

June 9, 1961

Dr. F. Stearns MacNeil
Geological Survey
United States Department of the Interior
345 Middlefield Road
Menlo Park, California

Dear Mac:

We succeeded in knocking out pieces of the resilium from about 30 Crassostrea virginica, which resulted in about 1 cubic centimeter of material of good purity. Now it is up to the X-ray machine to tell us what mineral it is.

Your ideas on ligaments are interesting and well worth publishing. I do not know whether or not Newell intends to include your manuscript in the volume. All I know is what he has sent out to all collaborators, and that is the assignments in systematics. Why don't you ask him whether or not he intends to publish it and suggest to him that you would like to see it out elsewhere. May I make this suggestion: add two or three more drawings and send the paper to some journal with a wide circulation (Biological Bulletin, Science, etc.). It should come out. Thank you for letting me see it. It is returned enclosed in this letter.

Dr. Anna M. Bidder from Cambridge, England, was here yesterday and set me straight on Living Nautilus, which she has been studying for some length of time in the southwest Pacific. When the Nautiloid volume of the Treatise will be published it will have the most up to date information in the chapter on Living Nautilus, thanks to Dr. Bidder.

One of my students will be studying the Gosport in Alabama and Mississippi this summer. He is to measure detailed sections in many places and to look into the paleoecology. Could you have the kindness to jot down as many localities, bluffs, or roadside cuts through the Gosport as you remember? It would help him. This man (Walter Siler) is going to take his Ph.D. at the University of Texas, and the profs there decided to put me on the committee as supervisor.

The oyster manuscript is up to page 45 and still going strong.

Best wishes.

Sincerely,

H. B. Stenzel

HBS:mh
Enclosure: typed manuscript
Shell Development Company
Exploration & Production Research Division