Riverside March 22, '77

Mr. Grinnell

Dear Sir,

If Prof. Marsh is at New Haven, will you please hand him these two bills Mr. Stoughton did not get any hoop gum. Neither did he get nails enough so I got them. The iron was used to band the boxes.

I had to have a man to help me put the stone in the boxes for I could not put them in alone. Smith's bill accounts for it. The boxes of stone are all right. They are well covered. I have made an agreement with Deerfield to
work the ledge after Prof. Marsh's lease expires. I think it is out this June. Please write and let me know if Prof. Marsh is at N. Haven.

Your truly,

O.H. Leborerlay
Riverside April 18th 1877

Prof. O. C. Marsh

Dear Sir,

Mr. Slaughter says that he received a letter from you the seventh of this month saying that you wanted he should work at the ledge till your lease expires on shares. Previous I would not work it on shares he says that you will give half of the value you probably think he can do better by you than I have or can hire him as it is now or will have nothing to do with the ledge. My agreement with you was to have $250 per day and you were to employ me for one year small wages and
about seven months hence, I think I shall soon know what the trouble is and who is to blame.

I should be very glad if you would send the money for the order that I gave to Mr. Houland for the knives it is to pay towards a note he signed with me if you will not pay it please let him know respectfully yours

O. H. Lebourveau
Riverside June 4th 1877

Prof. C. C. Marsh

Dear Sir,

If you possibly can, please come this week. I need the money very much that you bought of me in 1875 and six boxes Warheel O. Oct. 2, June 1876.

If you please send them to Mr. Holdeman while digging a grave to-day found three Indian's Gouges.

They were three feet below.
The surface, I found some fragments of bones at the same depth the soil looks as though it had been burnt of hope & hear from you soon, 

Yours truly. 

O. H. Lebourdais.
Riverdale Aug 20th 1873

Prof. Marsh

Dear Sir,

I think you would like to know what success I have in this. Here are
slats two ft. eight inches wide
nineteen ft. in length, with
six large tracks. Broaden them.

The tracks are deep and on a
good surface one slat with
three large tracks ten ft. long,
on slat with four tracks

Twelve ft. long one slat six
ft. long with two of the largest
tracks that I have ever found.

The steps is four ft. eight inches
all of these tracks are Broaden.

Have several slats with only one.
trek on each. This week I hope to get to the layers that the slabs was taken from last summer. Eleven to more in depth will be on the surface that the insect and the large slabs were taken from. shall get through by the first of Oct. This season will be an end to fossil footprints with one if possible will you or Mr. Grinnell come some should like to see you very much.

Respectfully Yours

C.H. Lebourdeau
Riverside, Dec 29th 1879

Prof. O. C. Marsh

Dear Sir

I am out of work at this present time if you need my services in working the slabs that you spoke about, I can do it now better advantage than I could at most any other time this winter, and the price of my labor should be unreasonable please let me hear from you soon.

Yours Sincerely

O. H. Letourneau

P.S. The love of my daughter are all right.
Yale College Museum,
New Haven, Conn.

Jan. 7th, 1880.

Began work at two dollars per day (8 hours), furnishing my own board.

Mr. Faun from Pequot Fall and return to be paid in addition to above.

C.H. Lebourveau
Prof. O.C. Marsh

Dear Sir,

I did not have time to get my box to the depot. Will you please have it shipped to Turners Falls? The box is close to the door as you pass into the store room. My clothes that I wore at the State House are in the box. I am going to work in the mill and need them soon.

Yours Truly,
A. D. Lebourseau
FOSSIL FOOT PRINTS.

Connecticut River Sandstone, Delighting the Hearts of Paleontologists.

For years there has been stored away in the basement of the state house a lot of thin sandstone slabs of various shapes and sizes, which give to the room in which they are stored the appearance of the office of a paving stone dealer. But the slabs which appear to be common enough are in reality valuable to the geologist and paleontologist, because a careful inspection will show through the dust and dirt accumulated on them footprints of various shapes and sizes made by birds and animals that are at the present time an unknown quantity in natural history. They are all of them supposed to be fossil footprints of animals that had an existence in prehistoric ages, or certainly ages before the western continent was known to have an existence. These slabs, most of which came from the quarries at Turners' Falls, Mass., are owned by Prof. O. C. Marsh of Yale college, who is now having them cleaned and prepared for exhibition in the Peabody Museum. The slabs were most of them taken out thirteen years ago, and they have been stored here in this city for the past eleven years. They are considered to be the finest lot of fossil footprints extant, and when they are prepared will be placed in a fireproof building which is to be erected for their reception.

