

May 28, 1964

AIR MAIL

Mr. Erle G. Kaufman
Associate Curator
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Smithsonian Institution
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Washington 25, D. C.

Dear Erle:

Your letter of April 16 is very interesting. As to Cubitostrea coxi, your conclusions are agreed to by me. Hitherto I had assumed without careful inspection that the Exogyras have a Quenstedt's muscle. Your observation as to the lack of the muscle must be checked. It might be an important one.

I shall be glad to serve as a critic for any of your oyster papers.

Work on the oysters is continuing, though very slowly. The manuscript on the composition of the larval shell of C. virginica has been sent off to Science. Maybe that serial will accept it and print it soon. Thanks to Noel Brown, a former student of mine here in town, I have ascertained that the Faujas-Saint-Fond was not published in 1799, as the title page claims, but in 1801 or later. It took some more tedious digging to find that out. There is a manuscript on Rastellum Faujas almost finished; it is nomenclatural. Whereto shall I send it?

As to the so-called denticles, I have come to the conclusion that a word meaning mortise-and-tenon jointing would be sufficiently descriptive. After spending many hours among Greek and Latin dictionaries, the best words I could find are:

enarmost from enarmostos () from en-,
one into the other, and armostos, joined or fitted.
Plural would be enarmostos.
epharmost from epharmostos () from
epi, on or upon, and armostos.

What's your opinion of these?

Mr. Erle G. Kaufman

2

Students at Rice University have requested the university administration to ask me to teach one more course, Advanced Stratigraphy. That should keep me busy moonlighting. What a quandary! I don't even know whether I should take the time off from research.

Congratulations on your luck (and obvious energy) in collecting Puerto Rican materials.

With best wishes

Sincerely,

H. B. Stenzel

HBS: tm

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