

RIO BRAVO OIL COMPANY
913 Franklin Ave.
Houston, Texas

September 29th, 1942

Prof. Charles Laurence Baker,
Department of Geology,
Agricultural and Mechanical College of Texas,
College Station, Texas.

Dear Professor Baker:

Referring to your letter of September 25th, I am attaching copies of what I hope are the things you want.

First, in regard to your Field Note-books for the period from December 10th to 20th, 1912, we were unable to find the books themselves. However, we found a report of services covering the same period, copy of which report is attached. I believe that this report gives the location of the place where you found the fossils sufficiently close to make possible location of this spot.

In regard to the letter from W. H. Dall, U. S. National Museum, Washington, D. C. I found the letter but the letter does not give the list of the fossils as you suggested, copy of the letter is attached. The letter refers to other fossils found in a well near Orange. Therefore, I am also sending you the letter giving list of fossils found in the well, hoping that those two letters will answer the question you asked.

In case this is not the information you wanted, do not hesitate to let me know.

Sincerely yours,

(Signed) Joe Zaba

JZ/ed

Encl.

C O P Y

RIO BRAVO OIL COMPANY

Ten Day Report of Services, period ending December 20, 1912

Houston, Texas, Jan. 16, 1913

Prof. E. T. Dumble,
Consulting Geologist,
Houston, Texas.

Dear Sir:

The following is my report for the ten day period between December 10th and 20th, 1912:

Low's Creek, Sabine County - Greenish-brown clay with sparse oolitic greensand and small calcareous concretions outcrops at the head of Low's Creek. There is 3 feet of greensand marl overlying 1-1/2 feet of chocolate-brown sandy clay at the second exposure, going downstream. These upper exposures contain fossils.

Carbonaceous clays and sands, most typically with thin leaves of brown, black, or dark-blue clay interbedded with medium-grained sands, brown or gray in color, follow down the creek. Some of the sand layers are a foot or more in thickness. These beds continue as far east as the lower wagon bridge, below which the creek was not worked.

Low Creek and its tributaries have undergone recent rejuvenation. Old meanders are entrenched as much as 20 feet, having steep or vertical cut banks. In the former flood-plain, now 20 feet or more above the stream's bed, old ox-bow cutoffs are common. Tributaries in their lower portions have deep and narrow gorges. Terraces are well developed farther downstream. McClanahan's Shoals are now but a few yards above the mouth of Low's Creek and their recession is probably in part responsible for this rejuvenation. It is very unfortunate that bad weather

and accident prevented the examination of other streams in this locality in order to ascertain whether the rejuvenation was general.

There is a good development of Lafayette on the south edge of the Catahoula ridge of hills in northern Newton County, where the formation is mottled and contains gravel.

THE FLEMING BEDS AT BURKEVILLE:

The general facies of the bed at Burkeville resemble much the Fleming of the type and other localities farther east. Good exposures are most often found in recent gullies in old fields and prairies and these may or may not have a superficial black soil. The walls and promontories of a gully system have rounded outlines, for the material is fine and unconsolidated. In color the Fleming is most generally a light shade of grayish or yellowish-green, often weathering brown on the surface; the surface, when dry, is cracked like ordinary plastic clay. The material is fine clay and clayey sand with small whitish limestone concretions. However, there are at Burkeville larger grayish-brown very fine-grained limestone concretions with dendritic markings of manganese dioxide, concretions of large size and rough irregular outline of fine to medium-grained sandstone, and the fossiliferous breccia or beach limestone conglomerate known only from 1/2 mile east of Burkeville and south of Little Low Creek, where fragmentary bones of land mammals and brackish water molluscs were found. In many places the small white concretions are arranged in thin beds parallel to the imperfect lines of stratification. The fine sands are also locally finely laminated and cross-bedded.

Fossiliferous Catahoula whitish limestone was found 900 ft. south of Mile Post 81, Gulf, Colorado & Santa Fe R. R. between Jasper and Horton, Jasper County. The limestone blocks are rough and angular, full of comminuted shells, and with a marked colitic structure. They were not found strictly in situ but were associated with fragments of porcellaneous-cemented sandstone and in their angularity and rough surfaces exhibited no signs of

having been transported.

There are calcareous nodules in the Catahoula clay 1-1/2 mile north of Horton. The Catahoula sandstone hills all have characteristic rounded outlines. The porcelaneous-cemented sandstone is common in the vicinity of Browndell.

There is at least 15 feet of calcareous noduled Fleming in the out at Mile Post 70, G. C. & S. F. Ry. There is probably no Fleming south of Mile post 68.

Three days during this period were spent in hunting for the lost horse and four days in moving the outfit back to the railroad at Jasper.

Respectfully submitted,

(Signed) Charles Lawrence Baker

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C O P Y

SMITHSONIAN INSTITUTION
UNITED STATES NATIONAL MUSEUM

Oct. 8/13

Dr. E. T. Dumble,
Houston, Texas.

Dear Sir:

I reached here a day or two ago and in sorting out the accumulated arrears came on your little box. The specimens were of much interest as they belong to a Pliocene stratum which I have traced, through material sent me from the level of the ground on the Satilla River, Georgia, to Alexandria, Rapides Parish, La., and Burkeville, Texas. At Pine Prairie, La. it was reported at 1540 feet depth, but I doubted this as in the other localities it was found at, or within 80 ft. of the surface. Your depth makes it still more extraordinary, unless some error has occurred.

My paper describing this fauna is in print and will be out in the Museum Proceedings very soon. I am sorry I did not get your locality in time to add it to the others. It is a brackish water fauna everywhere. The species in your lot are Ostrea Virginiae GM (fragments); Rangia curreata var; solida Dall; Unio sp. fragm.; Potamides Matsoni Dall; Neritina sparsilineata Dall; Potamides suavis Dall; Potamides sp. fragm.; Fyrgulopsis? satilla Dall. I will send you a copy of my paper as soon as I get some extras. I will have your material packed and mailed tomorrow, and am much obliged for the chance of seeing it.

With kind regards believe me,

(Signed) Yours very truly,
Wm. H. Dall

UNITED STATES NATIONAL MUSEUM

Washington D. C.

C O P Y

Oct. 21, 1913

Prof. E. T. Dumble,
S. P. Co., Houston, Texas.

Dear Professor:

Your rocks came safely and your letter this

A. M.

The specimens from Cow Creek near Burkesville have the same fossils as were in your well specimens. Those from Johnson's Bluff are different, at least they show none of the same fossils though I think they are fresh water deposits, or brackish. Unfortunately none of the fossils are perfect enough to be accurately recognizable, yet they appear to be of great interest and if you can possibly get some specimens having better preserved remains, from this locality, I should be glad to see them.

Do you wish the specimens returned?

Which are the typical Fleming beds?

With kind regards.

Yours very truly,

(Signed) Wm. H. Dall