

September 14, 1967

Mrs. Linda H. Pequegnat  
Department of Oceanography  
Texas A & M University  
College Station, Texas 77843

Dear Mrs. Pequegnat:

Your last letter came at a rather awkward time. I was selling my house in Houston and arranging for moving my furniture, books, and belongings to Baton Rouge, Louisiana, permanently. Confusion was and still is widespread, but I remember the chief question in your last letter.

The various larval shell can be distinguished by their hinge structure: In the Pycnodontinae, to which Thomasi MacLean belongs, the hinge teeth form a continuous row, alternating with sockets of equal size. In the other oysters, that is, Crassostrea and Ostrea, there is a large smooth gap in the center of the hinge line. I believe this distinction will help you out.

Gradually, I shall be able to dig out of the moving mess I am in now and shall be able to give you better answers to your letters. So don't hesitate to ask questions.

Best success.

Sincerely yours,

H. B. Stenzel  
Professor of Geology

HBS/ccc

Enclosure: diagram

see Ranson, Gilbert, 1948, Prodissoconques et classification des Ostreides vivants: Mus. roy. d'histoire naturelle de Belgique Bull., v. 24, no. 42.

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