Henry Lebourbeau, a gentleman from Chicopee, Mass., who has been engaged in the work of quarrying these fossil slabs for years, is now at work cleaning and setting up the stones; and on Saturday last one of them was moved to the museum. This slab is 11 feet 5 inches long and 3 feet 9 inches wide. It is in three pieces, and is called a rain-drop slab, as it is covered with prints that look as if made by rain falling on the sand just previous to its conversion into its present state. On the slab are four footprints which, it is claimed, were made by a three-toed bird, which stood from sixteen to twenty feet in height, and which was known to paleontologists as the Brontosaurus Giganteum. There is also ready for removal a long slab, on which there were two large four-toed prints, supposed to have been made by an Olozoom, and there are several slabs with these tracks on them. There is one slab which has prints made by a three-toed bird or animal which measure 20x15 inches. One of the slabs with these large footprints was taken out 46 feet below the surface of the earth. Some of the slabs have large numbers of tracks looking as if they were made by a chicken or turkey, while others are no larger than the tracks that might be made by a robin, and one slab has over 100 tracks of the latter size. Prof. Morse owns a fine slab now at Turners Falls, which is called the Huxley slab, is 26 feet long, 6 feet wide, and has on it over 400 tracks. It is said to be the finest in the world, and will soon be brought to New Haven.
Dear Sir,

I forgot to say in any letter to this morning about the arrow on the rain drop slab, you wished me to put it on the slab with white chalk, I forgot to do it, therefore will tell you how to put it on.

This is the upper side

This will not vary but a little from the north.

Yours, truly,

O. H. Lebourdon.
Farren House,

A. R. Smith, Proprietor.

Turners Falls, Mass., Dec 21st, 1880

Dear Sir,

I send you a collection of clay stories hoping to receive something for my labor in getting them. Please unpack them and arrange them in rows on dark colored cloth, and if they are worth anything to you, please send me half the money. Had rather you should have them than any other person, if you want them, please keep until I send for them. The stones in boxes at Mr. Stoughton are safe. Hope to hear from you soon.

Respectfully yours, D. C. Lebourcuet

P.S. Tell Mr. S. what you think is right for new clay stone.
Turners Falls Feb 16th 1881

Prof. U. E. Marsh

Dear Sir,

I sent you a collection of clay stones, have not heard from you since, if you have received them and do not want them please write me. The expenses of express from here to New Haven and I will send the money to you, and pay for the expenses in sending them to Mt Holyoke Seminary, South Hadley, Mass. I think you can display them well. The snow is very deep here, think that the roof of the shed will have to be repaired this spring. I will see to that one day. Time will wait; please let me hear from you soon.

Yours truly, W. E. Lebourdais
Turners Falls, June 23, 1891

Prof. U. C. Marsh

Dear Sir,

I think that you do not want the clay stones, but if you are not to send them, I would suggest that you make the labor of getting them. If you wish to keep them, please send me the money, what you think is right for them, and I will abide by it, and if you do not want them, please write me what the expenses are in the box, and I will send you the money to have them shipped to Mt. Holyoke Seminary, South Hadley.
If I have a note to pay the first of July, and need all of the money that I am yet, have not been able to do much work since November, please let me hear from you soon. This sheet, over the boxes of stones are all right.

Sincerely yours,

O. H. Loubier
Jamaica Dec. 5, 1881

Prof. C. C. Marsh

Dear Sir,

I was at Turner's Falls the week before last, I received a letter from you. You wrote that you intended to take all of the specimens away soon, and that you hope to let me have a good lot. I have thought many times that I should not have anything more to do with fossil footprints, I have been very unlucky all through, that is I never have had the pay that a person ought to have on that kind of labor.

The reason of my being at this place is this, I came here about five weeks ago to build a trough for the Montague Paper Co. to slide their...
The Mountain R. R. Road did not intend to stay any longer
than for about two weeks. My overcoat
and about five dollars in money
and several things in my trunk
were stolen from me here. The thief
put them out of the window and left
it is quite a loss to me, I paid $28
for the coat only a short time ago
about moving the store please write
me what you would like to have
me do, if it is a job of moving them
only or is it to move them and open
the boxes after they are at Southing
I will work for you if the time
is not to short that you would want
to employ me, I may possibly stay here
all winter but do not intend to

Longer than letter part of this month
please write soon and direct to
Jamaica, N.Y.

