Carnegie Museum of Natural History, Section of Vertebrate Paleontology

Correspondence concerning William Henry Utterback

Harrison, Neb. July 25, 1900

My dear Dr. Holland

I have abandoned the Laramie for the present & gone to work in the Tertiary. I am now working in the Daemonelix beds 4 or 5 miles north of this place. Have been having splendid success. Shall take up enough to make a good exhibit & I do not think we can get anything that will prove a greater attraction to the public than will such material. I trust you will find time to come out & see these curious things here in the rock for I should like to consult with you here about mounting a collection of them in the museum. It is really worth while seeing them in position in the rock. We have a good camp right in a good wooded canon & in the heart of a very interesting region & only five miles from Harrison, Neb.

A few days since one of my old men [W. H. Utterback] who worked with me for three years when I was with Prof. Marsh came up from Arizona & wanted to go to work again. I had been at work alone all the season & felt that I needed an experienced man with me so I hired him at $50.00 per month which is $25.00 less than he received from Marsh. He is a good workman, industrious, quiet & unassuming & I doubt if we could do better than to have him come east in the fall & work in the Museum during the winter, provided he is willing to do so. If you have not yet employed a laboratory assistant I should advise waiting until fall & let this man come in & give him a trial this winter. He is a man that can be trusted anywhere, he is already a good collector & I think we can & should retain him at $50.00 per month. Please give me your decision on this question.

Peterson writes me that he is having spendid success & that he is well pleased with Mr. Gilmore. I think I shall have a full carload here & at Lusk ready for shipment before Oct. 1st, although I had almost no success in the Laramie the last month.

I note what you say regarding the collecting of butterflies & you may be sure the work will go on. Will send you another box in a few days. Do you wish me to commence operations at Cañon City before coming east this fall? I wish you could take a vacation & come out & see us for a week or so at least as I know you would enjoy it & I have several very important plans I wish to discuss with you. Have you come to any decision regarding the Patagonian work? I should not now wish to start before Oct. 15 or Nov. 1st.

My family came out to see me day before yesterday. Mrs. H. & the little girl are stopping in town while the two boys are out with me in camp. They will remain a week or two. Address me at Harrison, Neb.

Yours truly,

J.B. Hatcher

Harrison, Neb. Aug. 2, 1900

My Dear Dr. Holland:

Yours of July 28, received. I am indeed sorry you cannot come West this season. I had particularly wished you to see Demonelix in position & to discuss with you some plans I have in mind for an elaborate display of these really curious & interesting fossils. I think we can make a unique, attractive & instructive exhibit of these things with their associated fossils. The plan I have had in mind is to get a good collection of the various forms of Daemonelix & the other associated rootstocks & tubers & to select some one of the many perpendicular bluffs where they are very abundant & to be seen in the face, cut a trench along the back of it leaving the face with about 18 inches of backing, then saw this into sections about 4 ft. by 6. indicating the position of each in the face of the original bluff. I would pack this & ship them to Pittsburgh to be used as the back of a large wall case while in front I would represent the talus covered slope with every conceivable form of Daemonelix & the associated fossils represented as weathering out with one or two fossil skeletons of mammals protruding from the matrix & if desirable a life size lay figure of a man at work exhuming the fossils. Such a mount would be, I feel sure, exceedingly attractive & instructive. I can get all the material necessary for it during the next month or two beside much other material that could be used for individual mounts. If you have time before sailing please write me & let me know how this idea strikes you & if you approve of it I shall go ahead & secure all the material requisite for carrying it out.

I am glad you have secured so satisfactory a young man in the laboratory. I still believe we should retain Mr. Utterback the man I have lately employed. We could have him work at Cañon City this winter. I think we shall need Peterson very badly in the Museum as soon as his fossils are in, since he can then give us very valuable information regarding his collection & besides he is a rapid & skillful workman in the laboratory. However I presume all this can be definitely settled after your return from abroad.

Hoping you will approve of my plan relating to the exhibition of Daemonelix & wishing you a pleasant visit & safe return I am

yours very truly,

J.B. Hatcher

P.S. I am quite familiar with the Barbour-Fuchs controversy. There can be no question as to the vegetable nature of Daemonelix although Barbour's proposed phylogeny of Demonelix is certainly erroneous. All these forms are frequently associated together in the same bluff & undoubtedly grew together at the same time & in the same marsh.

J.B.H.

Harrison, Neb. Sept. 23, 1900

My Dear Dr. Holland:-

Yours of the 18th received. Very glad to hear of your pleasant visit & safe return.

I am much interested in what you tell me of Neomylodon & the bit of cow skin full of gravel. I think it was no doubt a piece of skin of Neomylodon that your friend had seen for several of those large Pleistocene mammals are common to North and South A,erica.

No I did not take up a section of cliff with Daemonelix in position for two reasons. First: I was not sure that you would approve of my plan & Second: upon reflection I deemed it best to wait untill the new bulding was up before preparing so elaborate a display, then after the building is up we could agree on just how much space we would devote to the Daemonelix exhibit & I could then make a selection according to the space.

I note what you say about arranging for the shipment of fossils & will attend to the matter. I think it wise to continue both parties in the field as long as the weather holds good. We are having fine weather at present & are doing very effective work here & at Med. Bow. Here we are getting a fine series of White River mammals. I have decided therefore to work on here if you approve until Oct. 3rd. Then leave Mr. Utterback to go on with the work here until about Nov. 1st or such time as the weather suggests his closing up, when he will close up the work & load the boxes in the car ready for shipment, leave our outfit here with a ranchman to winter & proceed by rail to Cañon City to take up the work of stripping there. I will leave here Oct. 3rd & go to Med. Bow to see just how matters stand there so as to be able to the better decide on plans for work next year in that region. After spending a few days at Med. Bow I shall leave for Pittsburg stopping in Omaha to see mr. Darlow & the F.E. & M.V. officials as to cars for the transportation of the material to Omaha. Should like to continue the work at Sheep creek until about Oct. 20th if the weather permits. The above are the plans that appear to me best & with them in mind I am writing Mr. Darlow for transportation from Orin Junc. to Cheyenne & from Cheyenne to Med. Bow & return. He very kindly told me when I called on him last spring to call on him for any such favors I might need. I am also writing Mr. Peterson to meet me at Med. Bow on Oct. 4. Please write me at once if you have any advice to offer or wish any alteration in the plan as I have outlined it.

I hope to be in Pittsburg by the 10th or 15th of Oct. & will then be ready to discuss Patagonia or any other plans or matters you may have in mind & wish to discuss.

We have here packed & ready for shipment 73 boxes of good material. Have good material of Daemonelix, Merycochoerus, Titanotherium, Elotherium, Aceratherium, Hyaenodon, Hoplophoneus, &c. &c. & hope to increase the list materially within the next month.

Trusing my plans will meet with your approval & hoping to receive a letter from you when I go to Harrison on oct. 3 I remain

Yours very truly,

J.B. Hatcher

P.S. I am writing this from our camp on Warbonnett cr. 12 miles north of Harrison. Mr. Utterback went in yesterday & brought me your letter & I will send him in tomorrow to mail this.

J.B.H.

Harrison, Neb., Sept. 24, 1900

My Dear Dr. Holland:-

Since writing you in camp yesterday it has set in rainy so that I could not work on bones so I have come to town instead of sending Mr. Utterback as I had intended. I received today yours of Sept. 21, enclosing letter from Mr. Douglass relating to Dinosaur bones.

Have written Mr. Douglass asking for more explicit description of his material & especially of his best skeleton of Claosaurus & also for his estimate of the value of the various things & the collection as a whole.

I send you today a box of butterflies the third sent since your departure for England. The butterfly season here has closed & this will be the last of this years crop from this region.

I went to the train going west today to mail some letters & an acquaintance of yours, Mr. George P. Hukill of Oil City, Pa. introduced himself to me & we sent a few moments in conversation while the train was waiting during which he spoke very highly of you & wished to be remembered to you. He was enroute for the Oil field of Caspar.

Very truly yours,

J.B. Hatcher

Harrison Neb Oct 10 1900

J.B. Hatcher

Dear Sir:

Outside of a few good bones from where I was working when you left Quarry 2 disapointed us. I thought sure I would get at least three or four more boxes from there. The bones were just on the surface. I worked the ground until I was convinced there was nothing in it. The 4th and 5th were nice and warm and I got the boxes packed in good shape. The night of the 5th it rained all night followed by snow the entire day of the 6th so you can imagine the condition of this gumbo country. The weather has cleared up this morning and looks as though I might get to work again. Shall try and get into Harrison to get my mail between the 20 and 25th. Horses doing well &c.

Yours

W.H. Utterback

Harrison, Nebraska, Oct 20 1900

J.B. Hatcher

Your letters of 8 13 received and shall be on hand to attend to matters as requested. Brought in six more boxes to-day. Among other things got another Tith skull also almost complete limb and foot of somthing about the size of a Rhinoceros. Will give particulars when I give contents of boxes.

Moved into Keels ranch yesterday and shall pass the rest of my sentence in the Demonelix beds.

A howling blizzard raging to-day and I have to face it to the ranch. Will write you when I come in to load.

Yours

Utterback

Harrison, Neb., Oct 30 1900

J.B. Hatcher

Dear Sir:

Have been under the weather the past ten days and had a hard battle to keep from going to bed and stay there.

It seemed to be a fever of some kind and was pretty hard to shake. There has been more sickness in this vicinity the past 30 days than was ever known in the history of the country. Has been quite a number of deaths here and in Lusk since you left.

I loaded the boxes to-day on account of getting a man to help me. Those stable men are very busy as the merchants are getting there winter supply of grain flour &c. They wanted to load them at so much per load. I gave Keel $3.00 to bring my bed and tools in and help load them which I thought was better than keeping my team over night and make another trip out to the ranch.

We loaded them very carefully and if the same care is used at the other end I think they will get there in fine shape. We had about 3 inches of snow this morning and I put up a stageing from the platform to the car and they went in as though they were greased.

The car is a coke car and I had to clean at least two tons of dust and dirt out of it yesterday. The boxes being damp and the car dusty they may look a little dusky.

I telegraphed you Sat. 24 regarding the car. Enclosed you will find statement of expenses &c. Sent you a package by registered mail containing hickory nuts and a small skull which I do not think will set the scientific world afire.

I had them in that treasure box or valise of mine and forgot to put them in the last box. As the negligence has been at my own expense there can be no cause for complaint. The outfit is all put away in good shape in a nice dry place and where the mice will not get at them. You will find receipt for same from Keel he holding a duplicate.

If you wish to sell that saddle horse Keel says he can get $35.00 for him. If you have no better opinion of him than I have you will do well to let him go. Am sure I never want to ride him very much.

You can write Keel if you conclude to dispose of him. Well Hatcher I hope that my work in the next month will be more satisfactory to you than this one has been to me. There is one thing sure I have considerable experience that will be worth something to someone in the future.

Well will write you as soon as I get things opened up in the new field.

Yours

W.H. Utterback

Cañon City Nov 2 1900

J.B. Hatcher

Dear Sir:

Leaving Crawford Wed at 2:10 P.M. was in Denver in bed at 11:30 the same evening. That Birlington flyer is a daisy and far cheaper than the other route. Arrived here the past evening at 7:30 P.M.

Was out to look at the bone quarry to-day and see just what was needed. Am under the impression we have quite a contract on our hands, however I presume time and labor will overcome all.

First of all I have no place to board as you were mistaken in the young man being married. That was a woman there temporary. The old man is in very poor health and keeps his bed the greater portion of the time. Since the women left they have been trying to do there work themselves. Of all the dirty filthy places I ever struck that lays over all. No man can live as they are doing and have health. I shall put up my tent and get a stove and board myself. Now regarding this board business if suitable to you, you can allow me so much per month and I can buy such things as I wish or I will keep track of all expenses. Should prefer the former as sometimes one wants something that might not be approved of by the Museum authorities.

Regarding the employing of help I think it best to wait a short time and see just what progress one man can make. Do not think a plow and scraper can be worked to advantage unless it be after I throw the upper layer of marl down. Am of the opinion that a wheelbarrow will be the best plan to handle it.

Am at a loss to know exactly what to do regarding tool sharpening when I get down to the sandstone.

Had I a portable forge I could sharpen my own steel. Perhaps I may hear of one that I can hire or borrow before I get down to the rock. Hatcher I loaned all the spare cash I had on a morgage at Harrison consequently am busted.

If you have sent my past months wages here that will run me for a while if not send me some as soon as convenient. Shall not need very many tools for awhile but fitting up for boarding myself and grub takes quite a little.

There is plenty of pick and shovel work to do for awhile.

There are plenty of big red apples and pretty women here either takes my eye.

Should this be delayed in reaching you telegraph me $50.00 as I do not like to run my face so early in the game. let me hear from you soon and any advice you may offer will be thankfully received.

Yours

W.H. Utterback

Cañon City, Colo., Nov 12 1900

J.B. Hatcher

Dear Sir:

Wrote you some 8 days ago and rather expected a reply to-day. Commenced work on the new quarry Nov 4th and for a man that has had no more to eat than I have think I have made a fair showing.

