Salem, Henry Co., Iowa,
Nov. 28th, 1866.

Prof.Marsh,
Yale College,

Dear Sir:

A friend of ours, Mr. Benton J. Johnson, who has spent the 
and a half years in the Rocky Moun-
tains has recently returned, bringing 
with very choice and rare Botanical 
and Mineralogical specimens. 
He proposes to make a donation of both Gold and Silver bearing Quartzock, 
Jasper, Agate, and Petrifications to 
Yale College, if they would be accepta-
table and the College would pay the Ex-
press charges. He will send from ten 
to fifteen pounds weight if desirable. 
Our little daughter, who is always 
looking for " queer stones " as she calls them 
was recently at Boyle's Mills, on Stunk
Pardon the liberty I have taken in addressing you. I accidentally saw your name in connection with Yale, but having a catalogue of the officers, took the liberty to address you. If Prof. A. is not the one, that this should be

Addressed to, please hand it to the brother one, to Algie ye'.
Salem, Henry Co. Iowa  
March 18th 1867  
Prof. O. C. Marsh  
Dear Sir:  

With this you will receive the express receipt for the minerals described in the accompanying catalogue.

It would have been forwarded sooner but we have had no mail communication owing to high water.

Mr. Johnson wishes you to tell him what you think he would like to know about those six specimens of petrified wood. The Professors of Mineralogy, in Montana, pronounced them precious, or valuable and gave them names. I told him when he was
putting them up, that the Professor could describe them better if each had a distinct No. of itself, but he had them numbered so concluded to send them as he had prepared them. He bought home 200 pounds of this petrification.

He would have sent very many more specimens of gold & silver dust but said, it looked as though he wanted to advertise his mining property. Should you write concerning the contents of the box please direct to Reuben J. Johnston, Salem, Henry Co., Iowa.

Pardon the liberty I have taken in addressing you,

Very Respectfully,

Mrs. Rev. J. Holmenway
Catalogue of Minerals donated to Yale College Cabinet by Mr. Reuben J. Johnson of Salem, Henry Co., town

No. 1 Gold bearing Quartz taken from the Golden Era Lode, Hot Spring District, Madison County, Montana Territory, discovered Nov. 1865, by R. J. Johnson. Average yield of Gold $300, to the ton of rock. Thickness of Ledge 20 inches is now opened 42 feet in depth.

No. 2 Gold bearing Quartz taken from Revenue Lode, Hot Spring District, Madison Co., Montana Territory, discovered April 1866, Average yield $100, to the ton of rock - thickness of Ledge 3 feet depth worked 18 feet.

No. 5 Silver bearing Quartz from Legal Tender Lode, Rattle Snake Dist.
trick, Beaver Head Co., Montana Territory discovered in the summer of 1865 by -- , average yield $8000 per ton of rock. Width of shaft 3 feet.

No. 6. Slab bearing Quartz from Chase Lode, Rattle Snake District, Beaver Head Co., Montana Territory discovered in July 1865 by J. Johnson, not yet worked, but as tested yields $100 per ton of surface rock.

No. 7. Six pieces of Petrified wood from the Tableland between the Madison & Gallatin rivers 50 miles from their confluence with the Jefferson where the two rivers from the South branch of the Missouri discovered Aug. 1866 by J. Johnson.

The strata from which they were taken, were about 600 feet below the surface. These pieces were taken from the trunks of several trees and the outlines of them are still plainly to be seen. In the same strata were large quantities of bones, many entirely petrified, others in their perfect state, and among them a large bone of some animal. The bone was from the stifle to the hip 18 inches long, stifle joint 11 inches, hip joint 16 inches—smallest part 7 inches. This bone was left for safe keeping with a friend and may yet find its way to Yale College Cabinet.

The Geode was found on the bank of Skunk River in the township of Jackson, Henry Co., Iowa.
near Boyle’s Mills, by Sarah J. Hemingway, and by her present to the Y.C. Cabinet. She wish is me to say, that if carefully saved apart, it will be found very beautiful. She is 13 years old daughter of Rev. J. Hemingway Galen, Henry Co. Iowa.