

January 29, 1965

Professor Rudolph Trümpy  
Geologisches Institut  
Eidgenössische Technische Hochschule  
Zürich 6, Switzerland

Dear Professor Trümpy:

In 1895, Philippi described an "Ostrea nov. sp." from the Strati di Perledo e Varenna on the slopes above Olcio on the east shore of the Lago di Lecco, Lombardy Alps. The age is said to be Anisian. The description and figures of this species are not really convincing, the specimens might not be Ostreids at all. However, if they really are Ostreids, they are probably a Lopha.

This would be an important fact, because no fossils undoubtedly identifiable as an Ostreid has ever been found in beds older than Karnian. Has any one restudied Philippi's specimens or found additional specimens of oysters in the Strati di Perledo e Varenna?

I think that with your familiarity with the Alpine Triassic you might be able to shed some light on the questions. The sudden appearance of the Ostreidae in the Karnian is an unsolved question as is the question of what fossils were their ancestors.

As an explanation, I am now engaged in a complete review of the Ostreidae living and fossil and hope to have the results ready in about 2 years. Results so far have been very good.

With best regards,

Sincerely yours,

A. B. Stenzel

ABS:yf

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