I went to see the store
That the store are in the shed or
Store are all right
There is a store that came out of
the rail road that I think I shall
send to the sales it came out of
Lime stone ledge hope to hear from

soon
Respectfully yours

C. H. Labourer
Turners Falls March 9th 1882

Prof. C.C. Marsh

Dear Sir,

I received a letter from you the latter part of the month of November and answered it soon after. Thinking you have not received it, will write again. I have been to work in Jamaica, Vermont all winter; have just finished there, I do not know what I may do this summer. But hope to be at work by the first of April. By your letter I understand you intend to move all of the specimens that you have here, please let me hear from you soon and let me know if you want my help towards moving them.

Respectfully yours,

O.H. Lebourbeau
Dear Sir,

I ought to have answered your letter sooner, but have been waiting thinking I should be able to go to New Haven this winter. The shed, however, will have to wait until some other time. The shed over the stone is all right, except for a few boards, if it does not hold what it will answer for a few years to come as well as they have for a few years past. One must think of that. As you know, the shed is on the side hill and the upper side the boxes lie on 3 & 4. I think that this weight on them is so much that the boxes may lie on the ground, in that case the boxes will rot.
on my upper part of this side. The lower
side is blocked up from the ground so that
its trees are on the bank. I should advise you
To move them away or build a good tight
shed to store them in. This shed has
never water proof, sawdust in the lower part
and thatching does not do them any good.
I have good luck on the ledge for Mr.
Stout, he has in my judgment alone
ten thousand dollars worth. They are in the
building on the ledge. Should like to have
you see them. Mr. Stout said to me
a short time ago that you were coming
to make them a visit and said you thought
you would purchase part or the whole
of the collection. Should like to hear
from you at any time.

Respectfully Yours

O. H. Labourneau

Box 276 Turners Falls
Montague, Aug 24, 1884

Prof. O. C. Marsh

Dear Sir,

I have been quarrying for fossil fish and have some very valuable specimens and would like to dispose of some if you incline like. I will send you a box of specimens at a reasonable price. I will number each, mark the price on each specimen, and if you do not want them, send them back. Should like to be you very much. Have not seen the ladies or Mr. D. H. Hales nor flour. If this there are all safe, please let me hear from you soon. I do not expect to be here but a few days.


Respectfully yours,

O. T. Schourer.
Montague, Dec. 6th, 1888.
Ro. O. C. Marsh.

Dear Sir,

I suppose you remember a stone slab with ripple marks on it that was quarried at the Lilly pond ledge in 1856 and left outside of the building where the specimens are stored. I would like to get it to be used for a side walk in front of a dwelling house. If you would dispose of it, I will pay what it is worth for the purpose that I want to use it for and will leave it for Mr. Slaughter to say what the price will be, I think. It is 7 x 8 ft. and is not worth anything to put in a Museum. Please let me hear from you soon and not.
know if you will sell or not. I do not about Turner's Falls or Riverside as I have not lived there the past 4 or 5 years, and do not quarry any fossil foot prints and have not for several years. Last May I cut and split a large slab at Mt. Holyoke Seminary, South Hadley Mass. It was quarried in Northampton, one year ago. Have you taken away all of your collection that were put in to a building at Mr. Stoughton's?

Please let me hear from without delay.

Respectfully Yours,

Oscar H. Lebourveau

Montague, Mass.
Montague Oct 14th 1890

Mr. O.C. Marsh

Dear Sir,

Some time ago I wrote you that there was a lot of ripple marks left outside of the building. The stone were stored, I was at Mr. Straight's. A few days ago he said the stone were shipped from there about one year ago. The ripple slab was not shipped, if you do not want it and will sell it I will buy and pay what it is worth for flagging stone.

My address is Montague Mass.

Respectfully yours,

O.H. Lebourbeau

Please let me hear from you soon.
Ply 6 C Marsh

Dear Sir,

I should like to have Mr. Smith work with me this summer to winter. The reason is he knows how to handle stone and is very careful; some one has got to do heavy work here as well as the Museum and I should rather have him than any other person that I know of will you give me your consent to hire him, until next April. Shall begin on the ledge.
next Monday shall get the shanty up this week. I wrote to May 18th to Boston for a price list of the portable forge if I receive it will send it to you but do not buy one until you hear from me, please answer this soon.

Yours truly,

O H. Belcher.

P.S.

I think I had better wait until the water is lower than it is now before I follow the Deerfield river to the 14th Mountain and will write you again this week.