

November 16, 1936

Miss Helen I. Tucker
114 Heights Court
Ithaca, New York

Dear Miss Tucker:

Your letter of October 13st has put before me a problem I can not solve.

I have no specimen from the type locality of Pecten clarkianus, Sowilpa Creek, in Alabama. Therefore, I am unable to compare it with the species in question. I presume that Dr. Collins has the type lot of both Pecten clarkianus and Pecten burlesonius. Therefore, his opinion concerning both species would be decisive.

I said in Washington that one should compare Pecten burlesonius with all other Pecten species described from the same horizon--that is, the Weches and Cane River--in order to avoid duplication. It is very well possible that the Lisbon of Sowilpa Creek corresponds to the Weches in age. As you know, the Lisbon in Alabama contains a whole series of separate formations that should correlate with the Cane River, Sparta, and the Crockett of Texas. Just how they correlate is at best entirely unknown and just where the Sowilpa Creek locality falls in the section is not known. In the absence of the fossils, it is possible that it represents a Weches horizon. At best, the problem of the exact correlation of the Lisbon formation is the most urgent problem that I know.

I hope this information will help you to finish your chapter on Pecten burlesonius (or is it burlesonis?)

Cordially yours,

H. B. Stenzel

HBS/tbah