Before buying a camp outfit was waiting to hear from you and have been boarding with Mr Felch. It got so tough that I could wait no longer and came in to-day for supply of grub. Am working off the upper layer of marl which will be about 15 feet thick on the north end of the proposed 25 ft. Had to build a trestle from the top of the sandstone 10 ft high to the dump 50 ft in length.

This saves handling the dirt once. Although it will be necessary to blast the dirt - do not think it will be expensive. My heaviest expense will be in fitting up a place to live. Mr Felch is sick all the time and it is impossible for me to stop at his place. The nights are getting so cool that it is impossible to live in a tent much longer. Our weather is fine and should it continue so think I will have no trouble with the work alone. After I commence on the sandstone it will be policy to have another man I think.

The books arrived and I got them out of the office to-day. Thanks for your trouble. Let me hear from you when convenient.

Yours

W.H. Utterback

Cañon City Nov 17 1900

Friend Hatcher,

Your letter of 9 inst enclosing check for $50.00 received and I enclose receipt for same. Am getting along with the work slowly but sure.

Man never realizes what a small figure he cuts in this world until he comes in contact with a job like that one. Think McKinley and I have a sure thing for awhile. Hatcher in your letter of instruction Oct 20th you say strip off the entire length of the old quarry and 25 feet deep. Now Mr Felch told me when I first arrived here that the bone area was confined to a strip 30 or 40 feet wide in the centre of the old quarry. There is a depression or as Mr Felch calls it the bed of an old stream about 40 feet from the west end that he says all of the bones were found in. Mr Smith was down and put in a half a day with me at the quarry the past week and he gave me considerable information. He says that it will be a waste of labor and money to strip off the west or east ends as there has never been anything found but fragments in either place. I have commenced on the east side and am running a cut about 20 feet wide to the north line of the 25 feet. He says 40 feet in width will more than cover the ground in which they worked before. My plan was to run a cut 40 or 50 feet wide parallel with the bed of the old stream and if this pans out well the other will not be so hard to handle. There is no need for you to hurry in your decision regarding the amt you wished stripped as I have work for along time in sight. Will say this much however that I think you were badly deceived regarding the length of time it would require to strip it. Every foot of the ground has to be blasted with the exception of a foot or so on the surface that is air slacked.

I have been getting right into the collar this month and it will take me all of three months to strip 25 x 40 down to the sandstone.

You can hardly realize how fast that ground makes going into the hill. After this month can give you an estimate of the time it will require to strip the entire quarry.

Nice weather with us in this locality.

Yours

W.H. Utterback

Cañon City Col Dec 2d 1900

Friend Hatcher,

You will find enclosed statement of my expenses for the past month with bills for same where I could conveniently get them.

Your experience has been sufficient to know what it is to commence at bed rock. On the grub line of course have considerable to start in another month.

It was a question of buying a tent or repairing a place Mr Felch offered me and I chose the latter as being cheaper and far more comfortable.

The entire cost will not exceed ten dollars and will no doubt answer the purpose for as large party as you will ever work here.

Had I known how matters were regarding board might have saved one trip of team out here.

Wages of men are from 30 to 35 per month. Unless you wish this work completed at an early date do not think it advisable to put any one on just yet. Am told that the latter part of this month and Jan are usually very stormy. Would it not be just as well to wait and if necessary to crowd matters put on two men later on. Am making good headway by myself but I tell you J.B. she does gain going into that hill. It will be over 30 ft from the bone layer to the surface on the north side. There is one Museum employe whose hand will not tremble when he signs for Nov wages. Even worked Thanksgiving and had bacon for dinner.

No you need not send me any more books as I have more now than I have time or brains to handle.

Wishing yourself and family a Merry Christmas

I am Yours

W.H. Utterback

Cañon City Col Dec 17 1900

J.B. Hatcher

Dear Sir:

Yours of 13th inst containing check and order arrived to-day for which accept thanks.

Having the finest of weather for work and am getting along nicely.

Unless I am very badly deceived in the character of the sand-stone to be removed do not think it will be necessary to employ any great amount of help. Wrote you on the 26 of Nov regarding some information I wanted and as you make no mention of the matter presume the letter did not reach you. Gave a man five letters to mail on that date and not one of them reached their destination.

Mr. Felch informed me afterwards that he was a d--m sneak. I believe it. My Nov acct should read

Expenses $78.56

Cash on hand $25.33

" by check 50.00 75.33 $75.33

Bal due Dec 1st $3.23

Expenses will not be so heavy this month so do not think shall have to pull your leg for Jan.

Trusting that you are pushing the boys around the Museum into the collar for all they are worth,

I remain

Yours

W.H. Utterback

Cañon City Col Dec 31st 1900

J.B. Hatcher Esq.

Pittsburg Pa.

Dear Sir:

Enclosed you will find monthly statement with bills. It is a very difficult matter to keep down expenses as it seems as though there is always something wanting.

Have devoted but little time in prospecting the surrounding country.

When I realized the undertaking before me here was anxious to make some kind of showing while the weather was so nice. There are three old ex bone diggers living in this Park for the past 20 years and they have paths around over the hills to ever bone layer that is exposed. The man that discovers anything in this locality can consider it "Bull luck" not science.

Prof Cope worked one mile west of this place for five years and it is hard to find even a fragment that someone has not handled. Am rather under the impression that all we ever get near here will be to dig for.

The space am uncovering will give between 800 and 1000 square feet of bone area in the only portion of the quarry that has ever produced anything. If it keeps up its past record that will give employment for sometime. Again the stripping can go ahead regardless of work upon the bones. Have had a touch of real winter weather since the morning of the 27th. Considerable snow and 26 below zero this morning. Am told the snow does not remain long in this place.

Wishing you the best of success for the New Year and Century

I remain yours

W.H. Utterback

Felch Ranch, Jan 9th 1901

J.B. Hatcher

Dear Sir:

Mr Smith has taken a couple of views of the quarry which I mail you. The one is taken from across the gulch distance about 300 ft.

While not very plain it gives a general view of the entire hill.

You can see the result of my labor in the dump crawling up the side of the gulch. It is about twenty feet from the level of the old quarry. The other view is from the east or road-side.

It shows the first cut I made also the end of the one am at work on at present.

As soon as I complete the cut am on now shall commence the rock.

Do not think I shall have any trouble with the rock as it will drill easy. The top of the trestle is on a level with the top of the sand-stone. The man on the motor power is young Felch.

We are having quite a siege of bad weather with plenty of snow. Let me know when you write if the pictures arrived in good order.

Yours

W.H. Utterback

Cañon City, Col., Jan 31 1901

Mr J.B. Hatcher

Pittsburg Pa.

Dear Sir:

Your letter of 21st inst reached me the past week and regret to learn of your late illness.

My health has been of the very best since coming to Colorado. I enclose statement of acct with bills for everything excepting some meat that I sent in for this week. It is a difficult matter to get everything needed for the month when in myself. To send in by some of these old "Mossbacks" is rather agravating. Some of them would forget the rear part of their anatomy were it possible.

Have completed the upper part of the stripping and am at present tearing down the tramway and cleaning up the old quarry preparatory to commencing on the rock work.

Shall have to make a trip to Canon the first of the week to get drills, crow bar, and other supplies needed. Am inclined to think we will have to invest in a forge and small anvil as the rock is pretty hard on steel. To attempt to send tools to the City to get them sharpened would require a large amount of them to say nothing of the worry in waiting for them.

In removing the dirt and debris that has washed down over the quarry where the last party left off I find plenty of bones in sight. Shall not work down nearer than two feet of the bone layer at present. There is a seam in the sand rock about that height above the bones and can uncover the entire quarry to that depth. Our weather the past few days has been mucho frio.

Trusting you have fully recovered from your late illness.

I remain your

W.H. Utterback

Canon City Col Feb 8th 91 ['01]

Friend Hatcher,

Your letters of 4th & 5th inst arrived this morning. I enclose receipt for $67.03 being amount of check placed to your credit. Our weather has been a terror since Jan 27th and the loss of time will throw me behind with the work. Was over and cleaned the snow off the quarry to-day, and the outlook is favorable for better weather.

Have kept my "eye peeled" for everything in the line of fossils both around the quarry and in this entire locality.

The only small mammal bones and teeth ever found in that place were in the hard layer of rock in which the large bones are in. Shall keep a good look-out however at all times. Can get a good forge and anvil for about $22.00 if needed. My object in not getting them just at present was because I thought perhaps the rock would not be very hard on steel and I could get along until we found out if there was anything in it.

Of course it is impossible for me to tell if the bones in sight are of any importance. It just shows the edge of rock where the last party left off. Have learned one thing however the bones do not cover an area of over twenty five feet in width. Shall write you about the 1st of next month when I can give you a more definite estimate as to how long it will require me to finish the stripping. Depends a great deal upon the weather.

Yours

W.H. Utterback

Felch Ranch, Feb 23 1901

Friend Hatcher

I found the rock work more of a proposition than I thought for. While not so very hard is tough on drills and requires considerable sharpening tools. This with cooking and other work I was running behind. Put a man to work on the 19th. Promised him work one month or until such time as you came out.

Had to pay him 35.00 per month however he is an all round good man and has had experience in quarries before. Could have got men for $30.00 however he is cheaper at $35.00 in the long run.

About 6 ft of the rock is mean breaking as the grain is so straight that it will split but not break. There will be about two feet just above the bone layer that will have to be worked off with care. How about this cooking J.B. I am getting pretty tired of it as I have had a long siege of it.

It will be impossible to get a man to cook and work in that place in this country. The rail-roads and mines pay $2.75 and $3.00 for such work all over the state and most places it is only 8 hrs a day. Now so longs as I was alone I could put up with anything however I can not do the cooking much longer and hold myself down on the job. Shall try to get along until you come out. Shall write you the first of the month and can then give you an idea about how long it will require to complete the stripping.

Yours

W.H. Utterback

Felch Ranch Feb 28 1901

J.B. Hatcher

Dear Sir:

No doubt you will think my expense acct pretty steep for a short month, however I can assure you have bought nothing but what I was compelled to. The fact of the matter Hatcher is this is more of an undertaking than either of us realized. Perhaps the returns may justify the money and labor expended. Am living in hopes at least. The stripping is progressing as fast as possible for two men to do it.

Think it would be safe for you to come out about the 20th or 25th that is if weather continues good.

Shall write you the 15th letting you know just what progress we have made.

Yours

W.H. Utterback

Canon City Col March 10th 1901

J.B. Hatcher

Dear Sir:

As I have had no word from you since Feb 9th ult have come to the conclusion you are either very busy or are giving me the "high ball". Everything considered we are making good head-way with the work.

Some bad weather and other drawbacks delay us a little. Owing to the high altitude (6000 ft) the nights are very cold and do not think the weather will be very favorable for bone work much before Apr 1st. Could you delay your coming until the 20th or 25th every thing would be in better shape.

However if you so wish there is plenty of ground stripped to make an investigation. Had quite a snowstorm yesterday much to the delight of farmers and miners.

Hatcher I am aware that the average man has troubles enough of his own with-out bearing the burden of others, however I must inform you of one of mine. That D--m woman of mine has an action in Court now in session in Mont. for Att fees of $150.00 Alimony of $30.00 per month, possession of all property and both the boys. Now while I am allowing the suit to go by default there is two things I will not submit to if it costs my life. She shall never have the oldest boy who refuses to live with her, neither will I pay her one red cent of my hard earned money. If you wish to keep me this summer arrange the money part of it and I will fix the other so that she can not find the boy.

Let me hear from you if not too busy.

Yours

W.H. Utterback

[Envelope postmarked Mar 11 01]

Felch Ranch, Monday Noon

J.B. Hatcher

Dear Sir:

Yours of 5th inst arrived to-day. In regard to the cooking that I made mention of in my former letter will say,

I thought perhaps in making up your slate for the summers work you might be figureing on my doing the cooking. So far as the present is concerned shall get along in some manner although it be not very agreable.

Have done my utmost to keep down expenses this winter but when you see the nature of the rock-work you will understand why my hardware bills and blasting material has run up so. Am under the impression our heaviest expense outside of labor is over. We are making good headway and weather permitting think you will be safe in coming any time toward the latter part of this month. While the weather is hardly suitable for bone work it has not prevented our working but one day since the first of the month.

It will not be necessary to send any money if you are coming out as I have sufficient of my own for all needs. Hatcher have had legal advice regarding the trouble with my wife and learn that they can do nothing toward collecting money so long as I keep out of the jurisdiction of the court granting the divorce.

Regret troubling regarding the same.

Yours

W.H. Utterback

Canon City, Colo., Mar 16 1901

Friend Hatcher,

Your letters received and regret I did not write more plainly. What I wanted was to have my pay arranged so that woman could not get it. If you knew the entire circumstance connected with this trouble of mine you could not blame me. Do nothing with the matter and if she attempts to force me to give up money shall have to go where she can not find me. We are getting along fine with the work. The weather is getting better than it has been the past two weeks. There is plenty of work for us until you come out. If you could give me an idea of what time you will come it would be best.

Do not think it advisable to lay in too much of a supply of grub until this matter is investigated. As I always come in town about the 4th of the month should like to know by that time.

