

December 11, 1964

Mr. Curt Teichert
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Department of Geology
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Dear Curt:

Thank you for your letter of November 30 and congratulations on your new position. Or, perhaps one should congratulate Kansas University for snagging you.

Catala's book is on my desk, and I am peeved. I wish the shadow graph (Katala's fig. 27) and the photos of live nautilus had been available to me. I had written Katala several years ago and had offered to pay for photographs, but received no answer. Perhaps, I made the mistake in not writing in French and signing my name as Henri Broneuil Stenzel de Pierreville.

By all means write to Miss Bidder. Her address is Dr. Anna Bidder, Biological Laboratories, Cambridge University. She had found a copy of my Nautilus preprint on the desk of Don McMichael at the Australian Museum, when she was there to study living Nautilus and had taken his copy with her. She wrote me to ask for a replacement copy for Don. I immediately set Shell Development in motion, and she was invited by cablegram to visit Houston on her way back to England. She gave a lecture here on her stopover; it was about the same as her slender publication. She said at the time she would not publish her results piecemeal, but intended to put all of them in a monograph. For that reason, I felt constrained not to publish any hints or results of hers. I asked her to be sure to notify me of any publication. You can imagine what my surprise was, when I ran across her publication purely accidentally one year after it was published. That meant changing the galleys of my contribution to the Treatise once more. Shell Development paid her a generous honorarium, hotel expenses, and extra travel expenses. To this day, I have had neither notification nor a reprint of her publication.

My extra copy of volume K was sent to Don McMichael, who kindly took the photographs of the baby Nautilus shell in Philadelphia and remembered to send me prints of them. Don is a peach. Don may sometime work on the various living species of Nautilus the way they should be analyzed, that is, by mass analysis and statistics. Shimansky's species and varieties of living Nautilus are execrably poor work for a scientist of this day and age. For that reason, I refused to give it status by mentioning it. It is my firm conviction that Treatise authors must be selective. If one has to mention a work that is clearly inferior one should definitely say so, otherwise the reader would assume approval. Incidentally, there are two French references to float shells of Nautilus found on the beaches of Madascov and they antedate Shimansky.

Mr. Curt Teichert

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I was very happy to see the volume K in print and my work on living Nautilus closed out definitely. After waiting for over 12 years, it was a relief. It makes me think Ray should get some appreciation for his long patience. He is a remarkable person to be able to do all that work of coordinating and editing.

The oysters have me working very hard. My last paper has created quite a stir among biologists and biochemists. New and startling results are popping up every month.

I hope we can meet sometime in the near future. With my warmest regards,

Sincerely,

H. B. Stenzel

HBS:jd

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