Revised O.C.M.
Copy for Prof Marsh

Charleston, S.C.

April 22d. '88.

Dear Sir:

I am engaged in the phosphate rock business in this city, and have for sale a collection of fossils exhumed from the land and dredged from the rivers in this vicinity, for sale. Thinking that you would be glad to obtain them for your institution, I have taken the liberty of addressing you on the subject.

The Shark's teeth, of 3 or 4 dozen varieties, and from 6 in. to 1-8 of an inch in length, and all good, no broken ones amongst them, having all been selected with great care. Catalogue of the collection:

770 Sharks' teeth

125 crystals, or pebbles

40 vertebra of animals

16 clams

7 pieces Shale, bark of trees

5 bones.

1 conch shell.

2 horse's teeth.

1 knuckle joint.

1 duck's bill.

1 clam cracker.

Several curious teeth.

1 testicle, (exceedingly rare).

1 helmet shaped fossil, the first life on this globe, so Geologists inform us.

If you deem this present collection a meagre one, I can from time to time furnish more different specimens as I happen to obtain them, but cannot undertake to get more testicles as this is the only one I have ever seen out of 150,000 that I have handled in the last 3 years. If you will take these, I will obtain others, if you desire them.

My references are Capt. C.C.Pickney, Capt. Julius A.Blake, Sec. of the phosphate exchange, Major Edward Willis, Wm. Gregg, Capt. Kirby S. Tuppen, &c. All concerned in the phos. rock

business.

I will carefully pack and send you the collection for $40.00 — I paying all expenses.

I am well aware that all kinds of fossils are found all over our country, with the exception of Shark's teeth. They can only be had here.

Very respy.

(Signed) Harold Percy.

38 Alexander St.,

Charleston, S.C.

If you don't desire them, and know of any one who would like to possess them, please transfer this document to such individual.

Ans May 20th & offered to take "teeth & bones" at fair price, or return them.

Charleston S. C.
May 25. 1888.

Mr O. C. Marsh.
Dear Sir.

Your communication relating to my Collection of S. C. fossils received this a. m. The proposition is all very fair on your part, to have me send the fossils for your inspection & if you don't like them. you will return them in good order, but I shall decline entering into any such arrangement. You desire me to divide the collection & the portion you don't want, and if you are not satisfied with the portion that you <u>might</u> want, you will return them — I to select the portion you <u>don't</u> want

would simply spoil the sale of the collection to any other purchaser.

Some 3 years previously I sent thousands of such fossils to Messrs. W. H. Ellsworth and Fred. Horneffer of Milwaukee, Wis., and I will tell you how they extensively transacted business with me. When I had as many fossils as was convenient to send I informed them of the number. Soon as they received my notice the amount charged was sent me and I forwarded the specimens — They never knew aught about them till they received them. They did not purchase them for any profit whatsoever, but for their own use, and now have all they require — I have never heard of the proposition to send fossils to be inspected, before, and the idea is perfectly ridiculous — Now, bring out, by well known in this, my native city,

I will make you a proposition. If you don't want the shale, clams, crystals, etc. I will exclude them and send you the 850 shark's teeth, horns, etc. as per catalogue, on receipt of $41.00 I paying all charges.

The Department of the Interior certainly ought to be able to pay as much for a collection as a private individual; and if you, or any party can procure such a collection of S.C. fossils at any price whatsoever, I will make you a present, out of mine; inasmuch as such specimens are scarcely obtainable now-a-days — The shark's teeth are from ½ in. to ⅛ of an inch, in length — Some 300 are of the latter size, very beautiful! If you accede to my terms & inform me, and I will ship them to you by steamer

which leaves this port, tomorrow week, June 5th —

Very respfly
H. Percy

No 23 Vernon St.
Charleston, S.C.

Charleston, S.C. June 9. 88

Mr. O. C. Marsh.

Dear Sir.

As you appear to be very anxious to acquire a good collection of S. C. fossils for a Museum, and inasmuch as I desire to aid in furnishing forth the said Museum I will tell you how it is very probable that you may obtain a good supply for nothing —

On next Monday I shall dispatch to Mr. Williams Brown, at 441 Broadway New York, my collection which he will sell to the highest bidder on the following friday —

The idea of wanting a person you don't know of to give you Cash or Security for your goods, perhaps would not be tolerated by him, and it is very reasonable to suppose that if you send them a communication written below the printed words Yale College, and signed with the talismanic name of O. C. Marsh, that he will immediately send you the entire collection on your promise to send Check or receipt therefor —

What you think of it worth a trial, any way, bah! — Next week I shall open an engagement in the phosphate rock business & in the course of 4 weeks will have another fine collection for sale, but it goes only for Cash or city acceptance — So earthly use to endeavour to obtain my goods by promise of a check, I tell you —

Very respy yr.

H. Percy

23 Vernon St.

Now sir I am now perfectly satisfied relating to any business matter between us, if, to be sure, there ever was such an individual as O. C. Marsh —

FRIDAY, JUNE 15th, 1888,
At 2.30 P. M.

Wm. Niven's
Seventeenth Sale,

COMPRISING

MINERALS,

INDIAN RELICS, FOSSILS,

JAPANESE BRONZES & CURIOS,

USEFUL AND ORNAMENTAL OBJECTS CUT FROM

ARIZONA PETRIFIED WOOD,

AND

A COLLECTION OF FOSSILS FROM S. C., INCLUDING OVER 800 SHARKS' TEETH.

To be sold at Auction, without Reserve,

ON

Friday, June 15, 1888,

BY

MESSRS. BANGS & CO.,

739–741 Broadway, New York.

SALE BEGINS AT 2.30 P. M.

Buyers who cannot attend the Sale may have purchases made to their order by the Auctioneers.

The $50 thanks
and Mrs Niven — Mrs Fund