Canon City
Colorado
Sept 11th 1881
Prof. March

Dear Sir,

A friend of mine, Mr. Geo. B. McGuin, who is on the survey of Lucas and Copee digging fossils from the beds you visited while here—on the hills near of my place—recently found some small bones not far from the point where Baldwin procured the specimen he sent you.

The bones are mostly only fragments—but there are among them several vertebrae of coelacanth—well preserved with the impressions of the...
processes having mostly crumbled away, and he has also several articulations that are quite perfect. And I think they answer the description he well that Williston gave me of bird bones that I have prevailed on him to send them to you for examination on condition that if they should be of any special value you would satisfy him and if they were not they should be returned to him. I cannot give any accurate description, but am satisfied in a general way they are of a higher order than any that have been found here yet. The joints are more symmetrical, cleaner out and sharper defined than any bones large or small that have ever been found here in the Saarian beds. Once in particular I compared with the not atarased joint of a Chickens leg and the fossil seemed to me as nearly perfect as the Chicken bone.

If you would like to examine these while he prospect for more on the conditions mentioned please write and he will forward them by mail. I would say on behalf of McGuin he violates no compact with Cop. in letting you have them as he is only imputed for moment by himself.

Respectfully, W. P. Fitch
THE WESTERN UNION TELEGRAPH COMPANY.

HALF RATE MESSAGE.

The business of telegraphing is liable to errors and delays, arising from causes which cannot at all times be guarded against, including sometimes negligence of servants and agents whom it is necessary to employ. Most errors and delays may be prevented by repetition, for which, during the day, half price extra is charged in addition to the full tariff rates.

The Western Union Telegraph Company will receive messages for transmission between certain authorized stations on its lines east of the Rocky Mountains, to be sent without repetition during the night, for delivery not earlier than the morning of the next ensuing business day, at one half the usual day rates, but in no case for less than twenty-five cents tolls for a single message, and upon the express condition that the sender will agree that he will not claim damages for errors or delays, or for non-delivery of such messages, happening from any cause, beyond a sum equal to ten times the amount paid for transmission; and that no claim for damages shall be valid unless presented in writing within thirty days after sending the message.

Messages will be delivered free within the established free delivery limits of the terminal office. For delivery at a greater distance a special charge will be made to cover the cost of such delivery.

The Company will be responsible to the limit of its lines only, for messages desired beyond, but will act as the sender’s agent to deliver the message to connecting companies or carriers, if desired, without charge and without liability.

A. R. BREWER, Secretary.

Send the following half rate message, subject to the above terms, which are agreed to.

To M. P. Felch, Canon City, Colorado.

[Handwritten text below]

Many thanks. Please have specimens sent by mail in tin can. registered.

NORVIN GREEN, President.

Dec. 18th 1881.

READ THE NOTICE AND AGREEMENT AT THE TOP.
Canoe City, O.K.

Apr 12th, 82

Prof. O. B. March
Dear Sir,

I was away from home when yours of Mar 50 was received or you would have received an answer sooner.

I can make arrangements to go to work for you in the course of a month or so, for anything I know at present, will you please write what kind of work you want done, in what section, and what you can pay per month for the season. Mr. Gein returned to his home in Grinnell, Iowa some two weeks since to
finish his Medical studies. I presume if he were here he would like work and might be induced to come back. I think he would suit you as well as any one you could get and I knew him to be honest, energetic, hard working and industrious.

