

January 4, 1963

Dr. G. Arthur Cooper
U. S. National Museum
Washington, D. C.

Dear Dr. Cooper:

In connection with the study of the Ostreidae for the Treatise, it seems advisable to check on all the fossils which at one time or another were thought to be Paleozoic oysters. One of these is *Ostrea patercula* Winchell, 1865, supposedly collected from a sandstone at the base of the Burlington Limestone (Mississippian) at Burlington, Iowa. B. F. Glenister (letter, dated February 12, 1962) thinks that possibilities of contamination were great at Burlington at that time, because the town was a major river port and railroad center at the time. The type is not at the University of Iowa. Lew Kellum sent the enclosed drawings and annotation, which are from the card catalog at the Museum of Paleontology at Ann Arbor. The type cannot be found there, and there is the possibility that it is in Washington, because of the annotation on the catalog card. Could you please shed some light on this question?

With my warmest wishes for a healthy "1963",

Sincerely,

H. B. Stenzel

HBS:cd

Enclosure: Photo copy of catalog card

Literature references:

- Winchell, Alexander, 1865, Descriptions of new species...Acad. Nat. Sci.
Philadelphia Proc., v. 17 (1865), p. 124.
- White, A. C., 1884, Review of the fossil Ostreidae: U. S. Geol. Survey
Annual Rept. 4 (1883), p. 288, pl. 34, figs. 1-2.

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