

6075 BROWN'S LAKE ROAD
JACKSON, MICHIGAN

28 December, 1960

Dear Eliot:

We had hoped - envisioned -
and did some wishful thinking -
but beyond our fondest dreams
is the embodiment that arrived
a week ago yesterday! The are
not really past the blubbing
stage safely so I feel I can
express our gratitude sanely -
so this will no doubt be a
classical example of "words
fail me, but ———"

The Express came shortly
after Pennell left for the office -
all afternoon I controlled myself
and neither called P. nor tampered
with that provocatively handsome
case. Dining very busy helped
pass the time, but it seemed
Pennell was later than ever.
I don't know when we ate
that night - or if we even

ate at all. First to the basement
to remove the lid - Then the
paralysis over the handsome
inner case - Then up to
the game table to view the
contents - Then back to the
basement for the easel - Then
another viewing - Then a remodel
job on the easel - another
viewing - reliving every
picture and over tries at
the same spot. Paewell wanted
to call you then and there, but
you'd never have survived the
incoherent shouting and I
scatched it in favor of typing
better to express our appreciation.

It is the loveliest possession
we have - and means more.
How we drank in #1 - Woodcock -
#2 - Acadian - it is truly far
us because we know you
didn't agree. Our brains have
gone soft over the Ceruleans -
the pleasure increases as the
winter wears on. The Massachusetts
Jun & Gr. Sparrows - B-wing &
B-wings - Ovenbird (superb) -

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B. + Blues and lastly, your
perfectly marvelous Loggie &
G. t. Towhee. The care and
workmanship on the case,
title, and title-page - all
just about corked me and
we've been topped, ^{but good} and almost
silenced. How on earth does
"Thank you" fit such an
occasion? Lowell kept saying
"I told him I wanted a few
prints of the Mich. birds but
this !" "Maybe it's worth
it to have him talking to himself?"
Everyone who has been here
has had the treat of your
show — Horne came Monday
& Russ & Ruth Bengel (remember?)
are coming to-night. Horne
appreciated the gift — but
he couldn't appreciate your
pictures like we do, and
you know why.

Pat came for Christmas and so we had Pamela's mother and a cousin (from Detroit) also for Pat & Sunday. The didn't have our white tree indoors this year, but had one outside (lighted) which I covered with cones filled with peanut butter & seeds. What a show we've had all day with juncos, tree sparrows chickadees, titmice scrambling all over the cones. We have 12 Cardinals eating peanut butter, creepers, R-b. Woodpecker - Downy & Hairy, Nuthatches - and a cat-gillions of Mr. Doves eating corn & at intervals a C. Hawk shakes up the troops.

The thought of you when a patient gave P. a decanter of Beam - we have J. D. enough on hand now for quite an "expedition" - quite often I hear "Dad would like this or that." Santa sneaked over "celebration".

Bentings are spending New Years Eve with us. Will toast your health and good fortune -

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They leave in Feb. for Arizona.
They plan to go to the Station
in April. Did you get a card
from Maud with encouragement
to return?

How thrilling for Aline!
Hope someday to see some of
her work - as well as her!

Pamuel is driving me
bale with his scaffolding. It
is nice & all that, but my
mind is on my music
until we play Feb. 28th -
There's time after that for me
to decide openings in blind etc.
His lights are great, tho - got a
rice out of Dill, even.

You'll enjoy this - remember
Pamuel's caution to Larry about
keeping his cat on. picking hands
off Ceruleans - Larry sent a very
nice print to me with Max
greetings.

Thank you for such a fine acknowledgement of the little fruit cake. I made the usual 100 lbs. No comment about Oparornis — had it not arrived yet? I got your receipt, so far all's well.

We are looking into Minn. possibilities — so many things we could get there. Probably will be stuck with the scaffolding on a robin or blue jay 'till July!

I told you this would be the classic example of "I can't find words" — "You've made us jubilant beyond normal for this time of year — and here on the game table rests our pride and joy "A Few Michigan Birds." May '61. add blessings on blessings.

With affection -

Deely (and Farnell)



Mr. Eliot Parter
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