Respectfully yours,

M. P. Felch
Garden Park, Apr 22' 1882

Prof. Marsh,

Dear Sir,

Four years of the 12' was received in the season, also the copy of Dana's Geology for which please accept my sincere thanks. It makes a valuable addition to my little store of books and will always be highly appreciated by me. Since my last we have done some prospecting especially on the hill in the vicinity of Lucius claim but have found no places where they are much better preserved than in the old quarry. We have found there quite a variety among which are several claws and what we think may be foot bones - a part of a jaw and a small animal in which the broken show plainly with one tooth in place. Also what Brown thinks is a portion of the skull and
jaws of one of the larger animaux have long, curved or dorsal vertebrae, several small bones and hour new uncovered part of the thoracic vertebrae. These last to the bone to be of much greater size, as for as described. They were found lying in position one so badly twisted we could not save it. This is the vest was very fragile - the long and ball full of horns and chamois separated by thin parietal bones and is the same stuff that makes for want of a better name called "head cheese." I think he sent you a box of it. In working down and under we find the spine processes running out and bracing each other through plates sometimes perforated - that seem to connect to the body. The cups are deep with very thin edges. I will try once make a little rough skeleton as they appear on uncovering.
joints of one of the larger animals. One large humerus or elongated vertebra
several small ones and hour new uncovered and partly marked out three cervical vertebrae. These last
to me seem to be of most singular structure so far as developed. There were four
lying in position one so badly crushed we could not save it. This like the
vertebra was very fragile the body and
ball full of holes and channeled
separated by thin parietal bones and
the same stuff that makes for
want of a better name called heart
Cheese. I think he sent you a box
of it. In working alone and under no
find the side processes running out and
bradlinging over thin plates sometimes
perforated - that seem to connect to
the body. The caps do deep with very
thin rings. I will try and make a
little rough sketch as they appear
on uncovering.
Sackett Park, Mar. 8, 1883

Prof. Marsh

Dear Sir,

James of the 23rd Feb. wrote last night. If you will pay me $5 dollars per month and furnish me what tools I need I will work through the season for that price and board myself. It is as cheap as I can work and less than Jonas gets and I think that I can do as much of that work and as well as he can. Mr. Gair is in Iowa and could hardly be induced to come back. I think a good man could be had who would work in all right for somewhere about $2.25 to $2.50 per day and board himself. A good man
Lucas worked last summer about two miles below my place at the hills on the East side of the Creek. The jessies he told me differed in some respects from those in the old digging—though in what manner I did not understand. They were forwarded to Copes some three months since. There will be no trouble in going on to any of the ground they claim—oh! least I am ready to take the chance if necessary—which however may not be—as there are several places that I think are just as good. If you decide to let me to work let me know soon—so that I can fix my own work—and arrange about getting my farm

Carried on for the season will soon be along when farm operations must commence. I think that Lucas will not work here this season—till me last fall he might go over toward Utah and the Green River County prospecting for jessies. I think myself from what I have heard of that section it would be a good field to explore.

Very truly yours

M. R. Field

O. O. Mark
New Haven
Conn.
Garden Park
Mar. 28, 1885
Prof. O. C. Marsh
Dear Sir,

Years of the 12" nickel are to do. I have engaged a first rate, careful and extra good hand who will work for $65 dollars per month and board him, or if it will suit you better you can pay me $140 per month and I will pay and furnish him. As to tools, packing, cartage, etc. I will keep an itemized account of all and average it on the monthly wages as you desire.
I think I can find what you want in the way of large limed homo* & bitter on the hills west of us and perhaps some small ones. I know of two or three places where I think there is good ground that has not been worked.

In regard to payments, how often or at what times could you send remittances? I should have to incur some expense in starting. Can usually get about 30 days time and should probably have to pay my help monthly.

We hope and shall expect to see you here before the season is over.

Very truly yours,

M. H. Potter
Carnegie City Co.
Apr. 5th 88

Prof. Marsh

Dear Sir,

...years of the 26" reci. Brown came before your letter was read. It seems to knew the business very well. I think we will get along all right.

I commenced on the old ground worked by Prof. Muenger. I thought it best to work that enough to hold it and also to try and find the companies to the large kind which we found there when Muenger was here.
We have uncovered several bones but no vertebrae or limbs.

I shall next with prospect a place where there are somecroppings of bone in the @Shale similar to where Lucas done the most of his work. I think the bones are usually better preserved there than in the sand rock.