Yours

W.H. Utterback

Monday Mar. 18, 1901

J.B. Hatcher

Dear Sir:

Was in Canon Sat evening receiving your letters just as I was leaving and wrote you rather hasty reply. Court in Mont has ajourned and my case was continued until June Next.

Just what action I shall take in the matter shall decide later on. There is one thing certain, while I am only too willing to give my wages toward supporting my boys, however not one cent shall I allow her. Were you in full possession of all facts in this matter am confident you would view the matter in the same light. This is why I wished you to try and hold my wages for me.

Work is at a complete standstill owing to the severe snowstorm now raging. It is one of the worst of the winter and looks like a genuine Wyo blizzard.

the man that is with me has a family in Florence 17 miles from here and went home Sat night. Has not returned as yet. He has been tormenting the life out of me to get his wife up here to cook for us. Have given him to understand that I should do nothing until you came out. While he is a good man to work, can say nothing regarding his wife.

There is one thing I do know and that is we are in for a long tedious job on the bones in that quarry. The rock containing the bones is very hard and there is a great amount of stripping that has to be done with care.

Yours

W.H. Utterback

[Canon City] Mar 30- 1901

Mr J.B. Hatcher,

Enclosed find statment of acct with bills included so far as I was able to obtain them. Have to depend upon the mail carrier for articles needed from the city and he is rather careless at times.

We are making very good headway with the work every-thing considered. Have had two days of tough weather this week.

Rather expected some word from you regarding the time you were comeing out however have had none.

Am under the impression we are in for a nice lay-out in this place at least every-thing has a tendency to encourage me. Hoping to see or hear from you soon

I am

Yours

W.H. Utterback

Felch Ranch, Apr 6th 1901

J.B. Hatcher

Dear Sir:

Yours of the 1st inst reached me yesterday.

Am stripping the rock as near as possible to the bones.

Have about 1500 square feet uncovered and there are bones enough in sight to keep the entire force at work all summer. They are in splendid condition and feel confident we are in for a nice lay-out.

Am keeping them covered with plenty of dirt and rock so that they will not be injured.

Hoping you will come out soon

I remain

Yours

W.H. Utterback

Felch Ranch Apr 15 1901

J.B. Hatcher

Dear Sir:

Yours of 10th inst containing check for $68.10 at hand encloseing receipt for same.

It is just as well that your trip was delayed as this month has been one of continued snow and rain. Has been but few days suitable for bone work. Have let the man out that was with me as the heavy work is done and I could find nothing for him to do unless I started another section of stripping. Do not think this a wise thing to do until we find which direction the bones are inclined to run.

Yours

W.H. Utterback

[Envelope postmarked rec'd Pittsburgh Apr 23 1901]

Friday Noon

J.B. Hatcher

Dear Sir:

Yours of 15th inst just received also pamphlets, accept thanks for latter. Am well acquainted with the locality of Prof Copes old quarries having been there quite often. They are about one mile from where I am working. He has worked in three places at different times. Shall do the work as requested at once. Do not think it advisable to mention the matter to Mr Felch as people in this section of the country are strictly on the make regardless of everything. Shall put the man I had back to work again Monday. There will be no difficulty in getting men at any time as the road is full of them.

Am doing the best I can with the stripping considering the manner in which the bones are placed. Some places they are four or five feet up from the regular bone layer and are very difficult to work near them. Am not as favorably impressed with the out-look as I was two weeks since. While there are some good bones in sight I fear we will find considerable of the ground barren or at least it has that appearance. Mr Felch says that in many places the bones run down into the marl underneath the regular bone layer. Should this be true there may be more than I think for.

Yours in haste

W.H. Utterback

Garden Park June 7- 1901

J.B. Hatcher

Dear Sir:

Enclosed find statements and bills for Apr and May. The bone work has been at a complete standstill since you left. Has been one continous down pour of rain and still continues.

Have hoped each day would bring a change but to date looks hopeless. Have kept the skeleton covered all the while uncovering every moment of sunshine.

The ground is so wet and the weather is so cold that it is discouraging.

Yours

W.H. Utterback

[attached receipt reads: Canon City Col May 31 1901. Received of W.H. Utterback for the Carnegie Mus Twelve 50/100 Dollars being amt in full to May 31 1901 for rent of quarry as per contract May 5th 1900 $12.50 (signed) M.P. Felch]

Felch Ranch June 14- 1901

J.B. Hatcher

Dear Sir:

Yours of 11th inst arrived this morning. In reply to camp outfit will say that you will find everything at G.W. Griffens residence. He is Mang. of Telephone Co. and any one in Sheridan can show you his office. We have been getting in good time on the bones the past ten days having the best of weather.

Have skeleton "A" up and boxed with the caudal vert in fine shape. Also left scapula with coracoid firmly attached.

Am at work on other bones belonging to same sk. Everything is moving along nicely, but the board is hell.

Should you come back this way want you to think of some plan to cut loose from that outfit in regard to boarding.

Enclosed find receipt over-looked in my monthly statement.

Yours

W.H. Utterback

Canon City Col June 14- 1901

G.W. Griffen Esq

Sheridan

Dear Sir:

This will introduce to you the bearer Mr J.B. Hatcher of the Carnegie Museum Pittsburg Pa.

He visits Sheridan for the purpose of getting the camp outfit that you have kindly cared for the past few years. Any assistance you may render him by way of introduction to the good people of Sheridan will be duly appreciated by

Yours truly,

W.H. Utterback

Canon City, Colo. July 11- 1901

Mr J.B. Hatcher

Hot Springs Dak.

Dear Sir:

Yours of 8th inst at hand to-day. My reason for not writing you was because I was under the impression you had left that locality for Mont. You will find statement of expenses for June enclosed. Regarding our success in the bone business am at a loss to know exactly what to tell you. While we are doing a great deal of hand labor and getting some good bones the result is hardly satisfactory considering the expense which we are under. Considerable of the ground worked over has been completely barren.

Since writing you before we have taken out a number of good limb bones, vert, and ribs. While we find nothing in position we are hopeing every day for better results.

One nice thing we have is a series of dorsal vert 12 in number all in position. At present we are working upon what promises to be a good part of a Stegosaurus or at least am inclined to think it is that. Have two or three of the dermal plates in sight and a large number of other bones.

Now Hatcher this skeleton runs into the hill on the line between sections 6 and 7, and we have worked up to where it will be necessary to do more stripping. Would it be policy to work out the rest of the quarry first.

The work stripping will require at least a month for two men. It will be impossible to do both at once on acct of blasting.

What do you think would be best.

Our weather has been warm but lovely nights for sleeping.

With plenty of good fruit forbidden and otherwise we have no occasion to kick.

Let me hear from you occasionally.

Yours

W.H. Utterback

[Sketch of ground plan on other side.]

Canon City, Colo., July 20 1901

J.B. Hatcher Esq.

Billings Mont.

Dear Sir:

Your card of 17th inst received this morning.

Have written you at Hermosa, also sent my monthly account to Hot Springs as directed. Your account has $57.00 to credit July 1st.

Shall write the P.M. at Hot Springs to-day to forward your letter containing bills to Billings immediately.

Regret to say that the quarry is proving anything but satisfactory. While we are getting some good bones, they are mostly odds and ends of different skeletons. Considering the expense we are under I fear the returns will hardly pay. The entire quarry as it looks so far as worked out seems to be fast playing out. Should my letter containing accounts not reach you in due time let me know where you are at and will make out another. You might send me some money if possible by the 1st when all bills are due. Have had some very hot weather during the past month. Hatcher please address me as below as old Felch is crazy half the time and is causing me a great deal of trouble with my mail.

Yours

W.H. Utterback

Box 285 Canon City

Col.

Canon City, Colo. Sept 3d 1901

Mr J.B. Hatcher

Dear Sir:

Your letter also Memoirs arrived to-day for which accept thanks. Enclosed find statement of expenses for Aug with bills and receipts. The bone business has been almost at a stand still the past week owing to heavy rains. We are nicely located in our new camp however have had considerable trouble with high water. I found it necessary to have Mr. Arnold put down a well which was done at a very small expense.

We got three feet of excellent water at a depth of 20 feet.

In the bone line I have a fine large scapula a nice radius, also good tibia in sight in fact almost ready to box.

The scapula is a new one to both Axtell and myself. It is about five feet 8 inches in length and wide in proportion. The coracoid is firmly united and all things considered is a good bone. I let Arnold out the last of the month and should I need any one to assist me can get Mr Cullifer who is a good man in rock work. Do not think the cost would be much more and perhaps more satisfactory.

Hatcher, Mr Arnold has requested me to write you asking permission to cut the timber on the creek on the forty upon which the cabin stands. He wants it to haul to Canon to sell.

Now while I have nothing to say regarding this matter I do fear that Tomilson may object to so much travel through his ranch.

It is impossible to get through the Felch Ranch.

Dr. H. was with us and was given all the attention possible owing to our being at the time under the change of hotels.

Hoping to hear from you as early as convenient

I am yours

W.H. Utterback

Canon City, Colo., Oct 15 1901

Mr J.B. Hatcher

Dear Sir:

We have given the team a trial on the plowing and scraping and if you have not made arrangements to send the other team down we will try and get along with this one. While they are not very true they are improving all the time. I dislike to give them up after getting them up in shape and doctoring their sores until healed. They never will make a very trustworthy team as they dislike to get into the collar. Have started started a cut 20 feet wide and 100 feet long on the south side of the Nipple. This is where the bones were exposed near the cedar tree. If we have no misfortune we can make good head-way stripping as there is no rock to contend with.

Mr. Hatcher I wrote you some pretty strong facts about young Axtell and think I was fully justified in so doing.

The weather the past two months was of the very finest and to think there was absolutely nothing done toward opening up the new quarry was agravating to say the least. Now I will say this much, after working with him a few days I find that he has been accustomed to have some one take the lead or set the pace and he will follow so far as he knows how.

Now if he knows anything about bones and you wish us to still work to-gether I will try and do the best I can even if I have to do most of the work. If you have made other arrangements for someone to take my place do not change your plans as I can always get something to do.

So far as getting alaong with the young fellow you need have no fear on that score. His worst failing is a lack of ambition and bone enthusiasm which is necessary in work of this kind. Large oil derrick going up near here and your forty is liable to be valuable in the near future.

All is well in camp and hope to report good progress with the work in the future.

Yours

W.H. Utterback

Canon City, Colo., Oct 24 1901

Mr. J.B. Hatcher

Dear Sir:

Your letter of Oct 9th containing check for $150.00 received also one of later date.

Enclosed find receipt for cash. The past ten days has found us at work early and late with plow and scraper and am pleased to say that we have made good head-way with the work.

About two days more work will complete the cut we have started down to the bone horizon, what the result will be can-not say.

The cut extends from the east side of the Nipple the entire length on the south connecting with the old cope work on the west. This will give us a large bone area providing there is anything. The cut will be about 10 or 12 feet deep on the north side or next to the point of the nipple. It is over 100 feet in length and over 20 in width.

The marl is pretty tough and gives the team about all they can handle. Have got the team down to a solid working basis, but deliver me from any more spoiled teams.

Regarding young Axtell Mr. Hatcher will say that so long as we are working to-gether he will do just what he is compelled to do, however when I am not with him he does absolutely nothing. Now from what experience I have had unless a man takes sufficient interest in his work to keep from being driven to it he is worthless.

This much I do know you would not tolerate him one single day. It is a disagreeable task for me to discharge him considering that you engaged him. He has told different parties that he was engaged for a year.

There is one thing certain unless he changes his style of work he will be a dead proposition to the Museum.

While he is a good natural young fellow, his sole object seems to be just to live with no thought or care for the future or the interests of those that employ him. Another thing I do not think it is his intention to remain with this work longer than he can find something more congenial to his taste.

We are having the finest of weather, and the entire out-fit in the best of health.

Allow me to congratulate you on the arrival of another daughter. My wife was granted divorce the 10th of Sept with possession of our youngest boy until further orders from the Court.

I retain the oldest boy and pay no alimony. This is not bad considering the fact I allowed the case to go by default.

Trusting you had a pleasant visit to old Yale

I am Yours

W.H. Utterback

Canon City, Colo., Oct 31st 1901

Mr J.B. Hatcher

Carnegie Museum

Dear Sir:

Enclosed find statement of expense acc't for Oct with bills so far as I could conveniently get them. For the future I think you will find that the expenses will be far less. Winding up the Marsh Quarry and buying plow and scraper, for the new work has made this months pretty heavy.

Mr. Hatcher we have completed the cut started on the south side of the "Nipple" and am sorry to say failed to get so much as a fragment of bone six inches in length. Am at present working on a cut of about the same dimensions on the north side of the "Nipple".

Now I do not wish you to think we are doing a half-way job of this prospecting for we are not. My aim is to thoroughly work the ground until satisfied there is nothing in it. Have met the two men that first discovered bones in that locality and worked the quarry for Cope for a number of years. They gave me considerable information regarding their find around the Nipple. The only things of importance were a few vert. just west of the "Ant hill".

They tell me that they worked the ground so long as there was any indications of bones. The best part of their collection came out of sandstone about two miles north-west of where we are camped. Should we fail to make any discoveries where we are at at present shall make the next stripping farther south at the base of Cottage rock. These men the Lucas Bros, tell me all of those fragments were on the surface when they worked the place.

