Montreal 6th March 1869

Prof. J. B. Dana
Dear Sir,

I only received your returning the reply to Prof. Hall's criticism and think with you that it is best to let the matter drop.

I have had a good deal of trouble with the paper on the Blastoidia but having lately received a large supply of specimens from the State can establish every one of my views with respect to the function of the stunner on my having written it over several times, last the more I study the matter the more that is new and unexpeected turn of
I shall send the paper some time this month but as it will be too late for the number of the Journal could you find a place for the enclosed note among the miscellaneous matters at the end. I am many desires of having the done as I have done - communicated my wish to several and it is just possible that I may be anticipated.

Grave very truly

O. Billing.

Ps. There was a printed sheet which I took out of the Zoological notes.
Montreal 13th May 1869

Prof. D.C. Menzies
My dear Sir,

Your's of the 18th April was duly received. I was very sorry to hear of Mr. Dana's illness and glad that he was recovering. I have been exceedingly unwell myself and not allowed to do any work physical or mental for two weeks. I got back to the office dog bore for yesterday and am now finishing my article on the Tabacozoids of Echinodermata. As this paper has cost me a vast deal of research and study, I naturally feel anxious.
to have it published at the earliest possible opportunity. If therefore you can make room for it in the July No. I shall feel greatly obliged. It will be done by express to women addressed to Jellison and House. There need be no loss of woodcut which could not be sent by mail and so I shall place them and the other self in one box by express. My illness prevented me from sending early in the month. We had the May No. and was glad to find many notes on the Blastozoids in it. In your letter you kindly offer assist me in "any way," and I shall more amold myself to this offer. In your paper on "fossil bones published some time ago you state that 18 fossil bones are known in America. Can you name and to the works in which they were described. General Murray sent to Vollmuth - the Russian Velasconologist sent me a paper on a new Cephalopod in the Russian Leningrad. I have managed to see many Russian "SWEEDISH and Italian "SWEEDISH and Finnish but although I have a Russian Dictionary and Grammar this
language plows me completely. I can do nothing with it. Can you help me to get the article translated? I am especially anxious to know what is in it.

You can let me know when you acknowledge me the receipt of the article. Can you lend me one or two specimens of Toldo or two bars of some thing like it has been found in the Hawaiian of New Brunswick. I shall send them by Express addressed to me "Featherfield. Sweary" and Montreal. Hopefully, from this venture will pass them over to Mr. O. G. W. and pass them among the various Costume House and cultural shows in this vicinity.

[Signature: P. Billings]