

October 26, 1953

Mr. F. S. MacNeil
U. S. Geological Survey
Box 7618 Lakewood Branch
Denver, Colorado

Dear Stearns :

Sorry you were unable to be present at the Mississippi Geological Society field trip and conference. I am sure you know more about the Wilcox than the rest of us, and it would have been nice to hear you expound your ideas again. Your being in Denver has its drawbacks for your friends--whoever gets from the Coastal Plain to Denver?

On writing about the pelecypods of the Stone City beds I came across your generic name Trinacriella (MacNeil 1937), which as you know is preoccupied. Did you by any chance rename Trinacriella? I have searched for the new name but can not find any publication of yours where Trinacriella is renamed. If you have not done this, I would think it would be advisable to do so now. In case you do rename it, I would suggest that you designate "Pectunculus" ellipsis Lea (1833, p. 78) as the type species instead of "Pectunculus" perplanus Conrad (1834, p. 134), because the former is the most common Trinacriid in the Gosport sand and is well described and figured, while the latter is excessively rare and has never been adequately described or figured, and its original types have not been figured at all. If you wish you may propose a new name in the text of my forthcoming publication on the Stone City pelecypods where Halonanus and your Trinacriella are extensively discussed. What say?

I hope everything is all right with you and your family.

Best personal regards,

Cordially,

H. B. Stenzel, Geologist

HBS:MJC