After we have prospected this place thoroughly I wish to open up some other places found while prospecting.

The most promising one being about 3/4 of a mile south west of Cottage rock and on the slope of the hills toward Wilson Creek. It is at the extreme base of the Jura being only about 20 ft above the red Trias rock.

It is in a much lower horizon than the Marsh Quarry.

The character of the strata is about the same as in the bed of the creek at the bridge near Felch's ranch. Now while not wishing to create any false hopes will say this much however that the indications are far more favorable then I had one year ago. There are a large number of nice looking bones exposed in the ledge for a distance of perhaps 100 ft. The rock will be very hard to work, however hard rock assures good bones, as a general rule. Should after opening up this place we find that the bones run in there will not be so much stripping to contend with as at the Marsh Quarry. There is one thing Mr Hatcher if you decide for me to open up this place I want permission to employ some young man that is not afraid of hard work. Think I can get a good man for $25.00 through the winter months.

All is going well in camp -- with the finest of weather.

Mrs. Sarver sends her regards and says name the new girl Jessie and teach her to use Grape Nuts.

Yours, W.H. Utterback

Canon City, Colo., Nov 3d 1901

Mr J.B. Hatcher

Carnegie Museum

Dear Sir:

Yours of 24th Oct reached me yesterday. Mailed you receipt for the $150.00 received Oct 17th which has no doubt reached you. We are still plowing on the north side of Nipple and shall complete down to bed rock in another day or two. As yet no indications of bones. Shall put in this week in and around the Cope quarries and meeting with no success shall try another place. Think it best for the Museums interest to let Axtell out. He will not work. At times I let the team have a days rest and start him out prospecting and he will be back in camp before nine o'clock. It is too bad a young man having the opportunity he has to appreciate it no more than he does. I can make balky horses work, however draw the line on lazy men in the future.

Shall settle with him in full as soon as I hear from you. What are you paying him, and when is his month up. As I wrote you quite a lengthy letter the past week shall close, hopeing that I may soon be able to report better success.

Yours

W.H. Utterback

Canon City, Colorado, Nov 8 1901

Mr J.B. Hatcher

Pittsburg Pa.

Dear Sir:

I mail you to-day a small box containing bones that am interested to know what they are.

They are from horizon about 30 or 40 feet above the Trias just west of camp. Mr. Hatcher I have let Mr. Axtell out to-day as he is of no further use to me.

So long as I had plowing and scraping to do I could get a half way move on him, but at pick and shovel work or prospecting he is no good. He has asked me to stop in camp until he can hear if you wish him to come to the Museum. He takes his discharge good naturedly, and feel confident he realizes he has not done his duty as an employe of the Museum. As yet have found no bones of importance near the "Nipple". Should the next ten days uncover nothing shall commence on the rock-work. Shall put a young man in Mr. Axtell's place as soon as he is gone as we are cramped for room.

Settled with Axtell at the rate of $35.00 per month his month being up the 24th of Oct making one month and a half.

Hoping to have better success soon I am

Yours

W.H. Utterback

Canon City, Colo., Nov 25 1901

Mr J.B. Hatcher

Dear Sir:

Your letters of Nov 9th and 12th received also check for $100.00 for which I enclose receipt.

The fragments of skull were from the Jurassic about 30 feet above the Trias. They were found just west of our camp. Have 3 vertebrae (about 2 inches in diameter) in position found at the same place. It seems to be quite a deposit of small bones however can find no mammal teeth so far. Mr Hatcher I regret very much to have to report to you that our work upon the Cope quarries have resulted in a dismal failure.

It has not been for the want of hard work or energy on our part, but simply because the bones are not there. I made a stripping of 20 x 100 ft on the south side of the Nipple one of about the same dimension on the north side and failed to get even a fragment. At the old workings near Cottage rock we made a cut of 200 feet in length and from 10 to 20 feet in width to bed rock and found nothing but water worn fragments. I think that were you here in person and see the am't of work done and no returns you would think it a waste of time and money to continue it. In all have uncovered over 5000 square feet of surface with no returns.

Outside of what has been done in that locality have prospected several places with pick and shovel where we could not use plow and scraper and failed to find any-thing but fragments. Yesterday I taken up out of sandstone about two miles west of camp a nice femur in splendid condition. It is about 3 feet long and very slender. Marsh's description of Stegosaurus fits it very closely.

Have had a man helping me 8 days since Axtell left letting him out yesterday having nothing for him to do. Shall have to keep Mrs. Sarver until the 15th of next month on account of her house being occupied in town. I regret very much to let her out as she needs the money very much and has endeavored in every manner possible to economize and make camp life pleasant. It was with the expectation of having a winters job that she moved over here. Also she sent her boy East to school on the strength of this job and her expenses has been pretty heavy.

It seems a pretty tough deal to think with every convenience in the way of a good out-fit comfortable camp &c there can be nothing found to work upon.

There is one thing certain -- no man ever worked harder than I have the past year to make this thing a success. Have given every moment of my time to the work also have parted with quite a few hard earned dollars never charged up.

The sum and substance of the entire business is this, the small amount of Jurassic exposure in this locality has been prospected to a finish. The Lucas Bros worked here 5 years to say nothing of others.

Shall put in my time prospecting until I hear from you and if it is your wish to continue shall do so, or anything else you may suggest. Mrs. Sarver sends her kindest regards.

Yours

W.H. Utterback

Canon City, Colo., Dec 1st 1901

Mr J.B. Hatcher

Pittsburg Pa.

Dear Sir:

I enclose expense acc't for Nov with bills so far as I could get them conveniently. The cook has bought vegetables meat from farmers in the Park. You may think the grub bill pretty steep but I have had four pretty good appetites to look after and where everything is to buy $8.00 per stomache does not go very far.

Well I have not as yet found anything of any great importance. Am prospecting all the while waiting to hear from you.

Have portions of a small skeleton found in the Jurassic near the Trias or red beds. It shows several vert. and what looks to be the sacrum. The entire outfit will not weigh over 12 or 15 lbs. Should you wish it sent would not cost much by express.

As matters look at present shall move Mrs. Sarver in to the city about the 15th.

Yours

Utterback

Canon City, Colo., Dec 7th 1901

Mr J.B. Hatcher

Dear Sir:

Yours of 3d inst received this morning finding all well in camp. No one regrets so much as I do the failure to find bones.

There is if you remember a very small Jura exposure tributary to our camp and that has been thoroughly prospected time and again during the past 25 years.

Since I wrote you last have prospected early and late far and near with no success whatever. Wherever there are any indications someone has been there before me.

Do what you think best with me this winter if necessary to lay me off until spring do so. If you wish me to continue in this business a few months at the Museum would be well spent. Please give me full instructions in regards to the team and outfit as soon as possible. In event of your wishing me to dispose of it I might want a little notice so as to find a customer.

We are having our first storm of the season to-day.

Yours

W.H. Utterback

Dec 23- 1901

Mr Hatcher

Have loaded car to-day encloseing bill of lading.

Have received no pass from Chicago to Pittsburg. Wishing you a merry Christmas

I am

Yours

W.H. Utterback

Douglas Wyo, May 24 1902

Mr J.B. Hatcher

Pittsburg

Dear Sir:

Owing to heavy snow in the Laramie range could not go from Medicine Bow to Casper my most direct route. In coming by the way of the old Fetterman road to this place I had two and a halfs days travel that was pretty tough. Deep snow and mud if there was any bottom I failed to find it. Shall leave for the North tomorrow if all goes well. My team is looking fairly well however are very weak.

Have a good outfit when the team is in better shape. Hold my salary for this month until you hear from me again. Shall write you as soon as possible.

Yours

W.H. Utterback

Grueb Wyo, June 5 '92 ['02]

Mr J B Hatcher,

Dear Sir:

After the ups and downs that usually accompany such overland trips have finally established camp, for a few days at least. Am on Crazy Woman Creek 20 miles south of Buffalo on the Casper road. The cause of my delay on the road was because the mare was very heavy with foal and after driveing ten or fifteen miles she would play completely out.

She dropped her colt the first and I gave it to some ranch kids. The mare was the devil to catch and would not allow another animal near the wagon.

Have a first class outfit now and if bones are to be found am ready for work. Prospected yesterday and found one or two nice looking lay-outs in the Jurassic sandstone, similar to that at Canon.

There was one point regarding collecting that I wished to ask you before I left the Museum. Is it your wish for me to confine myself strictly to the Laramie or shall I take good bones wherever found regardless of formation. Now this place where I am at promises to turn out some nice things and have the appearance of being in good condition.

I shall work here until my team rests up a short time which will give time for you to write me. Shall write you as soon as I get the work far enough advanced to give you some idea of what I have. Suppose my expense acct for the past month will stagger you however can not help it. Send my wages for May to this place. Trusting the other boys are meeting with good success I am

Yours

W.H. Utterback

Grueb

Johnson Co. Wyo.

Grueb Wyo June 12 '92 ['02]

Mr J.B. Hatcher

Yours of 9th inst. received to-day containing salary and expense money and return receipts for same. Regret very much to hear of sickness in your family knowing what it means in every sense of the word. I trust however you will have better news to write me soon. Well Hatcher the finds in the Jura are too much of an undertaking for what is in sight. While I am convinced I would get some good things out of it shall look around the country some before commencing it.

The different formations at the base of the Big Horn Mts are very narrow and stand almost perpendicular. The Montana fields cover a space at least 15 miles in width extending as far east as Trabing on Crazy Woman Creek. The Laramie extends east from that and as far north as I have worked. Have been prospecting quite extensively since landing here.

I have hopes of better news to write you in my next, if not it will be a question of how long my enthusiasm will hold out. Perhaps rather how long will you care to put up expense money.

Well if I do my very utmost that is all any one can do.

Am often reminded of your remarks in regard to the Canon City quarry, that it is better to work where we know they are than to chase all over the country after them.

What it is costing me would do considerable work upon that place.

Shall keep expenses down to the very lowest notch possible and any time you say quit alfalfa is ready to cut.

If you want to throw any two outfits to-gether do so as that will make a saving. Shall write again soon.

Yours

W.H. Utterback

[Red-pencilled at top in different hand: Red fork of Powder river]

Kaycee Wyo June 28 '02

Mr J.B. Hatcher

Dear Sir:

Your letter was forwarded me from Grueb and regret very much to hear that little Alice was so low. Nothing could give me greater pleasure than to receive the news that she was on the road to recovery. Mr Hatcher after 25 days constant rideing and prospecting in the Laramie I quit it. When a man realizes that the best part of his season is going and has accomplished nothing he is liable to become desperate. I have no excuses whatever to offer. Have the best outfit ever sent out by any institution. Have been supplied with plenty of money consequently the blame must rest with me. Had I not worked early and late and done all in my power to make it a success I should feel badly over it.

On the 25th made quite a find in the Jurassic and moved camp and made preparations for a summers work in this locality. After gathering up a few fragments the rain commenced to pour and at present writing is still at it. If I am not mistaken I have a good thing. Have a large number of caudal vert in position in sight and several limb bones. The bones are in fine condition and in marl and can be worked almost free from matrix. Another skeleton has gone to pieces about 300 ft from the one I shall work upon. While a good portion of that has been washed away I think we will get many good limb bones from that also. Although have not looked the ground over I believe I have struck a good field for Jura fossils.

Have tried two men this month and neither of them worth a d--m.

I fully realize the mistake of only one man of experience going out alone expecting assistance from sheep herders. I fired my last man the 26th as you will see by expense acc't.

Am boarding with a ranchman and have my horses in pasture.

Have good board and am very convenient to my work. Pay $20.00 per month board and $4.00 per month for three horses. Shall remain here until such time as you come or wish to change the program. Of course a good man is needed very badly in this business as it is almost impossible for one man to work alone. I have small bones enough in sight to keep me busy until I hear from you. If you wish me to close this outfit give me instructions as to where you wish them taken. You need not send me any more expense money for when this is gone and I have accomplished no more than I have this month it is all off and I will fall in line with the sheep-herders.

You will be well repaid for a visit to this locality. For slides tilts upheavals and erosions this country would be hard to beat.

I only wish Mr Gilmore was with me as he has seen so little of the different formations and is so anxious to see thm. If he is not having good success send him up I will work under him. Fine water, plenty of trout and am eating the best of venison three times per day. Bear killed two fine milk cows night before last for a ranchman near here.

From Clearmont on the Burlington the mail runs daily to Buffalo and also from Sheridan the same.

From Buffalo to Kaycee, Mondays Wed and Fridays. From Kaycee to where I am at you can get transportation at the K C hotel distance 12 miles.

Utterback

Kaycee Wyo, July 3d 1902

Mr J.B. Hatcher

Dear Sir

Wrote you the past week giving the letter to a sheep-herder going to Buffalo. As my faith in that class of men is not very great am not sure he will mail it. Considering the weather have made good progress with my find. Have out 16 caudal vert. all in good shape to box. Am taking them up entirely free from dirt excepting small cavities. From the position in which the caudals were am satisfied we have the greater part of the skeleton. Have the sacrum and a large number of limb bones as well other vert &c. The bones are in good shape and easy worked out. Hatcher it is impossible for me to get a man of any kind in this country. Men are getting $40 to $50 per month herding sheep and men for ranches can not be had at any price. Now you know the difficulty in working bones with men that have had no experience and with no one it is worse. It is a question of your sending a man or of my covering up my work and quitting. I can do nothing alone.