I have got a good "team" and will push things along as fast as the nature of the work will allow.

Very Respectfully

M. P. Kelch
Cannan City, Colo
May 19, 1883
Prof. O. C. Marsh
Dear Sir,

I looked for a remittance from you for April's work by the 10th of this month, and on that expectation engaged to meet some demands for help, and expenses incurred in getting started.

Not hearing from you, I presumed you might be waiting to know what our average expenses would be before sending our supplies to date for tools, boxes, lumber, packing etc. amount to
Some over fifty dollars in this is included a small blacksmith outfit so that we are able to make and sharpen our own tools - a saving during the season of more than the original outlay - also saving the time and trouble of binding to town to have such work done.

Our expenses as near as we can figure will not be less than 15 dollars per month (supposing we worked 1 or 2 months without including cartage to town for which I shall make no charge as long as I can do it with my own team). That is an average of 15 dollars per month from Apr 1st to the time the season is over for myself - one man and Brown. This if satisfactory will make my bills amount to $155 (one hundred and fifty five) dollars per month. $75 for myself - $65 for the man I hire and 15 for the average expenses. Hoping you will be satisfied with this and can send me some money by the 1st of June I will be greatly obliged.

Respectfully yours

W. P. Fitch
Cannon City Colo. May 15th 1875

Prof. O. C. Marsh

Dear Sir,

Yours of the 16th ult. I received to day. I must apologize for not writing of late—but as you did not mention about Weekly Reports did not think it would be required—unless in regard to something of special interest. In the matter also of accounts—it will be far more satisfactory to me to render a monthly itemized account of all expenses incurred than to guess at a general average. So far I have most of the items—and as soon as pay is made I shall send receipted bills for my vouchers. I enclose a bill of expenses for tools &c—and shall not have to buy anything more for a while or two to come. We have had only fair success so far with our work—but still I think we have a good variety—and some that I hope will prove of interest and value.
Most of our work has been done in the old quarry—Mr. Harr stripped off some 30 ft. he length—from 10 to 20 ft. in width and in places 10 to 12 ft. in depth it got to the peg steeled. The rock as we got in gets very hard in places—almost like mill-stone grit—and where the bone came in it is a slow and tedious job to work them out—as all the rock around has to be chipped away with small chisels a fragment at a time.

Lucas had tried to make new openings without success. There is one man locally where there are plenty of pegging. That I shall take all hands for a day or two to develop some. Many good bones in the old quarry—these was partly covered by former workings—and have been picked over by curious hunters and other vandals since. Have become in part or wholly worthless. This is the case with a string of cervical vertebrae—those lay in regular succession 16½ ft. in length—I have half the cup of the last—on that came up about half way up and the two last that came up near the head. From nearly two feet so far the fossils became it come in about 8 in. in length—they ran down to only about 5 or 6 inches in length. The three of they arrive in as good shape as we now have them packed can tell their own story. We have also one dorsal in fair condition—I think of a different individual. There are some more dorsal vertebrae in sight—but in such hard rock I dread to undertake their removal— as...
it will take a week of hard work at least to remove one with all the risk of getting it shattered. If you think best however I will try on these and do the best I can. Brome has been at work on what he calls a scapula for a few days and I think it will be easily restored. It is all of five feet long and is shaped something like a scapula it differs from the one Mr. Williston and I removed only about 10 feet distant from it. I also got out a good scapula this week of a smaller animal—the bone measuring only about 30 inches in length. It is quite thick and heavy for its size. I am now at work on a fine lumber vertebra which if I have no bad luck on can be easily restored. The small end of the series of cervical vertebrae come within about two feet of where Mr. Williston took out the only foot bones we found at that time.
And we worked over the ground all around an hack at a time to find some part belonging to the head—but only found some big feet away a section of jaw with a few teeth belonging to a herbivorous animal. The piece of jaw is safely packed. And some of the teeth that lay away from the jaw I will send by mail next week with other varieties that we have found. We have also several other pieces of jaws and two whole ones—one about an inch long filled with teeth. Another a foot or more in length—teeth and sockets in a deep groove—a fine specimen in almost perfect shape—taken up in the rock. We have also a good variety of small bones—feet—claws—small to middling size. Large limb bones to be a good work on Comparative Anatomy would help me. One or two costly 10 dollars or so if you could send one and deduct price from my bill I would be greatly obliged. Respectfully, M. P. Felch.
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Carron City Colo

