

Halmer, Letter to Prof Dana
on S.C. fossils &c

[1]

College of Charleston [1868]
Nov. 29th

My dear Sir

Your kind note of the 19th was handed me this morning on my return home, but as my stay is only for a few hours, it will be impossible to prepare any thing for you concerning the Post Pleocene formation in S. Carolina. I can only say that the beds extend along the entire sea-board of the State outcropg. about ten miles from the coast. At the Artesian Well in Charleston the auger penetrated the stratum of blue mud ~~with~~ containing Post Pleocene shells at the depth of twenty one feet six inches (21 ft. 6 in) this mud was two feet (2 ft) thick, then changed to laminated blue sands & clay say two feet more, then blue mud again and so on to the depth of 49 feet 5 inches from the surface, where it reached the Eocene Marl. At Ashley ferry ten miles N.W. of Charleston the stratum is only 1 foot thick and rests immediately upon the Eocene Marl. The best section of this most interesting fossiliferous formation is

at Simmons' on Wadmalar sound - ten miles from the sea coast - you will find a description of this locality in Turney's Geology of S. Carolina p 189. I send you with this a small pamphlet on the remains of the Vertebrata of the Post-Pliocene which may give you other desirable information.

With thanks for your kind expressions and notes

I am My dear Professor
Very truly Yrs.

Frank J. Holmes

The price per number of the work is \$2 - which I know is high, but the fact is Professor Turney himself lost money in publishing the Pliocene volume, and I can not repeat the same with those upon which I am now engaged - viz 1 vol on the Post-Pliocene, and one on the Eocene. Our Legislative subscribe for 200 copies, and this alone enables me to proceed with the work.

I cannot afford a publisher all orders must be directed to me at this place 5 numbers per annum only can be published

will send you in a day or two - the remaining three numbers for this year - each volume will contain about fifteen numbers

Now that I think of it let me add that heretofore I have been dependant upon our library for the use of your "Journal" - please add my name to your list of subscribers and send me the next -

Yrs
Frank J. Holmes

Charleston, S. C. Mining & Man'g Co.

Philadelphia, April 27th 1869Prof. O. C. Marsh
Yale College

Dear Sir

Yours of the 18th inst has been forwarded me to this place, and on my return from New York this morning I received it. I should much prefer that my collection which has cost me so many years of labor should be in your Institution, for then there would be an assurance of its safety & usefulness, should it be purchased by a private individual there is no telling what may hereafter become of it. I have lately consulted Prof. Lidy in regard to the price, which to a Public institution I fix at \$5,000. This Prof. Lidy thinks very reasonable.

No additional charge will be made for the labor of packing. It is important that I know at an early day your determination as to its purchase, for there are three foreign

institutions who are enquiring about it
I shall be in Philadelphia until the
1st May. after that, at home in Charleston
S. Carolina.

Very Respectfully
Yr Obedt Servt
Frank S. Holmes

The originals from the Pleiocen Port Pleiocen of
South Carolina, from which the drawings were
made in my publication, are all included.
as well as the recent specimens of my Cabinet
The head ^{bone} of Phocodon described by Agassiz, &
for which the late Dr. Warren of Boston offered
me \$400. is also in the collection, but of
course should you determine to purchase you
will send or come on yourself to inspect the
same.

[1869 Mar 30]

Prof. O. C. Marsh
Yale College

Dear Sir

At the suggestion
of Professor ~~Shepherd~~ ^{Shepherd}, to whom
also I beg to refer. I write to
offer for sale a large & valuable
Collection of Tertiary fossils
illustrating the Palaeontology of
the Eocene, Pliocene & Post Pliocene
formations of South Carolina
I have been engaged for nearly
thirty years collecting them
and Professor Agassiz has pro-
-nounced them the most
remarkable & valuable fossils
of all he has seen on this
Continent, The Collection of
teeth contains several hundred
specimens, and the Post Pliocene

Fossils of the Phosphate beds which have recently been found so valuable, contain besides those figured by Professor Leidy the human bones, & pottery, &c. Professors Shepard, Agassiz, Leidy and perhaps Dana can tell you all about them.

I should like to hear from you at an early day as there are two or three public institutions that may desire to purchase.

The want of funds, compelled the Trustees of the College of Charleston (in which my collection was placed,) to abolish my Chair of Geology, and therefore I was obliged to remove my Cabinet; and to offer the same for sale.

Professor Dana has copies of

720
[3]
my publication on the
Pleistocene & Post-Pleistocene
which if you desire he will
show you, all the originals
of the figures are in this
Collection

Very Respectfully
Yours
Wm. S. Holmes

Wm. S. Holmes

College of Charleston
S. Carolina

Mar 30 1869

Prof. F. S. Holmes
am. ab. sign
(Marsh's note) 2/20