It was my mistake in not remaining with Gilmore.

Have done no prospecting as I have plenty of work in sight for sometime. If you come here direct and can with-out too much trouble bring another 5# of gum with you.

Hoping all is well with you I am,

Yours,

W.H. Utterback

Address

Mayoworth, Wyo.

The mail route from that place to Barnum passes near my work and can get it 3 times per week.

Mayoworth Sept 20 92 ['02]

Mr J.B. Hatcher

Dear Sir:

Yours of 14th inst received yesterday and enclose receipts for Pittsburg check for $100.00. Regarding the receipt for the 100.00 you gave me in Aug will say that I am positive I enclosed you one in the letter sent to you at Adelia. Examine the envelope and if you fail to find it will send another. Owing to unexpected circumstances connected with my work have not the success to report you that I should wish. Work that I fully expected to accomplish in five or six days has taken me that many weeks. Of all the tough propositions I ever run up against, the stripping of my quarry lays over them all. I thought seriously at one time of giving it up and commence work upon other layouts. Were it not that the bones are in such splendid condition and all of one skeleton should feel very much discouraged. The first ten feet we can handle fairly well by blasting but it is the last three feet immediately above the bone horizon that causes the trouble. While the rock or marl is not very hard every pound of it has to be worked off with hammer and chisel, making it a slow tedious process.

I put another man to work about the 8th of this month and shall let him go the first of next month. Do not think it possible to work to advantage longer than the 15th of Oct on account of the weather. From the position in which the quarry lies the sun does not strike the bones before noon which gives little time for drying. We are having some very cold disagreeable weather for our business now. We have had several nights the past ten days that the ground froze hard and the mountains are covered with considerable snow.

If I remember correctly when I last wrote you was at work upon the sacrum. Since that time have taken out both ischia, another fibula a fine tibia, an astragalus, a great many vert of all kinds and have both scapula almost ready to box.

Bones continue to show up plentiful and I think we are in for the greater portion of the skeleton if the expense is not too great. Should like to get all I could this season however it is folly to attempt to buck against Wyoming weather in the mountains.

Enclosed find statement of August expenses. Have let you down light for the past month but have your smelling salts convenient when next comes in. Hoping you have fully recovered,

Am Yours

W.H. Utterback

Mayoworth Wyo Oct 1st 1902

Mr J.B. Hatcher

Dear Sir:

Enclosed find statement of Aug expenses with bills and receipts. Owing to the rock in the quarry getting so hard had to use powder and get other tools which has made unexpected expenses.

Both my men quit the 23d of Sept claiming to have an offer of $45.00 per month and a winter's work cutting timber in the mountains. From what I have learned since think they were under the impression that I would stand a raise. Perhaps it was just as well they did quit as we have had considerable bad weather and I have all the ground stripped that I can work out this season. Am ready to close down work at any time suitable to you.

Since writing you Sept 21st have boxed both scapula and taken out two cervicals, one caudal and one dorsal vert. Also have a very fine femur and the other humerus under way and several bones in sight. The weather is the most serious draw-back to work at present. When it is the least particle damp everything freezes up at night. I cover the bones with canvas and throw dirt upon them and manage to have them thoroughly dry before boxing. When notifying me to cease work give your letter time to reach me so as to allow me time. When your letter reaches Buffalo on Friday I do not get it until the following Tuesday evening. If you thought to work in this locality another season I could box up and leave tent tools and cooking outfit here and save almost a load to Buffalo. I would not leave the team with this man.

Hoping all is well with you,

Am Yours

W.H. Utterback

Mayoworth, Wyo. Oct. 7, 1902

Mr J B Hatcher

If my transportation is sent to you mail to Clearmont.

If you have ordered it sent to Mayoworth I can have same forwarded. Owing to the high prices of feed have made a deal with the Big Horn Transportation Co to haul my boxes from Buffalo to Clearmont. Hay is $20.00 per ton in Buffalo. Again there is a few pretty hard pulls on that road that a single team can do nothing with. As I have worked everything free from rock excepting vertebrae the total weight will not be much. I shall assist in handling the boxes and stay with them until in car.

After ten days of tough weather it has let up and is all "O.K." bone weather. If I thought it would remain like this should like to remain until the end of month. No let up on good bones. Since my letter of 1st have taken up two more cervicals a number of foot bones and have the other radius and one ulna almost dry. I hope you will give plenty of time for me to reach Buffalo and get my boxes to the road. Your last letter was 10 days in reaching me.

Yours,

W.H. Utterback

Mayoworth Wyo Oct 9, 1902

My Dear Mr Hatcher,

Yours of Sept 29 containing check for $50.00 just received and I enclose receipt for same. Will have my boxes at Clearmont on the 23d as requested unless some unknown cause prevents.

Shall take good care that no bones are left exposed.

Impossible to get the skeleton up this season as it will take two men six weeks or two months to make another stripping down to bone horizon.

Any communication after the 15th had better be sent to Clearmont as I shall have to give myself time to get to Buffalo and find place for team.

Utterback

Mayoworthe Wyo, Oct 14 1902

My Dear Mr Hatcher,

Yours of 6th inst was received and return receipt for Pittsburg check for $100.00.

Shall carry out instructions as to loading boxes if possible. Have accomplished very little in the bone line since I last wrote you owing to stormy weather. Commenced on the evening of the 9th and let up yesterday afternoon. Has left the roads in tough condition for a load of ten boxes and an extensive wardrobe like mine to get through to Buffalo. Have no doubts however but what shall be at Clearmont on time.

Yours

W.H. Utterback

Adelia Neb Oct 27 [no year, probably 1902]

Mr J.B. Hatcher

Dear Sir:

It will be necessary for you to exercise patience as I am compelled to do.

Owing to great rush of stock of all kinds to eastern markets the B and M are having more than they can handle.

There is 2000 cars of dead freight between Edgemont and Billings.

Seven hundred cars ordered for the Cody branch of the road.

I loaded out of Clearmont the 24th and have been at this place since 25th. Am doing my utmost to locate the car however can get no track of it to-day.

Will telegraph you when loaded.

The number of boxes here will hustle the car to hold them. C B and O car No. 24250.

As Adelia is a very pleasant place especially of windy days you can easily imagine the good time am having.

Yours

W.H. Utterback

Mayoworth Wyo May 19 1903

My Dear Mr Hatcher,

Finding my father much improved in health and other relatives busy at work did not tarry long in "Hoosierdom". Arrived at Clearmont the 8th reaching Red Fork the evening of the 11th. Commenced work on the quarry the 12th and am making good headway with the stripping. Good weather continuing shall be able to report result of our labor by the 1st of June.

The team as well as the outfit left with Beard were both in good shape.

The saddle was awaiting me at Clearmont. There was a carload of men from Mo shipped out to work on the B and M on my train out, and I captured one of them. He has so far proven to be a good worker however a little short on camp life experience.

Wyoming has had a severe winter and the loss of stock has been great. Many ranchmen fed all their hay and then turned out their stock to lose them.

A Mr Ross if I have the name correctly of the University of Chicago is very anxious to learn the exact locality of our quarry. He has written a friend of mine a business man of Buffalo asking many questions regarding same.

Now while I do not object to other parties in this locality there is a field just south of here that I want very much. Have been told of numerous finds down there.

Should you stop in Chicago and learn of any expedition to this country please inform me.

Wishing you a pleasant trip as well as one of success this summer I am

Yours

W.H. Utterback

Mayoworth Wyo June 1st 1903

My Dear Mr Hatcher

I enclose statement of expense acc't with bills for same so far as possible. Have had splendid weather for work since I reached here and have made good progress with the work. The result of our labor has given fair returns to date, however we are about all in for bones from quarry A as they are not there. To date I have 6 dorsal, 10 caudal both sternal bones and numerous foot bones, spines chevrons &c. Also have several bones that I have not worked out sufficiently to enable me to tell what they are. The past two days while my man was stripping on quarry A I have been at work on B or the lay out on the hill just above. It is I believe going to turn out some very fine bones.

Have uncovered some nice ones and several others in sight. Shall be able to give you more information soon.

Mr Hatcher I do not know your plans for my seasons work and am at a loss to know exactly what to do in event of bones playing out in this locality.

Shall I look up new fields regardless of your plans or shall I await orders.

You made mention of telegraphing me at one time just before I left. Will say there is no line running into Buffalo the nearest being Clearmont.

Hoping to hear from you soon and to hear that you are having an enjoyable trip,

I am

Yours

W.H. Utterback

Mayoworth June 4 [1903]

Mr Hatcher,

Yours of May 27th from Pittsburg just received.

Have suspended work upon quarry A as I am confident we have all of that skeleton we will ever get. The quarry on the hill is proving rich in bones.

Have made one small stripping and have out and in sight many good bones. Have all that I can do in this month in sight.

Have had the best of weather for work since coming out as we have lost only a half day in that time.

Do not think the bones in quarry B will be crushed as in A.

What I have taken up are very fine. Have out and in sight three ischia two pubes, and about fifteen vertebrae of different kinds as well as ribs &c.

Hoping to hear from you soon,

Am Yours

W.H. Utterback

[Attached is a diagram of quarries.]

Mayoworth June 30, [1903]

Mr Hatcher,

Yours of 22d inst just received and was pleased to learn you had made a successful trip. I enclose Junes expense acct and receipts for board and salary. While our board bill may appear steep to you I think it the better plan.

It would be impossible to get a man to cook and do the work I have at the quarry.

We have had some rather stiff work to do and more to follow.

Am having the best of success in quarry B and have taken out a great many bones the past month of all kinds.

There has been two skeletons and must say am unable to tell you what they are. Am getting a number of bones that fit the description Marsh gives Stegosaurus.

To show you the plan am working the quarry and the prospect for the future I send a rough sketch of the ground.

I made a cut from gulch to gulch at A and B and then stripped the ground down to within two feet of bone horizon from A B to C.E. Commencing work at X have taken out over one hundred bones out of not over ten feet square. Along the dotted lines the bones show up so thick as to be almost impossible to work. Where we made the cut at A and B the bones run into the hill in large numbers so shall have my man continue stripping while I work out what we have stripped. Have a good man with team or pick and shovel however cares no more for bones than a hog does for an acorn with a hole in it. Have had not time to prospect as I do not think I could better myself.

Shall take the team and some grub and put in about a week or two south of here sometime in July.

Yours

Utterback

Mayoworth Wyo July 28 1903

Mr J.B. Hatcher

Dear Sir:

Yours of 20th just received and in reply will say that while I am taking out a great number of bones, and many good ones, the results as a whole are entirely unsatisfactory. Have been thinking seriously of abandoning the quarry and look up other fields. One thing sure we can always return and work it as no one else will do so.

What I have taken out is a general assortment of two different skeletons.

One I am positive is Stegosaurus and the other cannot say. As I go into the hill many of the bones are badly crushed and broken. While one dislikes to give up bones in sight for uncertainties I honestly believe it policy to do so in this case, and after working out what we have we can always return. Have out 22 boxes 15 of which are in Buffalo and shall send the team in again the coming week.

To keep my man and self from starving to death was forced to establish camp for ourselves. Have put in a small stock of supplies in event of having to move.

Mr Brown of American Museum visited with me two days this week and informed me that Prof Osborn was very anxious to locate a new field in the Jura. Wanted to know if I objected to his prospecting near me. Told him to go ahead and should he fail to find anything I would sell out to him. He put in one day and finding nothing pulled out north for Mont.

Had a letter from Mr gilmore a short time since, in which he informed me he had as yet discovered nothing to speak of.

Hoping to hear from you soon I am

Yours

W.H. Utterback

Mayoworth Wyo July 31 1903

My Dear Mr Hatcher,

Having but a few minutes to write you when I answered yours of the 20th did not send my expense acc't for July which I enclose. Being under the necessity of starting our own camp and settling all bills to date has caused this month to run up pretty well. As I have considerable supplies on hand the end of Aug will even up matters somewhat.

My team was caught for six days between here and Buffalo on acct of rain and being at the mercy of the d--m road ranches they got in their work.

My man has gone in with another load and will send his receipt for this months salary when I write you again.

If the Dr has not returned in time to send my salary for July I will not have money enough to open a jack pot soon. I did not bring out any money of my own this season.

As I wrote you in my last I do not think it policy to continue the work at this place any longer and shall close by the 10th of Aug unless things looks more promising by that time. Should you have anything in view for me let me know if not shall prospect the country south of here. There is nothing in the immediate vicinity of this place as the formations are so limited that they are soon prospected. Shall keep in close touch with my mail until such time as I hear from you.

Yours

W.H. Utterback

Mayoworth Wyo Aug 6 1903

My dear Mr hatcher,

Yours of 1st inst containing check for 100.00 just received and enclose receipt for same.

Received my check for July also, and am on top for some time to come. Still digging away on quarry B getting some good bones and a few not so nice as I should like to get. All that I am takeing out just now evidently belong to the Stegosaurus skeleton of which I am getting a good part of. As I wrote you a few days since all particulars will close with best wishes for your success and good health.