May 31, 1883

Prof. O. C. Marsh

To M. R. Felt Dr.

$473.44
Cannon City Colo., June 8, 1883

Prof. O. C. Marsh

Dear Sir,

I received on May 31 your check, No. 8, on Transom's Bank for one hundred and fifty five dollars. Please accept my thanks for the same. Enclosed you will find a receipt for same. I mailed to you the same day a small box containing a few teeth—a small jaw—and some other small bones. Of teeth No. 1+2 we have a portion of the jaw—also 3+4. Work during the past week has progressed fair. Brown has finished up his Scapula and one of the ribs. I have taken up a large lumber vertebra. The body of one dorsal and several small vertebrae and have partly exposed another large flat bone one end of which got badly crushed in removing the rock above. The other end is good and I can get a good drawing from the impression of the mandible. It is different...
from anything before found in this quarry will get as good a sketch of it as I can.

On "Sedgmore" — One of the divisions of the quarry, Smith made the best find — some small limb bones and vertebrae and the tibia and fibula of a fairly large animal.

The bones are remarkably good state of preservation, lying in natural position. He took them both up without losing a fragment in five sections. As I expected on making carefulliy to find the femur in line with the others, which we have now measured on front and top and which I think will take out in nearly as good condition as the lower bones. Both of the femora the markings have partly exposed two more long bones which seem to connect with the proximal end of the femora — running off from this end at about an angle of 30 degrees. The first one in one must the femur is lighter than the back one and if I am right the two are the post pubis and ischium. This last makes four if not five of the larger animals

in the quarry besides the remains of numerous small ones. He hopes to find more of their one last described. The bones are in so good condition. I keep a record of locality of most bones found by subdividing the quarry so as to be able in the future to extend the markings in the direction of necessary.

I sent a bill before receiving your remittance including the wages of all with response to date. Please write how you would like to do in the future so as have a little better understanding in regard to payment.

Ever Respectfully,

M. P. Fitch
Canaan City Cato
May 31, 1883

$155.00

Read & Prof. O. C. Marsh - check
No. 8 on Tradesman's Bank New Haven
Conn. for the sum of one hundred and fifty five dollars - for work on fossils
for April 1883

W. P. Kellogg
Cancer City Cave
June 6th 1883

Prof. O. C. Marsh

Dear Sir,

I send a little sketch of some bones found under the large femur that Smith has been at work on and which he took out yesterday. The vertebrae 1 and 2, and the bones 3 and 4 lay about midway of the shaft. As the vertebrae appear to us to be cervical, and the whole connected we conclude it may be a portion of the head. The sketch is natural size, though 3 and 4 not fully defined. Most of it being in rock, I hope to separate at 5 and 6. Will send 3 and 4 by Rig. Mail and keep the vertebrae (five specimens) subject to your order. The femur came out splendidly in four nearly square sections.

Respectfully yours, O. P. Hitchcock.
Thursday June 7

After writing the foregoing last night I worked a long while to get the rock away to shipping except and was somewhat undecided from its appearance whether it would be of any value but conclude to send it for the cost is but a trifle and I think it better to be on the safe side and send some even worthless specimens than to throw aside one good one.

Respectfully,

W. P. Lee
Skull No 1...


(Old Quarry, Garden Park) Cannon City, Colo.
Cairn City Estate
June 13th 1888

Prof. O. C. Marsh
Dear Sir,

Since my last.

