

Pensacola. Fla.

Write to:

MRS. HUGH BRANHAM

FORT MYERS BEACH, FLORIDA

All my letters

are promptly forwarded.

June 17th.

My dear Mr. Stenzel.

My husband and I are now on our way back to Florida from Brownsville Texas where we were trying to get shells from the shrimp boats. I would very much have liked to meet some of the collectors in Houston + other places but our time was limited and, besides, one feels that calling so unceremoniously on people who don't know us or anything about us

is rather taking too much for granted.
Even a common interest in shells
doesn't quite justify such a
thing.

I would very much have liked
to talk to you about some of
your local shells - which are
the same as the Florida species
but appear to be much more
common in Texas than in
Florida. I would have been
so glad to propose some ex-
changes with you - if you are
interested in Florida shells es-
pecially.

Also I very much want, at
least two specimens of *Spitium*
Nitchelli and I had high hopes

of finding some one who had
a couple to spare.

MRS. HUGH BRANHAM
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The only man who had several
was a man at Port Isabella
who ran a hardware store
and who apparently thought
I was prepared to rob him.
When I asked whether he
would consider selling or
exchanging, I understood that
the shells can be found on
Padre Island after storms but
we were not lucky enough to
get the right combination
of weather and opportunity.

I have some really good
shells to exchange but I
never did find out very much
about the local shells, except

for the lovely pink Tellina
variegata which I have never
seen before. I would appreciate
it very much if you would
let me know what you could
spare to exchange & what speci-
mens you would like to have.
My collection is quite extensive
especially where it comes to
Florida shells. I also have
some good material from
Japan, New Zealand and
Australia.

We are opening a real
Museum here this Fall. The
collection is much too big
for a normal private house.
If you ever get to Florida

MRS. HUGH BRANHAM
FORT MYERS BEACH, FLORIDA

You should really visit the Museum. I can assure you that you wouldn't be disappointed.

Do you - by any chance - have any of the really rare *Cypraea* to exchange. I have a *Cypraea hirasei* - a fine specimen which I would exchange for *Cypraea leucostoma* - or *Cypraea exusta* or *C. fultoni*. As you probably know *C. hirasei* is one of Japan's great rarities. Only about two are found every year.

I have *Pleuronomaria hirasei* to exchange also, a fine shell

Colored specimens also several
rare things which I don't think
of just now.

Do let me know if you would
be interested in exchanging -

Sincerely yours

M. R. Brauer