering yours of the 16 longer than I intended, ~~but having been~~ lately ~~much engaged with various matters~~ had many pressing duties. Of course I shall be much justified by an examination of Col. Graysons note book & drawings, as regards finding some one to publish ~~them~~ ^ such a work you know much more about such matters than I do, if any one ~~would undertake it~~ I should think the Sippincott were the most likely ^ to undertake it then the question arises, would it be remunerative to the Publishers & Mrs G. ~~after the Sippincotts~~ Here I suppose Appleton & Co. are the ~~most likely~~ only one who might get that consideration The amount necessary to bring out properly such a work would be very considerable & being of a local ^ character might not be of sufficient general interest to meet ^ with a

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satisfactory demand, especially as you say the drawings are not all print class or up to the present standard - what is your opinion. I take it for granted Mrs. G would ^ expect some ~~whenst in its~~ compensation but probably would ^ not like to take any risk of its ^ mt succeeding. Do not send the package until I notify you as I could not give much attention to it before the New Year & in the mean time the responsibility can very fittingly rest on your broad shoulders.

Cal. S. notes would be of great ~~addition~~ interest incorporate in the book of North American birds - ~~but there is a considerable part~~ and as there is a of his collection I think not yet sent me - ~~therefore could not~~ it would perhaps be sent to publish first a Cat. of Sumichrasts collections for Lehman there is no more now come from them this I think of coming very soon
wishing you the compliments of the season