Since my last of the 7th. When I mailed the box containing the specimens we have had unusual heavy rains for the season—Which has delayed the work on bones somewhat and we put in the time as well as we could in packing up—Clearing away and stripping off. I send a sketch of the bones mentioned in my last letter—found by Smith in East End dig. We have there all our new and picked up—and are quite sure that all shown—with the exception of the limb bone at X which was uncovered to-day—belong to one animal. This new limb bone—is quite different from any found in the quarry and though part of one end is gone
This will be enough left to describe it pretty well. While the other such which is peculiar will I think come out nearly perfect. Bruce commenced last week on an extension of E. End and is finding some bones - has 2 or 3 vertebra and some small bones among which is a claw differing from others found here - in having nice well defined articulation - being seen strongly curved inward and sharper pointed and in having a smooth groove running the whole length - from about 1/8 inch wide and 1/8 in. deep. Enclosed is a drawing of it which he made also of another one of these small jaws which he found to-day. The specimen is not quite so perfect as the last small one but 10 or 12 teeth in the space of 3/4 of an inch show very plainly.

In regard to my sketching - all I can or attempt to do is to show the position of bones in relation to

Each other - locality 3 - I have also found in another locality not far from one present workers where there appears to be some bones and partly incise a limb bone and a few foot bones - the latter not very well preserved - By going in further they may prove to be better. Think we shall try these next.

Respectfully yours

W. P. Jack
Bone N. about 4 ft. long, wide and rather thin in shaft.

Bone M. lay as represented in relation to N.

Bone P.P. Connected with N. at A.

O. O. about 16 inches above P.P. at X.

Bone at X. large limb bone running into wall obliquely.

The bones at O. O. and P.P. appear to unite at B forming one bone.

Of the four bones - there are 3 of the long ones - 2 claws - and several of the short ones.

From the Centre of South Smol'Child.

Gardner Fork Col
June 13/83

above natural jaw

Tooth in little jaw shows 12 part of jaw gone.

Inside back, flesh is coming into plate.
Queens City Colo June 20, 1883

Prof. O.C. Marsh

Dear Sir,

Yours of the 14th with check received today. Please accept our thanks and find receipt enclosed. Your check No. 8 was for $15.50, instead of $15.00. So you have now sent me in all $315.00 toward work for myself, supplies and expenses.

I expect to get your report for an itemized account and I returned the statement for April and May that if you found it satisfactory you would send what was due so that I could square up my bills to June 1. But a portion I had to let run over and all my grocery and some other bills. However this installment will nearly straighten out matters and as long as you would like to hear
In an average I will make it for the quarter ending June 30 to 20 dollars per month, as that will hardly make the cost for the first three months. Hereafter if less I will reduce it. All I want is what I have to pay out and carry on the work as cheap as possible. I will send by registered mail another little jaw which I hope will prove as valuable as the last—also bone teeth in rock that I took out since writing last. I found them under ground, that had been worked over among a lot of pieces of rotten and broken fragment of bone. In the diagram number one was alone. See 2 a piece of rock inside line a a a dark place showing the bone and teeth. I chiseled off at x x x sending the pieces with seven teeth and two impressions and will keep the rest to send in a box. The outer side of the rock—see 2 shows all the bone quite plainly. See 1 is pretty badly broken but enough left to get some idea of the shape of the tooth. I practiced the deep around this to find more in some hard bone but without success. In the East End I find many good bones every day—has got two pairs men of limb bones of the lower arm very long. The other 20 inches in length the other 30 all nearly Perfect. I will send a duplicate of my diagram if these two on the outside of the box of fossils that I sent by mail. There are now two men bones in sight that appear to be limb bones—one flat bone. 3 strings of vertebrae from 3 to 15 in a string many of which will come out in good shape. I think we may be able to get enough bones to make up more of one animal than we have found before and perhaps a new species. One canine or lemmur or something that Smith took out.
to-day—some 8 inches in length of body and 5 or 6 across—is only slightly concave behind and nearly a plane forward. Brown worked hard on his section but without much success—so most of the bones found there are fragments so we concluded to work in another direction for awhile.

