Casey A. Wood Collection

March 24. Card to ack. Later note re coleoptrist.

Re. return to
Dr. Casey Wood -
Museum of Vertebrate Zoology
Berkeley, Cal.

Waiyevo
Taveuni.
30th January 1914.

from:-
Dr. H. Silvester Evans DC.
Fiji. Waiyevo
Taviuni
Fiji.

Send him the Crimson-capped Parrot reprint

Dear Doctor Wood -

I have to thank you for your kind letter of January 3rd and the very welcome notes on Fiji birds. Any local notes on anything here is of such enormous value when, in all matters Zoological, one is so entirely out of the range of books.

The opportunity you so generously offer of working Lau is absolutely unique, and I am bitterly disappointed that I see no hope of availing myself of it: our little Government is so poor just now that no Officers are available for relief and I cannot leave my District this year even for a month or two for scientific work. I am giving away no confidence when I tell you that it is only owing to lack of Revenue that I am not still Medical Officer + D.C. in Lau, which is

really my District – but a Doctor is now too expensive a luxury for those islands!

I had so looked forward to working in with Martin's collecting, and perhaps helping him with parasites, stomach contents etc. and we could have got some osteological material too.

I am doing all I can with the Coleoptera of Fiji – one such Order alone takes all the time I can spare or steal. If you can at any time put me in touch with any Fiji material of this order or with any American or other collectors who have touched Insects in Fiji I shall be very grateful, as I hope some day to get out a Fiji Catalogue, and, of course, want to trace all available material first. There have been American workers here in Lepidoptera & Hymb, but I've have heard of no Coleopterist. I have about 370 species so far, mostly from Taveuni alone.

I beg you will consider that you have an open invitation from my wife and myself for any time and any period – and wherever we may happen to be! and I trust you may avail yourself of it soon. Yours sincerely H. Sylvester Evans