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Dear Henry<sup>k</sup>

How is the student of oysters both fossil and edible? I'm writing you about some oysters that you probably know about, but I was not certain.

On the Bay of Biscay side of France, off the mouth of the Charente River, just west of the town of Rochefort about ten kilometers, Charente-Mar, is Ile Madame.

Here in the Middle Cenomanian are about two banks of large pycnodontes, similar to Pycnodonte mutabilis (Morton) and identified as Pyconodonte vesicularis (Lamarck) by the French. These are heavy-shelled ostreids which look much like the later Campanian forms rather than the Austin chalk Pycnodonte aucella in this country.

These beds are called Middle Cenomanian by Madam Seronie-Vivien, apparently on the basis of a paper by H. Reichel on the alvéolines. Reichel, H., 1936-37, Etudes sur les Alvéolines; Mem. Soc. Suisse, vol. LVII and LIX, pp. 32-35.

I have not yet looked at this paper. I collected several sacks of these things, but they probably won't get here for two or three months yet. I thought you might be interested, so am preparing you.

Best regards,

*Keith Young*  
Keith Young

Pardon a poor  
sketch -  
KY:mb