

Spotted Tail Indian Agency  
8-15-96-

Prof. Marsh,  
Yale College,  
New Haven, Ct.

Sir:

An incomplete fossil skeleton of a Mammoth animal of some extinct species has been shown me, with a request that I would correspond with you in relation to it, and ascertain if you wished to purchase it; or, failing that, to get some idea as to its probable commercial value -

I went out 10 miles to see it, and spent perhaps half an hour in its examination bringing home one bone, <sup>nearly</sup> perfect as Calcis -

None of the cranial bones could be found, and the whole skeleton was in a bad state of preservation: the larger long bones being broken -

The os Calcis that I have weighs 6<sup>lb</sup>, and the olecranon process of the left Ulna - weighs 10<sup>lb</sup>

The transverse diam. of the Art. Proc. of the lower 1/4 of the left Humer measures 225 <sup>m.m.</sup> ant. Post. diam same Surface 220 <sup>m.m.</sup>

The prominences of the processes are generally broken off - though some remain perfect. Part of the bones require examination, part more on the surface -

I will give you some measurements of this os Calcis, which perfect mould (fossilized) probably <sup>weighs</sup> about 6<sup>lb</sup> 10oz -

as it <sup>is</sup> might it just turns 6"

Longest diam. ant Post.

205 M.M.<sup>s</sup>

" " Tracer-

160 M.M.<sup>s</sup>

Height (as it nets naturally) of Substantia-Lati

140 M.M.

Smallest circ<sup>o</sup> of neck is lost to Art & Surgery-

260 m. m

These figures may or may not give you an idea of this  
bone from which you can easily, in imagination, reproduce this  
Monster-

Are any isolated bones of any value, if nearly or quite perfect?  
What would be the probable value of 500\* of such a skeleton  
~~to work~~ here?

What would a perfect skeleton be worth delivered at the R.R.?

If not too much trouble please answer these  
questions, and if I can reciprocate in any  
way. I will gladly do so.

I am, Sir,

With frat respect.

Yours,  
M. W. Wood  
Asst. Surg. U.S. Army

Dr Wood U.S.A.,  
Skeller of Brouloth,  
near Spotted Tail  
Aug 76.