

Eastbury Grange,  
Watford Road,  
Northwood, Middx.  
Northwood 39

12<sup>th</sup> March 1960.

Dear D: Stenzel.

This letter serves to acknowledge receipt of your registered parcel containing a copy of your work on the pelecypods of the Stone City Beds. Thank you very much indeed for this. I am sure that it will be of considerable value to me in my own work on the Lower Tertiary mollusca of England.

Of the new genera & subgenera described by you, Claibornicardia certainly occurs in England; Venericardia caninata J. de C. Sby. of which I believe I sent you samples is of this subgenus. Vokesula possibly also occurs here; but I would need actual specimens to be sure of this.

I was most interested, too, to read your news on the ecology of the fossils contained

in the glauconite beds. Similar shell beds are known in the English Bracklesham Beds and I had myself deduced that the lack of lamination in these was due to its obscurement by burrowing organisms. Associated laminated beds are more or less completely unfossiliferous and I had assumed that the lack of fossils & the lamination were the reflection of unfavourable bottom conditions. In the relatively unstratified marine clays of the Barton beds, which are pretty fossiliferous throughout, one does get occasional laminated seams full of shells, at least locally, and I have ascribed these to a quite different origin; namely the fairly rapid local erosion of the clay with current-sorting of its contents. In such seams, the shells are often somewhat abraded.

Faecal pellets, even when they cannot be recognised in the main mass of a sediment, can frequently be found beautifully preserved in the apical whorls of gastropods, if the dried material in which is shaken out.

May I, by the way, congratulate you on the magnificent photographs. They really are first class.

Again, with many thanks, I am

Yours sincerely

Denise Blum