New Albany, Ind.
Feb. 10th 1869

Prof. O. C. Marsh.
My dear Sir,

According to the best of my recollections it was about the 13th of Sept. 1867 that I sent you a "Note on the Growth of the Brachiopodia", suggesting to you to publish it with your own observations, or to return it to me. As you do not seem favorably inclined to do the former, it would be agreeable to me for you to do the latter. I may be mistaken in my views of the subject,
but I think they can be main-
tained & defended. At all e-
vents I should like to have
the articles in my possession
again, unless indeed you wish
to carry out the original
suggestions.

I found an interesting
specimen of styloclites yes-
terday. It is capped by the lower
valve of Orthis sinuata & the
base is concave. It is complete.

I acknowledge, thankfully,
several pamphlets sent me
by you at sundry times.
I shall return the favor if op-
portunity offers. At present
I am studying but not pub-
lishing—at least not often.

Please let me hear from you
in a few days, as I shall be
going out of town the last of the
month to be absent sometime.

I remain as ever

Cordially yours-

Horace C. Hovey

P.S.

Dr. Sloan of this City
has found the remains of a
Mastodon angustidens. It
was exhumed last week on
DeVoy Street. Much decayed
but several teeth & bones in
good preservation. H.C.H.

Prof. O. C. Marsh.

Dear Sir,

Your favor of April 16th ought to have been answered before this, but I have delayed, thinking it probable that I should go East about this time and see you personally.

Your explanations are satisfactory and even complimentary.

I have had an extraordinary interest in the sponges, I am glad yours has not abated although a thousand things have conspired against the completion of the monograph.
I have just entered on a new field of ministerial labors in this city, and it would be too much for me to go East as I desired to do. The Church of which I now am Pastor is only about half as large as the one I had at R. Albany, but pays a much larger salary, so that I shall have considerably more leisure for scientific pursuits. I had become covered over and crusted with cases, like an old ship with barnacles, till it seemed as if I could hardly endure the strain on my nervous system. A change was on this account quite welcome.

Dr. Sloan's Mastodon proved to be a fossil Elephant. His workmen, who were digging expressly for such remains, came upon him in his tomb precisely as he had reposed for centuries. The bones only remained in a heap of black dust surrounded by clay. Dr. Sloan tried to preserve them, but they were too far decayed. He only succeeded with some of the teeth and a few fragments of bones.
I am able to send you a photograph of ten of the teeth of a natural pipe. Please return it as I have no duplicate.

I do not know if you have heard of the New Albany Society of Natural History. It is of recent origin and has been turning its attention to botany, microscopy rather than to paleontology. Dr. John Sloan is president, and Dr. Ent. Crozier, secretary. I know they would be happy to correspond with you, though they might hesitate about opening the correspondence.

I have not relinquished the hope of seeing you at the West; you may be sure of a cordial welcome.

Very sincerely yours,

Horace C. Hovey.