

May 5, 1969

Madame D. Sallèles
5 place de la Révolution 5
Beziars - 34 FRANCE

Dear Madame Salleles:

Please accept my apology for not answering your letter of 26-4-69 in French, however, it would be almost impossible for our typist to type a letter in the French language.

I notice with great interest that you are going to prepare a doctoral disertation on the oysters of the Cretaceous. I suppose that means the oysters of the Cretaceous of France. To do more than that would be an almost superhuman task.

For your work you will need not only various publications, but also Cretaceous fossil oysters from other countries for comparison, and I shall be happy to send you such material as I have available. Our Cretaceous oysters, here in the United States of America, are very diverse and some of the species are curiously shaped and highly interesting.

As to my publications relating to oysters, I am making up a collection of reprints, which will be sent to you soon. In return, I hope you will send me your works on oysters and such other works of other authors on oysters which you may have available.

At present, I am engaged in writing the Chapter on "Oysters" for the Treatise on Invertebrate Paleontology. This Chapter is going to appear as a separate volume, No. N3. The manuscript is almost completely finished; at present it consists of 356 typed pages and about 200 figures. It is the latter that I am working on now.

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The volume is a complete revision of the classification, taxonomy, and phylogeny of the oysters. I have worked very hard to make it comprehensive. It will probably be published in 1969. In the meantime, please feel free to write me about any questions on oysters that may puzzle you.

Please note my present address.

Wishing you good scientific success with your doctoral dissertation, I am

Sincerely yours,

H. B. Stenzel
Visiting Professor
Geology

HBS:cfp

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