Yours

W.H. Utterback

Sullivans Ranch Aug 12 1903

Mr Hatcher,

Yours of 8th received this evening and will say that I stopped work on Red Fork yesterday.

Am on my way to Buffalo with my last load of boxes.

Shall return tomorrow and bring my camp out-fit and keep directly toward Musselshell as you instructed in your letter. Just how long it will take me to reach there can not say however shall make good drives. Team in good shape and 10 days from Buffalo should find me there.

Should you leave for Pittsburg leave instructions as to work.

Yours in haste

W.H. Utterback

Willow Creek Mont Sept 1 1903

Mr J.B. Hatcher

Sir:

Enclosed find my expense acc't for August. Have no bills as the past months expenses were all more or less made while hauling my boxes to Buffalo and were made each trip. Have just completed takeing up all bones discovered in the vicinity of this camp and am prepareing to move. In addition to the bones you had uncovered of the Trachodon skeleton I have three metatarsal one metacarpal two caudals two ribs and two chevrons.

Worked out the ground stripped and then went several feet to the south.

Do not think there is any encouragment to work the quarry longer. Mr S has taken up the tibia that was discovered east of where you were working also discovered another tibia and small humerus in the same locality. The freighter engaged to haul the boxes went on a high old lonesome in Billings and just returned to musselshell yesterday.

He has promised to be out here to-day and load the boxes and I shall remain to see them properly loaded. Having the finest of weather for work and trust we shall find material to work upon.

Yours

W.H. Utterback

Sept. 4, 03

Mr. W.H. Utterback

Musselshell, Montana

Dear Mr. Utterback;

I wish you and Mr. Silberlling, before closing this fall would return to the place where he and I collected the parts of the curious armored dinosaurs and work the entire slope over carefully, save every fragment however small, begin at the very bottom of the slope, dig over the loose dirt on top, examine it very carefully and shovel it back until the rock in situ is entirely exposed and see if you can discover some portion of this skeleton still in place in the rock. This is an extremely interesting and important discovery and do not be afraid of spending too much time in working over the locality. A fragment or two of the skull might be of more value than the entire cost of a month's work. Dig all around the block of matrix near the base of the slope and if there is any considerable quantity of loose dirt beneath this block of sandstone, put in a blast and break the rock to pieces so that it can be removed, when the area underlying it can be examined.

After finishing in the region immediately about Nolan and Archer's ranch, I think it would be well for you to establish a camp three miles west and work the bad land area in that region, then I would like you also if you have time to move down eight or ten miles east of the Nolan and Archer ranch to what they call the Ragged Rocks and examine that country. There are also some splendid exposures of these beds on the Flat Willow region, about ten miles north of your camp which are well worth examining though I doubt if you will have time to do this, this fall.

Remember in connection with your work in this region that every thing you are getting is new to this museum and that nothing whatever is known excepting in a very fragmentary condition of the fauna of the beds in which you are working in any of the museums of the world and do not get discouraged. Of the hundreds of miles of exposures of the Judith River beds that I have examined during my trips up into that country I have no where seen fossils anything like so abundant as they are in the vicinity of Willow Creek. It is a chance to make a rich haul from the little known fauna and we want to do it.

I trust you will find Mr. Silberling an agreeable companion and one who is willing to work, he appeared to me to be so. Remember that he is entirely under your control and subject to you as he was given to understand and I fell [sic] sure that he will be willing and glad to take all your suggestions and instructions in a kindly spirit. I regret that I was unable to remain in camp until your arrival, but I had already delayed at least two weeks longer than I had ought to.

I arranged with Mr. Handel while I was in Billings that he would look after the shipping of the five boxes of material belonging to the U.S. Geological Survey stored at Nolan's ranch, but that you would see that they were loaded on the freight team that would take our other boxes to Billings and that you would pay the freight charges to Billings. Please obtain the receipt for the money paid for the freight on these boxes and send the same to me so that I can recover the same from the Geological Survey and return to our account. I have written to Mr. Douglass who is to close his fall work the last of this month, that on closing he will ship by freight, prepaid, and addressed to you at Billings his boxes and that you will see that they are loaded with the rest of the boxes at that point.

Wishing you every success, and with kind regards to yourself and the different members of your party, I am

Very truly yours,

J.B. Hatcher

Sept. 9, 03

Mr. W.H. Utterback

Musselshell, Montana

My dear Mr. Utterback;

Yours of September 1st, with state enclosures received. I am pleased to hear of your success, and that you are having such pleasant weather.

In my two previous letters, which you have doubtless received since writing me, I wrote you giving you rather full instructions as to what I wish you to do during the remainder of the season, and it is needless for me to repeat these instructions here.

I enclose check for $100, for which you will please return receipt. With kind regards, I am,

Very truly yours,

[J.B. Hatcher]

Enclosure

Musselshell, Montana

Sept. 14 1903

Mr. J.B. Hatcher

Dear Sir:

Your letter of 4th inst. also one of later date containing check for $100.00 for which I enclose receipt reached me to-day. Weather permitting your instructions will be carried out.

We finished up everything that we could find from your old camp and moved to the spring mentioned in your letter. To date we have out four boxes from that locality of very good material.

The boxes left here about the 2d of this month and were loaded in good shape as I was present to look after the loading of them. The freighter sent back word to Handel Bros that he had on 5700 which amount I refused to settle for as I am positive there was not over 3500 at the out-side.

Handel Bros have agreed to not settle with the freighter until such time as we can learn the true weight. Have given them the nos of the boxes and they will have someone in Billings weigh them.

As Mr. Silberling and myself only added about 400 to what you already had I know I am in the right in this matter.

This freighter has the reputation of being dishonest in fact he has proven himself so in his last trip.

Have requested Handel Bros to get receipt both for the U.S. boxes also our own which I presume he will do. Have found Mr. Silberling a very willing man as well as an agreeable one. His worst failing is a careless slip-shod manner of keeping tools and other things around camp. Suppose time will correct this however.

Mr. Hatcher I do not know your plans for closing the work this season, in fact it makes no difference to me at what particular time. The reason I have mentioned the matter my pass expires the last of Oct and judgeing from the time it required for me to get started the past season I will have to have considerable time. Again it takes time to get boxes from Musselshell to Billings as one freighter has quit the road leaving but one in the business. Our cook wants to quit the first of next month and I shall let him go as the mornings and evenings are so cool that Albert and I can do our own work.

Snowed all day yesterday and this morning the country was frozen solid. Hopeing to write you of success in my next

Am yours,

W.H. Utterback

Musselshell, Mont.

Sept. 20 1903

My dear Mr. Hatcher,

After working all of the exposures as far west as the fault in the beds taking everything of any value we commenced upon the ground of your discovery. Beginning abut ten feet below the large rock we worked the ground over very carefully as far south and up the gulch and north of the rock ten feet. After working around the rock we fund that it rested upon bed rock and did not have to remove it. For our trouble we found three more complete plates, and fragments of many others that no doubt will complete some of those you had previously discovered. Also parts of jaws or skull showing roots of dentition, and other fragments. Not feeling satisfied to give up so interesting discovery I thought it well to prospect farther up the hill. About 25 feet above the large rock I discovered another plate in position.

Opening up a place 20 feet in length and ten feet deep we have taken out 16 more complete plates 2 dorsal vert, 1 complete rib and parts of others. Also another bone that has put both Mr S. and myself as well as O.C. Marsh's Dinosaurs of America up a stump. Were it not a complete bone in every respect we might make allowances for erosion or crushing however we pass it up.

Of the 19 plates running in size from a twenty five cent piece up there is no two the same. If anything the dorsal vert are more of a puzzle than the plates as they are so entirely different from anything I ever saw. Even the complete rib we have is a curiosity in itself. I only wish Mr. Hatcher I could give you a more definite description of what we have. As our pleasures in this world are largely built upon hopes and expectations you will have to await the coming of the bones themselves. Regret to say that the prospects are very unfavorable for ever finding any more of this interesting skeleton. Where we left off digging there is a twenty foot solid wall of marl and sandstone to contend with. Do not ask me to tackle it this season as I have had all of that I want for one summer. We shall move north of Nolans ranch where there is a large exposure of these beds and where we have already located some good bones.

Yours

W.H. Utterback

Sept. 21, 03

Mr. W.H. Utterback

Musselshell, Montana

My dear Mr. Utterback;

Yours of September 14 with enclosed receipt received. I not what you say concerning the weight of the boxes as claimed by the freighter who sent them to Billings. You were quite right in refusing to pay for the amount demanded, as I am sure he has overcharged for at least two thousand pounds. It will, however, be easily possible to determine who is right in the matter, as the boxes will al have to be weighed before shipping.

I am glad you mentioned the matter as to the time of closing the field work, and return to Pittsburgh. I had quite forgotten that your pass expires on October 31st. I think if you make your arrangements to be in Billings on October 20th with all the boxes ready to load there this will give you ample time to have the car sidetracked at Claremont, where you can see to the loading of your boxes at that point and then proceed to Pittsburgh. From Chicago to Pittsburgh you will pay your railway fare, and I will remit to you the amount. Since I used, personally, the return ticket from Chicago to Pittsburgh this will give you an opportunity to go via Indianapolis and visit your folks, in case you desire to do so.

After closing work on Willow Creek I have made arrangements with Mr. Silberlling that he will return home and spend a month or two collecting in the region about his home before coming on to Pittsburgh. I shall write him today concerning this matter. Mr. Douglass has been instructed to close up his work on or before September 30th and to ship all his boxes to you at Billings, Montana, freight prepaid, so that his boxes will have been received at Billings in ample time to be loaded with yours. Please write me on receipt of this letter informing me as to the amount of money you will probably need to complete all your arrangements and return to the museum, that I may remit in due time. Wishing you success, I am,

Yours very truly,

[J.B. Hatcher]

Sept. 24, 03

Mr. W.H. Utterback

Musselshell, Montana

Dear Mr. Utterback;

If possible before returning to the museum, I wish you would pack some five or six old buffalo skulls and ship them with the fossils. Mr. Webster wants them for the mounting of a group of buffaloes here in the museum. Get as good skulls as you can, but it does not batter if they are imperfect. I remember two at the Nolan & Archer ranch that are very fair and I have no doubt they would be quite willing for you to take them, I also remember others lying about in the neighborhood.

I wish you would bring personally with you any portions which you may be able to find, of that plated Dinosaur which I discovered while there, and about which I have already written requesting you to make further search for the remainder of the skeleton.

Very truly yours,

[J.B. Hatcher]

Sept. 28, 03

Mr. W.H. Utterback

Musselshell, Montana

My dear Mr. Utterback;

Yours of September received, and I am greatly interested and delighted in all that you tell me concerning the success which attended your work on the excavations for the new armored Dinosaur. I wish you would have all this material packed in a light, but strong box and express it to me when you go to Billings to attend to the shipping of the other material.

A letter from Mr. Handel informs me that the five boxes of government material were duly shipped after considerable trouble as our friend, the freighter, who conveyed them to Billings had gone on another spree, and they had great difficulty in locating the boxes.

In a previous letter I have written you concerning the closing of the work and your return to the museum, and this you have doubtless received. You will make arrangements to leave the team, wagon, harness and camp outfit, for the winter with some responsible party.

Trusting you are having your usual good success, I am with best regards to Mr. Silberlling,

Yours very truly,

[J.B. Hatcher]

Musselshell Montana Oct 1st 1903

Mr J.B. Hatcher

Pittsburg

Dear Sir:

Your letter of 21 and 24th just received and contents noted. I enclose statement of September expense acc't with receipts for same. Through the kindness of Handel Bros we have finally settled the box trouble with the freighter. He had unloaded a part of them at one of the passenger depots and all trace of them was lost until Mr Handel made a trip to Billings and located them.

The 50 cts charged to drayage in my acc't was for transfering them. This amount should be added to the U.S.G.S. acc't as it was those boxes that were misplaced. While the am't in weight is more than I supposed I presume it is correct as the enclosed receipt from the warehouseman will show.

It takes money to get fossils in this section of Mont however they are fine when we do get them.

You ask me to give you an estimate as to amount of money needed to complete the seasons work and return to Pittsburg.

This is a difficult thing for me to do for this reason. In a letter just received from Mr Douglas he informs me he has just shipped me his boxes freight unpaid. He does not give me the number of boxes weight or anything that I can form any idea as to what I shall have to pay.

We have on hands at this place 10 boxes that weigh 2040 which will cost about $15.00 to Billings. I have a half a car at Buffalo that will cost me fully $30.00. Mr. Silberlings salary. My fare from Billings to Sheridan and Chicago to Pittsburg and such expenses as we will have from now until the 20th of this month. We have considering the am't of bad weather in the past month had fairly good success. Have taken out 14 boxes and most of it good material. Many places where prospects looked very favorable and upon which we expended considerable labor proved to be no good. Do not think any other parties will find very much in the ground we have worked over.

We moved camp about 3 miles north and 3 miles east of Nolans ranch. There is large exposures as far east as Ragged Rocks 18 miles distant. We found plenty of material to work upon and far more than we can take up this season.

