

John Q. Burch

Importer and Dealer in
Natural History Books and Specimen Shells



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April 18, 1960

Dr. H.B. Stenzel,
3737 Bellaire Boulevard,
P.O. Box 481,
Houston, Texas

~~please order these mounted instead~~
~~return this letter~~

Dear Dr. Stenzel:

I have your letter re the Ostrea, and visited my stack of shelving for this family to discover that it must have been years since I gave them any attention. The result is box after box neatly labelled with the localities from which they came and Ostrea sp. To give these things any intelligent attention would require considerable study, and I am simply unable to do this at this time. Therefore, please appreciate this fact when I lay out a few of the items on your list (or should I say that I hope they are correctly assigned). Most of my collectors send great quantities of shells to me with no data other than locality leaving all assignments to species in my hands. It is a pleasure to do it leisurely with many books open on the table.

I can but hope that some of these may be of value to you, and sincerely wish that you were here to make your own selection because all of those sp. boxes just might contain what you need. And the assignments given below may very well be incorrect being more or less hap hazard.

Cordially yours,

- | | | | |
|--|------|--|------|
| X <u>Ostrea angassi</u> Sowerby, 1871
Outer Harbor, South Australia
(I had these assigned to
<u>O. sinuata</u> Lam.)
(May run across a better lot
but these are from the right
locality) | 1.00 | X <u>Ostrea puelchana</u> d'Orb.
Mar del Plata,
Argentina (2) sp. | 1.00 |
| <u>Ostrea virginica</u> Gmelin
Maryland (2) | 1.00 | <u>Ostrea virginica</u> Gmelin ?
St. Petersburg, Fla. No charge | |
| X <u>Ostrea virginica</u> Gmelin
Westerley, Rhode Island (2) | 1.00 | ** I wonder what the quick method
may be, if any, of separating these
from the batch I labelled <u>angulata</u> Lam.
from France, Belgium etc. Would check
up if I had the time. | |
| X <u>Ostrea commercialis</u> Iredale and
Roughley
Middleton Channel, Tasmania | 1.00 | X <u>Ostrea crista-galli</u> Linne'
Guam (note several others
including a Chama) | 1.00 |
| X <u>Discinisca</u> sp.
Puertocitos, Baja Calif., Mexico | 1.00 | | |
- ** I have made some study of these things but forget the species. In my collection somewhere. Many of a species of this genus are commensal on large gastropods such as Fasciolaria princeps etc.

If this material is of interest to you, you may send a purchase order for them if you prefer.