

June 6, 1945

Dear Folks,

Your efforts to help identify the little bird, including the admirable sketches of the trogon, now obviously not even distant relations, are most appreciated. Though I'm a little embarrassed you sent my completely unscientific description to the American Museum, since they will make me appear as the roughest of amateurs. It may very probably take what is left of the specimen to identify the species if not the family. A new family ^{by the way} is of course always of more interest than just a new species, and knowing that there are many families strange to me on the various islands out here is tantalizing indeed. Hawaii added several, and though two were represented by introduced species, one ^{other} that of the Hawaiian Honey Creeper, I was especially pleased to meet (through three species), it being one of the most remarkable and striking bird families in the world. Guam added one (possibly two) more, so you can see I haven't done very well, even though about as well as could be expected. The New Guinea region, with its cassowaries, megapodes (curious birds

T. Richards

Yarnate
attached;
book read