In regard to boxing &c. I have most all the bones packed nailed up and marked—A, B, C, &c. and its general contents noted. Under the cover of each are what diagrams will be written in restoring also a list of most all the bones in the box locality &c.

I wish I could get them off so as to commence another lot in a more systematic manner—but will await your order.

Respectfully yours M. P. Keeler
Evanston City Colo
June 20th 1883

$160.00

Rec'd & paid: of Prof. O. C. Marsh
Cheek No. 20 - on National Tradence
Bank - New Haven Conn. for
the sum of one hundred & sixty
dollars. For expenses and work
on fossils for May 1883

W. P. Flood
Canoe City Cave  
June 25th 1883

Prof. A. C. Marsh

Dear Sir,

I received yours of the 18th inst. last evening with vouchers. Brown and myself will sign and send to mail this morning, so you may receive it by the 30th. The work goes along well—though the extreme heat of the past few days makes itIRCLE at times to work without shelter from the sun.

I will write more fully and presently an account of the quarter.

Respectfully,

M. P. Kelch
Camar City Cole
June 20th 1883

Fry Marsh

Dear Sir,

I have yours of the
23rd yesterday and send Reg. mail pkg.
No. 4 To-day containing the vertebra belong-
to the specimen sent me pkg. No. 2. The two
sections were all that have been found
though the work has been carried in some
four feet back into the wall and 8 to 10 ft.
on either side of where they were taken up.
So may be that further in neon will be found
for all bones in the vicinity were carefully
looked over. There have been no teeth
found nearer = some 10 feet away = than
those sent June 21st in pkg. No. 3

Smith found however near this place
another of these small jaws – an inch
or so in Length and some rock with teeth
and perhaps fragments of a jaws – the teeth
we think having the appearance of those in the mammal jaw. I will send ace
the pieces in the next box when I send this a mail. I will enclose a little
diagram of the position of these where we are at work and in fact the whole length
of the quarry. Most all of the small bones like foot bones and all the jaws come down
very near the main bed in 1. I will make a map showing the position of different
bones as well as I can before sending out the box. The genus under which
was found the head and vertebrae is about four feet
long very wide and thin for its length and several of the limb bones — tibia and
fibula — human radius and ulna — some vertebrae and a scapular seem
to correspond in their general shape to the genus. All of these last named
together with other small limb bones — three distinct series of tail vertebrae
of which we have taken out now over
50 (18 in one series) more hind bones

flat bones and vertebrae in big
are included in a space less than 6 feet wide and 15 long. The three
series of vertebrae run nearly parallel
with each other and in places be close
as to overlap each other on one another.
In such a mass and confusion of bones it will be difficult to map them out
very accurately, still I think that
I may be able to give you a nearly
correct idea of how they appear as fossils.
Where we have to take up a limb bone or
other long bone in sections, I mark as close
a diagram full size as possible before
the bone — mark each section with the brush
also on the diagram to correspond with the broken ends with cotton and paper and
then seal gently securing tightly around
the inner covering and on this outer
covering I mark the latter. neo of section
locality + c with the marking brush.
and people with key in strong boxes. Making
diagram and list of contents — locality
the seven of each. With these precautions the bones ought to go safely and arranged without much confusion.

Mr. Have begun a new opening in quarry no. 2 some 150 yrs. distant from the old quarry and across a deep gully. In this Brome has found two short limb bones a part of a jaw and a scapula and ceratoid - the scapula about 4 feet long. He also found the humerus lying near by but it was too badly rotted to take up. We shall work in and hope if we find bones they will be better preserved.

I have also another place that I wish to see work enough to hotel as I understand that Lucas will soon go to work for his old employer.

Respectfully Yours

M. P. Kelch