ROCKHILL IRON AND COAL COMPANY,
P. O. ORBISONIA, HUNTINGDON COUNTY, PA.

Rockhill, 23rd June, 1876.

Prof. Marsh
Yale College, New Haven.

My dear Sir: You may not remember me, as it is now several years since I have seen you. But I wanted to write you about something I saw today in which I know you will be interested.

Robb DeLait, an engineer working at Muncy Coal and Coke Co. Works, brought to me here on the coal measures formerly own by him. He brought two sections of a coal where the coal, which was five clay, measures their shaft is 556 feet deep. Now the question is how came it there originally? It is a blackish metal, looking more like silver than anything I know. The mould marks are very plain, showing how it was moulded and cast. The sketch I have taken from the same.

It must have been made by an intelligent man.
Mechanics, though rough, and of found in the fire clay - as it was - under the Prairie coal this man must have lived before the Carboniferous period.

At Crofts says most positively that the specimens came from the fire clay. And that as the opening is new they could not have been from any old machinery as there never was any machinery in the mine. The fire clay is plainly to be seen on the surface of the casting.

This may be all done to you, as you may know the party who built the machine - but I do not, and did not know that mechanics worked as much during that period.

Enclosed a piece chipped from the specimen.

The piece sent is either of lead or iron. Partially it is glassy, a natural product of the fire clay.