

and Dr. Hector, while in Washington, also applied for 50,000 on behalf of the New Zealand Government, for which, also, he was Commissioner at the Centennial Exposition. (I have used the figures in Dr. Baird's letter as the quantities applied for.) These are the parcels of which you have been pleased to authorize the shipment, and for which, I have no doubt, you shall be officially thanked.

4. I have noted your remark to Messrs. Cross, and will communicate the same to the New Zealand Government and the other parties interested, that "This contribution has been made by the United States Fishery Commission from its establishment at McLeod River, California, and that the credit arising from the successful experiment should be assigned to the United States Government for its action in the matter; also that the consignees shall address their acknowledgments, as well as an account of the condition of the eggs, and their subsequent experience of the fish, to you, as Commissioner of Fish and Fisheries, Smithsonian Institution, Washington."

5. I feel this explanation is necessary under the circumstances, and because I also know that very great regret will be felt in the colony when they learn that any difficulty has arisen through an informality and apparent want of courtesy on their part. Very great interest is taken in this matter in New Zealand, and the liberality of the United States Government, through its Fish and Fishery Commission, will be gratefully acknowledged by that country.

I have, &c.,

ROBERT J. CREIGHTON,
Resident Postal Agent for the New Zealand Government.

The Hon. Spencer F. Baird,
United States Commissioner of Fisheries, Washington.

No. 11.

The Hon. SPENCER F. BAIRD to Mr. R. J. CREIGHTON.

United States Government Building, Centennial Grounds,
West Philadelphia, Pa., 28th September, 1876.

DEAR SIR,—

I am in receipt of your letter of the 20th of September, and trust that Mr. Stone will be able to meet my request to supply a series of salmon eggs to the several colonies of New Zealand.

Owing, however, to the comparatively late period of the application and of the transmittal of instructions, it is barely possible that the full measure can be given. Future applications should be made early in the spring.

My request to Mr. Stone, to send 50,000 eggs to Dr. Hector at Wellington, was on my own motion. When I saw the Doctor last in Philadelphia, he proposed to obtain a grant of money from the colonial authorities for the entire service, without specifying the stations or quantities, since which I have not heard from him.

I have, &c.,

ROBERT J. CREIGHTON, Esq.,
Postal Agent, New Zealand Government, San Francisco, California.

SPENCER F. BAIRD.

No. 12.

Mr. R. J. CREIGHTON to the Hon. SPENCER F. BAIRD.

DEAR SIR,—

San Francisco, California, 10th October, 1876.

I am in receipt of your favour of the 28th September, and have to thank you for your courteous attention, and the readiness with which you complied with the informal applications from New Zealand for salmon ova. I have already written to the colony explaining the position of the United States Fishery Commission in this matter, and I have no doubt you will be kept fully informed of the result of the experiment through its several stages. I am happy to state that the ova arrived to-day, and was packed in ice in the ice-house of the "Zealandia" mail steamer, which has been appropriated to its use. It is an iron air-tight chamber on deck, and will suit admirably. It will not be disturbed during the voyage to Fiji, where a transshipment takes place. This is the only point of difficulty, but I do not apprehend much danger to the eggs, the time occupied being so short.

2. Dr. Hector wrote to me from Honolulu stating generally the arrangement or understanding for the supply of eggs from the McLeod River establishment; but as his instructions from the New Zealand Government passed him on the way, I think it is better to let the question of money rest until he has had an opportunity of writing from the colony, after consulting the Government, which he has had by this time. I may say, however, that the New Zealand Government has funds at its disposal for this purpose to an amount greater than is likely to be required. In all likelihood the whole question will be definitely settled by next mail. Dr. Hector informs me that he had arranged for a supply of white-fish from the East next spring, but for the reason already stated I cannot go into details. However, the entire service will be satisfactorily arranged I have no doubt.

3. In his letter, Dr. Hector informed me that he had written to you, but as his correspondence came by sailing-packet, doubtless it did not reach you so soon as it otherwise might have done. I enclose copies of this correspondence to the New Zealand Government.

I have, &c.,

R. J. CREIGHTON,
Resident Agent, New Zealand Government.

The Hon. Spencer F. Baird.