Mr Silberling has taken out a sacrum with 8 sacral vert in fairly good condition.

He has also been at work upon a series of caudal vert of perhaps 30 in sight. He has taken up eleven in one block and the rest will have to remain for this season as there is a great deal of rock to remove before taking out the others. When he left off digging there was at least 18 or 20 vert in sight and one pubis. We have covered up the quarry in a good manner and should you wish to work out the remainder you will find them in good condition. In addition to these two specimens he has found numerous limb bones and other odds and ends. Do not misunderstand me and think the above two specimens are of the same skeleton. That is the most discouraging thing about these beds the bones being so badly scattered.

I have taken out a very nice sacrum of 8 vert which I think will work out in good shape. Also have taken out what I think will prove to be an almost complete skull of dinosaur. Being dis-articulated and not wishing to work off the matrix too closely cannot tell just what I am short if any. The dentition resembles that of Clayosaurus somewhat. I taken out a pair of lower jaws above Nolans and the dentition is the same as in this skull.

Shall get the Buffalo skulls as directed. Cannot see my way clear to your new discovery material as it weighs too much to bring as baggage. Four of the bones I would not attempt to bring in any manner unless with the carload.

Mr Hatcher to get what we collect from now until quitting time to the road it will be necessary to take my own team and leave the camp-outfit here. Do you not think it a good plan to box everything in good shape and leave here and if necessary could have it shipped to Billings in the Spring unless you need it here.

The amount saved in our fares from here to Billings via Junction City would pay our expenses as well as that of the team also permit of our getting our last boxes to the road.

Also would have the team convenient for next seasons work providing you wished to have a party in Mont.

Please advise me regarding this matter as soon as convenient. Shall try and get my mail about the 12th of this month. We do not travel the Nolan road from our last camp so do not address me at that place.

If you will pardon me for this lengthly letter will promise to do so no more.

Yours

W.H. Utterback

Oct. 5, 1903

Mr. W.H. Utterback

Musselshell, Montana

My dear Mr. Utterback;

Yours of October 1st received, and I am glad to hear of your continued success. Hope the skull will prove to be complete. I am sorry that the skeleton upon which Mr. Silberling has been at work cannot be finished this year, but you can leave it for next year's work.

I note what you say concerning the arrangements for closing work this fall and quite agree with you that it would be best to take our own team to Billings with the load when you close on or before October 20th. You can box the tools and camp outfit, tents etc., and leave them at Musselshell and I have no doubt that you can make quite as good arrangements to have the team cared for at some ranch near Billings as at Musselshell. However, I leave this all in your hands and trust it to your own good judgment.

You are not very explicit as to the sum of money needed, but I see you still have a balance of something over $45 on October 1st. Adding your figures of $15 and $30 as the amounts necessary for transporting your collections from Musselshell and Buffalo to the railway, adding $40 for Mr. Silberling's salary, due on October 12th, $25 as the probable freight on Mr. Douglas' collections and $25 as necessary railway expenses, this would make in all $135, I therefore enclose you check for $100, which together with the money you still have on hand, will, I hope cover all your necessary expenses in closing work and returning to Pittsburgh. However, you will keep, as heretofore, an itemized account of your expenses, and should it over-run the amount I will pay you upon your arrival here.

One day last week I gave Dr. Holland the necessary data as to the securing of a car for our collections, requesting that it be placed at our disposal at Billings, Montana on or before October 20th, there to be loaded with such material as we have at that place, then taken to Clearmont, Wyoming and side-tracked there to receive the boxes collected by you early in the season.

I note what you say concerning Mr. Douglas' failure to prepay the freight on his boxes, or to give you the number or weight of same, a letter from him, dated October 1st, as Missouli, Montana explains why he did not pay the freight. The agent at the shipping point was either unable or unwilling to tell him what the amount of freight would be, I do not see, however,why he did not write you or me as to the number of boxes, so that we might know that none were lost in transportation, before signing the receipt for same on receiving them at Billings from the Northern Pacific Railway. I will write him at once at Medford, Minnesota, where he now is, asking him to write you giving the desired information.

You had better close your work in ample time so that you can be at Billings with all material not later than October 20th.

Congratulating you upon your splendid successes during the season now drawing to a close, I am,

Very truly yours,

[J.B. Hatcher]

Enclosure

Oct. 8, 03

Mr. W.H. Utterback

Musselshell, Montana.

Dear Mr. Utterback;

As soon as you know the number and initials of your car at Billings, please write me the same so that we may make arrangements for its transportatioon from Chicago to Pittsburgh.

Yours very truly,

[J.B. Hatcher]

Musselshell Mont., Oct 13 1903

Mr J.B. Hatcher

Dear Sir:

Your card also letter of Mr Stanton just received and shall attend to the matter. Have closed work for the season however was compelled to leave some very fine things for the want of time. Owing to bad weather and heavy work, boxes have not accumulated very rapidly during Oct. We brought in six more boxes five of fossils and one of heads for Bro Webster.

Since I wrote you last we have out five femuri one tibia and other smaller matter. There is two pair of femuri that are valuable for comparison if nothing more. Both pair are about 4 ft 3 in in length, the one being heavy and massive and the other quite the contrary.

From where the tibia was taken there is some four or five good bones in sight running into the bank.

Near this place there is a sacrum with the posterior end exposed and at least 20 vertebrae in position going into the sandstone.

As our time was limited and there being considerable rock to remove we had to leave them.

Have made arrangements with a freighter to take our boxes to Billings leaving tomorrow. Have concluded to leave the entire outfit here as the cost of feeding our team would pay for all we could haul with a single team.

We have 16 boxes in addition to 3 which we sent in with yours. They weigh 3500 lbs.

Mr S and myself will go with the freighter and save about $12.00. Would just as soon be on the road as waiting in Billings. My boxes in Clearmont weight 8865 lbs.

If I can break away from Handle Bros and have a few dollars left shall come out all "O.K.". Talk about trusts, monopolies and cinches.

Should I not have to wait on car can get away from Clearmont by the 25th or earlier. If my father has not improved since I last heard from him shall remain with him for awhile.

You can either deduct the time lost or let me go as you see fit. Deposit my salary for Oct in Oakland bank and hold my mail until you hear from me again.

If I have to remain at home any length of time will send my October acc'ts as well as a list of all fossils collected.

Will drop you a line when loaded in Billings also from Clearmont.

Yours

W.H. Utterback

Billings, Montana Oct 19- 1903 11 A.M.

Mr Hatcher,

Arriving here too late Saturday to do business with the railroads was forced to wait until to-day to load.

The car leaves at ll:30 this morning and no delay will reach Clearmont before I do as I can not leave until to-morrow morning.

The Agents have both been very courteous in their treatment and the B and M agt went so far as to wire the Division Supt at Sheridan to rush the car through.

Being personally acquainted with Mr Gillette at Sheridan I will have ample time to see him tomorrow.

There is 82 boxes in all with a total weight of 20445. Car initials W and K No. 1074.

With the finest of weather it is with regret I leave the bright sunshine and pure air of the west for the stuffy overcrowded East.

Shall drop you a line with loaded out of Clearmont.

Mr. Douglas wished me to send him freight bills of books and fossils from Missoula. Will you kindly hand them to him.

Yours

W.H. Utterback

Oct. 19, 03

Mr. W.H. Utterback

Clearmont, Wyoming

My dear Mr. Utterback;

Yours of October 13th written from Musselshell, Montana has been received, and am much pleased with the success which you report. A letter received two or three days ago by Dr. Holland from President Harris of the Burlington states that our request for a car had been granted and that the same would be placed at your disposal at Billings on or before the 20th of this month, so I hope you have not been delayed in Billings in the securing of a car for loading. Mr. Harris also stated that this car after loading in Billings would be side-tracked at Clearmont and received your collections made there. In anticipation of your having left Billings before the arrival of this letter I will address you at Clearmont.

I note what you say concerning the disposition to be made of your October salary and mail, and shall be pleased to attend to both of these matters for you.

I trust you will find your father in improved health upon your visit and that you will feel at liberty to stay with him as long as the necessity of the case, in your judgment, required.

Hoping to see you at your earliest convenience in Pittsburgh, I am,

Very truly yours,

[J.B. Hatcher]

Clearmont Wyo Oct 21 1903

Mr J.B. Hatcher

Dear Sir:

Arriving at this place yesterday afternoon I loaded the car out so as to leave sometime during the night.

There is 32 boxes of Judith River material 21 of Mr Douglas of fossils and books, and 29 of Jurassic.

Do not think there will be any trouble in separating the boxes as the Judith River material are all marked J.R. Mr Douglas can easily pick out his. The boxes from here are all in the centre of car.

Loaded them all with care and nothing short of an accident will prevent them reaching destination all "O.K.".

I gave you no. of car from Billings however will give them again. Car initials K & W (Keokuk and Western) No. 1074.

This is a part of the C B and Q [?] system.

Yours

W.H. Utterback

Franklin

Johnson Co. Ind.

[No Date] Thursday noon

Mr J.B. Hatcher

Sir:

Yours of 10th inst received to-day. The man is all O.K. so far. Have everything boxed up in good shape to-date. Will get the sacrum boxed this week. We are the right ilia short, however have hopes of yet finding it.

The ischia were about four feet from sacrum and as there are plenty of bones in sight may get it. Have taken out several vertebrae chevrons and numerous small bones.

Have one fine sternal bone complete and different from anything Marsh gives.

Do not think we can call this Diplodocus as it differs too much from anything yet described.

Have the man stripping rock and as soon as the sacrum is boxed will start plow and scraper.

Regards to Peterson and Van Kirk.

Yours,

W.H. Utterback

Warren, Wyo.

Apr 30, 1904

Dr. W. J. Holland

Carnegie Museum

Dear Sir;

Yours of 18th inst reached me the past week and regret to hear there is no let up in the work and worry for you since Founder's Day. Try a good long vacation, trusting the work to others. Considering the weather we are doing fairly well in the field work. Am gathering up some of the odds and ends discovered the past season. As soon as the weather becomes more settled shall open up some of the larger layouts.

In enclose statement of monthly account which, as usual when first starting out is rather large. I was compelled to purchase new tent, stove, etc. which counts up rather fast. As we have in a load of supplies my cash account will be sufficient for present.

I notice in the Telegraph Chronicle of the 18th inst. our progressiveness is becoming an eye sore to the Library people. Ask them to vacate the building entirely and we will build up a museum to the Queen's taste.

Trusting I shall have better news to write you soon,

I am sincerely

W.H. Utterback

Musselshell, Mont. May 24 [1904]

My dear Mr. Hatcher.

Arrived at this place the evening of 16 inst and have been riding every day since. Have been all over the country north and north east of here for 60 miles.

The only Judith beds are those on Willow creek and the ones we were working upon the past season. I prospected the beds about 10 miles north of Nolans ranch and found them almost barren.

Our camp will be about 15 miles east on the continuation of those same beds. Was compelled to lay in Junction two days owing to my baggage going astray at Chicago.

During the time I had at that place devoted my time in prospecting the Laramie meeting with much encouragement in the Ceratop beds.

Discovered a large part of two different skulls that encouraged me to believe we may find others.

Employed a young man yesterday and loaded wagon with supplies expecting to make camp on Mud Creek to-day. Rain has been coming down in torrents for 24 hours and still continues. Silberlings bed arrived on stage the past evening and presume he is coming overland. Shall send in my monthly expense acct as soon after the first as convenient.

Trusting yourself and family are enjoying good health I am,

Yours

W.H. Utterback

June 4, 04

Mr. W.H. Utterback

Musselshell, Montana.

Dear Mr. Utterback;

Yours of May 24th received. I am glad to hear of your progress and that you received some encouragement from the two days spent in the Laramie about Junction City. At present, however, I should prefer that you devote your attention to the Judith River beds, later however should this formation seem to be exhausted in the region in which you are at work you may devote your attention to the Laramie.

By a letter received from Mr. Silberling I presume that he is now with you. I have just returned from a ten days visit to Washington. Everything here goes as usual. The Diplodocus skeleton is rapidly assuming form in the Exposition building, and we shall, I think, have the mount complete by the 1st of July.

Yours truly,

[J.B. Hatcher]

June 14, 04

Mr. W.H. Utterback

Musselshell, Montana

Dear Mr. Utterback;

Yours of May 6th with stated enclosure received. I am glad to hear of your success in the Judith River beds and hope it will continue. Albert wrote me from Melville that he would mail such collections of small teeth that he secured in that region before leaving, since I have received nothing further from him I will write to inquire what he did with these collections.

I trust your success will continue in the Judith River beds, but if it does not you may turn your attention to the Laramie.

Everything in Pittsburgh is going along as usual. They have now nearly completed the work of excavating for the new building and the actual process of construction is under way. The mounting of our skeleton of Diplodocus in the Exposition building is rapidly nearing completion and in two weeks more it will be an accomplished fact. I returned a little over a week ago from a nearly two weeks visit to Washington. Mr. Prentice has also returned. Mr. Gilmore will be with us again on July 1st.

