

St atford, Oklahoma  
October 2, 1930.

Dr. Stenzel,

I am addressing this to you, because I suppose that these specimens will eventually fall into your hands to be classified and put into little boxes for the future torment of paleontology students, even as other specimens in other little boxes tormented Falley and myself last year.

To get on with the report: the location of these beasts for the last few eons has been in south central Oklahoma, exactly four miles south of the little oil town of Allen, and about 15 miles north of Ada, on the road between those two dens of iniquity. There is a little creek there, and it has cut down pretty deeply into the paleozoic strata common in that vicinity, leaving a high bluff on the north side of the stream. Here it was that I found the crinoids imbedded in a broad ledge of sandy crinoidal limestone, and also in smaller ledges of a greenish limestone. I believe that these rocks are Devonian in age for reasons which I will state later.

The crinoid remains are very numerous, and some of the stems are large, approaching an inch or more in diameter. They were of two types: one type, the stalks of which appeared to be composed of ~~crowded~~ disks, resting one on the other like a pile of coins. These piles of disks are equipped with a star-shaped opening in the center which extends longitudinally along the stalk. At intervals along the surface of the stalks appear the scars of the cirri attachments. I found no head plates, but doubtless they are present. This type or species was the most numerous. The other type of crinoid possessed a stalk similiar to Eucalyptocrinus of our labratory. No cirri were present, and the partitions were marked with prominent rings encircling the stalk. This species was rare.

There are many corals in this locality and they are mostly of the cup-coral type. I identified Lophophyllum radicosum certainly, but there was another smooth coral that I could not identify although I believe it to be the other lophophyllum whose name I have forgotten. The tetracorallum, Microcyclus, is present in great numbers, and is quite large.

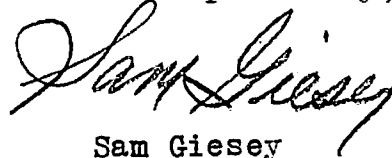
Brachiopods are numerous and damnably hard to identify. They are principally of the straight-hinged type, and are articulate. One small lingula-like species always appeared enclosed in a small clay envelope, and at this I was much puzzled. Some of the brachiopods are quite large and thin shelled, indicating calm deep water, but others, occuring in the same formation and locality, were small and very thick-shelled, indicating shallow water. Nature must have made a mistake. Some of the thick shelled brachiopods have small protuberances regularly placed over their shells so that they resemble sections of golf balls, and some of them have very heavy ribs on their shells.

Gastropods were small and numerous. I think that one species is Pleurotomariidae, but that is only conjecture. The material that I have to work with is not adequate for me to identify the beasts, but there is most certainly one bellerophon in the specimens I am sending you. There are many fragments of straight ammonite forms, which at first I thought were crinoid fragments. I think that the two black, curved fragments are pieces of ammonites, but they might possibly be almost anything. Possibly the straight gastropods are orthocera. The curved forms are rare.

I have no maps at hand, but I believe that these rocks are Devonian because of the presence of microcyclus, a Devonian corallum. Also, I found only one detached fragment of Eucalyptocrinus, which beast is principally Silurian, rarely Devonian and never Mississippian.

This is all I can say about these beasts. If the lab needs crinoids or paleozoic gastropods, or brachiopods, I am prepared to furnish them by the carload. Write and let me know if any of this stuff is important or whether I have committed just another blunder.

Respectfully,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Sam Giesey". The signature is written in dark ink and is positioned above the printed name.

Sam Giesey

P. S.

If Falley is back this year, you might make him identify some of these things.

S. G.