Hoping to hear from you again as to your success, I remain,

Yours very truly,

[J.B. Hatcher]

Miles City Mont June 26 1904

My dear Mr. Hatcher,

After days and days of hard driveing and many miles of hard riding I have come to the conclusion that your argument regarding the working of quarries where bones are known to be is about correct. We worked the Judith River until I felt confident it was a losing proposition and for the past two weeks have been prospecting the country between the Yellowstone and Musselshell rivers as far east as this place. While we met with many encouraging prospects we failed to find anything worth taking. I hope however from present prospects to report to you soon of better success. Presume you had written me at Musselshell however have had no opportunity of getting mail to date.

Shall be settled in a few days and write you more fully. The material we got from the Judith River is at Custer station. Also your tent and camp out-fit is boxed and left with the Agent at that place with your name upon it in case of your wanting it just write the agt.

Please hold my salary until you hear from me again.

Yours,

W.H. Utterback

Powderville, Montana July 1 1904

Mr. J.B. Hatcher

Although I have no good news to report in the fossil line I can still manage to send in an expense acc't. Have not paid Albert for June for the want of funds.

He does not need it consequently can pay him later on. Mr. Hatcher it seems as though we were up against a hard proposition this season to make a showing for our summers labor.

Never have I seen better fields for fossils or met with more encouragement than we have since starting in the Laramie. We can find everything from large skulls to the smallest of bones yet can find nothing worth saving. You must not think we are going over the ground hastily or leaving anything of value. We work each stream systematically and thoroughly satisfy ourselves before leaving a locality.

If I accomplished nothing more this season I have learned a good lesson that is to remain in a good fossil country when there.

We are at present prospecting down Powder river toward Terry. About 50 miles down the river from here a party found some very fine bones and brought them to Miles City where I saw them.

Unless he is like all Montanians, good liars, bones must be plentiful in that locality. If we find nothing in this section of the country am ready to vote Montana on the bum in the fossil line. Shall devote the next ten days to prospecting and finding nothing it is up to you to say what we shall do. Write me at Miles City and as I am between two stage lines can get my mail almost any-time. If it is left to my judgment I shall either be in Wyo by the 15th of the month or on my road to the Mouth of the Musselshell river. Going North I cover the ground that you have been over and the American Museum was over the past season. Going to Wyoming throws me away from this Rail road that we have our return passes over. Going North we will have to freight our bones should we find any fully 150 miles.

Mr. Hatcher, If my salary has not been sent I wish you would send my boy $15.00 to the address I enclose. The balance send in money order to me at Miles City. If you have sent me money to Musselshell it is in Miles and I shall have it next week.

I spoke to Albert regarding the mammal teeth and he left them at home with instructions to be sent to you later on. Having the finest of weather for work and it is rather discouraging to think the time is passing so rapidly and nothing doing.

Shall expect to hear from you soon and any suggestions you have to offer will be readily accepted.

Yours,

W.H. Utterback

Miles City, Mont. July 12 1904

W.J. Holland, Director

Carnegie Museum

Dear Sir;

Your message received yesterday informing me of the death of Mr. Hatcher was a sad blow indeed. Having been the warmest of friends for many years and associated with him in this work under the most trying of circumstances I feel his loss more than words can express.

I had received no word from you of his illness therefore was unprepared for such painful news.

The loss to science and to our institution will never be fully realized until an attempt is made to replace the position he so ably filled.

In your letter of 8th inst just received you state that you had written me also enclosing my salary for June. Also you evidently are under the impression that Mr Hatcher had remitted me a check for two hundred dollars that you had given him.

Neither of those letters have been forwarded to this place and if now at Musselshell the fault of this tangled state of affairs rests with the Postmaster at that place. On or about June 10th I wrote Mr. Hatcher that my work in that locality was almost completed also wrote him again from this place June 21st requesting him to hold my salary until he heard from me again. In the meantime have written to the P.M. at that place on two different occasions to forward my mail therefore can not understand why I should not have received them. Have written to Musselshell again to-day, and perhaps time will set things all "O.K.", again. Most undoubtedly had your letter reached me should have reported to you as directed. Regret very much that I have no good news to write you from our efforts in this locality.

I still have hopes of yet finding something good before the close of the season and am working early and late in that direction.

Shall report to you as often as I can conveniently.

Leave for the mouth of the Musselshell to-morrow.

Received money from Mr Stewart for which I enclose receipt.

Most truly yours

W.H. Utterback

Kismet, Mont.

Jordan Montana July 24 1904

W.J. Holland

Carnegie Museum

Dear Sir;

As yet have no good news to report you of our success, however the prospects are more encourageing than at any time since staring out. We prospected all streams emptying into the Musselshell river from Junction City to the mouth of the river. While we found plenty of Laramie there is overlying it some five or six hundred feet of barren sand stone and shales. We are at present working the streams that empty into the Missouri river below the mouth of the Musselshell. The country is very rough and much cut up by erosion thereby giving greater exposures of fossil bearing ground. I sincerely hope to have better news to send you by the first of Aug or soon after.

Your letter containing salary for June sent to Musselshell has not reached me however have written to have same forwarded to this office. The young man that I have with me this season Mr. Silberling is not going to return to the Museum. As soon as field work closes or when I am through with him he will return to his home and take charge of his mother's ranch. Perhaps it is just as well that he does this as Mr Hatcher was not very well pleased with his work in the Laboratory the past winter. Mr Hatcher asked me to give him another trial in the field and if there was no improvement over the past season to let him go at any time I thought proper to do so. While he is rather pleasant companion in the field I have given up all hopes of making a collector of him. He is very careless in all things and has to be continually watched.

Unless we are successful in discovering something soon I should like very much to bring this expedition to a close sending in my resignation at the same time. I have worked early and late hard and faithful the past two months however fate is against me. We have a large country to prospect over the next two weeks and shall get my mail at this point during that time.

Should it be your wish for me to close the work kindly give me instructions as to disposal of team, outfit, etc.

Most truly

W.H. Utterback

Jordan, Dawson Co. Mont.

Jordan, Montana

Aug. 4 1904

Dr. W.J. Holland

Pittsburg, Pa.

Dear Sir:

Your letter of July 1st with enclosed check for June salary was received to-day. Enclosed find receipt for same. Have also just received check for two hundred dollars from our late Curator Mr. Hatcher. Not knowing the law in such matters have endorsed the check payable to your order and you can send me your check in return for expense acc't.

I enclose statement of expenses for July with bills so far as able to get them. In traveling through the country as we have been the past two months there is many little items of expense that it is impossible to get bills for at all times.

Am pleased to report to you that there has been a turn in the tide of fossil affairs since my last letter. During the past ten days have taken out an almost complete Ceratops skull as well as some good Claosaurus material.

The skull is somewhat crushed however, as the bone is in good condition feel confident it will be made a good exhibition skull. The one or two parts missing can easily be replaced with extra material that we have taken from other skulls. It is about 7½ or 8 feet in length and have both lower jaws as well as a perfect predentary. The dentition is good in one upper and one lower jaw.

Considering the scarsity of good material in the Laramie I think we are fortunate to get it.

Prospects are very favorable for other good material in this locality.

There is two brothers near where I am at work that discovered a Claosaurus skeleton in the Laramie sandstone about one year ago. They have worked down the rock until they have the vertebral column exposed for about 26 feet. There is as they claim a good showing for the entire skeleton. They wish to dispose of it and have written to all the Museums in the country. The American Museum of New York has offered them one hundred dollars for it as it is or three hundred providing the skull is found with the skeleton.

Now if it is in the condition parties tell me it is that have seen it we could advance the first price a few dollars and take our chances on the skull. I have been so busy since arriving here that I have had no time to examine it. Of course would make no deal for it with out your advice. Hopeing to have good success to report in the future

Am yours

W.H. Utterback

Jordan, Montana August 10 1904

W.J. Holland

Carnegie Museum

Pittsburg

Dear Sir;

Yours of 1st inst encloseing salary for July just received for which accept thanks. Enclosed find receipt for same. I must confess that it was the news of the death of Mr Hatcher added to two months hard unsuccessful labor looking for fossils that completely discouraged me that caused me to suggest the ending of my bone career.

Have the good news to report you of another Ceratops skull far superior to No 1.

No 2 is absolutely perfect in every respect excepting the lower jaws which are missing. While skull no 2 is not so large as no 1 it is far more valuable as an exhibition piece. It is about 6 1/2 feet in length and perfectly symmetrical. Am doing all of the work of prepareing for boxing and shipping myself therefore taking no changes on so valuable specimen. If I have accomplished nothing more this season have found Laramie fields that we can draw upon another season.

The parties having the Claosaurus skeleton have found the skull in almost position with the cervicals.

This gives them the entire vertebral column and skull.

They have also all of the pelvic bones and a few limb bones exposed. Mr Brown of the American Museum is in this locality and has made them an offer of $300.00 for it.

Mr Silberling demands an increase in salary to $50.00 per month after Sept 1st also a vacation of 15 days.

Now as I know nothing of any agreement of this kind I await your advice. So far as his work goes I have had numbers of men that were more satisfactory at $40.00 er month. Owing to a protracted drouth of three months we are working at a disadvantage for want of water for ourselves and stock. Many streams and water holes have dried up and we have to camp a long distance from our work. The team and out-fit I have is the best that was ever sent inn the field and should you wish to send out an expedition next season it would be folly to part with them.

My address will be Jordan for this month.

Yours,

W.H. Utterback

Jordan Mont.

Aug 22 1904

W.J. Holland, Director

Carnegie Museum

Dear Sir:

Enclosed find receipt for two hundred dollars for check received in your letter of 11th inst. I thank you for same, as it takes money to live even in the west as well as Pittsburg. I question very much if you would have enjoyed camp life with us the past month.

Have been camped on Hell Creek and found it every-thing its name implies, in the way of bad water and other disagreeable features. This is one of the roughest parts of Mont and is an ideal fossil country providing there was water so that we could work. Many places we cannot prospect for want of it.

Have just finished takeing up and bringing out to Jordan the skull I mentioned in my last letter. Being imbedded in decomposed sand-stone it was necessary to remove all matrix. In takeing up and boxing this skull have used my very best judgement and feel confident with fair treatment from the rail-road people will reach Pittsburg in good shape.

Should it do so I believe it will be the first complete skull sent in whole and free from all matrix. While it is a very fine specimen my wish is that it had been somewhat larger, being only 6 1/2 feet in length. As I wrote you before it is perfect with the exception of the lower jaws.

The past winter I worked out in the laboratory a pair of jaws and predentary bone that I think will fit.

To get this skull out to traveled road had to do considerable road building which has taken time. One singular feature of the beds from which we have taken these skulls is the want of all skeleton material. In a space of one mile square there is evidences of at least fifty skulls that have become exposed and eroded away and yet we have been unable to discover one other bone of the skeletons.

We are at present doing some hard prospecting and hope to yet find something of value.

Can do nothing with the parties having the Claosaurus skeleton.

They imagine this to be the only country in the world in which such things are found and place an exhorbant price $1,500 upon it.

Hopeing to have good news to write you soon,

Am yours

W.H. Utterback

Jordan Montana

Aug 25 1904

W.J. Holland

Carnegie Museum

Dear Sir:

Your letters of 16th and one of later date just received.

In reply to your question as to the exact location of Jordan will say that as the country is unsurveyed it is a hard question to answer. It is one hundred miles North west of Miles City freight road and 140 mail route.

Takes three days by mail route to reach it and the worst of conveniences for travel.

The bone fields are 35 miles North of Jordan and in the roughest part of Montana. For the want of water have had to close work in that locality for the present. While I have located many good things it is impossible to do anything with them until there is some heavy rains to fill up water holes.

Have had no rains in this section of Montana since early in June. Can do nothing with the parties having the Claosaurus skeleton. They have it covered with three feet of dirt and will not uncover it for inspection unless I give them their price.

From parties that have seen it I understand they have broken it up badly and wish to sell a "pig in a poke".

Am satisfied that in time we will get this material as very few other parties will go in a country like this.

Should you wish a letter to reach me address to Miles City in care of First Nat Bank.

Mail lines run all directions from that point once a week and I can get them easily.

Yours,

W.H. Utterback

Miles City Mont

Sept 1 1904

W.J. Holland

Dear Sir:

Owing to the size of my boxes and the character of the freight road from Jordan to Miles was compelled to have a freight outfit bring the fossils from Hell Creek. Also had to ship the Judith River collection to this place to get them to-gather.

As you will see by my expense acc't fossils come high from the Laramie. The time has come when good things are not to be found within a stones throw of the rail-road. As I wrote you in my last letter the want of water has become a serious problem to the few settlers in that section of Mont. There is a splendid field for the Carnegie Museum to get many good things from that locality, however it will have to be done earlier in the season. It is to be regretted I did not discover those beds early in the season as I could as well have had a car load as the five or six thousand pounds I have. There is one satisfaction however what I have is a No 1 and well worth the money it has cost. My pass over the Northern Pacific expires the 30th of this month. Should I discover anything good in the meantime will have to have it renewed. Address me at this place in care of First Nat Bank.

Yours

W.H. Utterback

Powderville Mont.

Sept 8 1904

W.J. Holland

Dear Sir:

Since the first of the month have traveled about 175 miles prospecting different streams and localities where water can be had. The most promising field discovered is on the head of East Fork of little Powder river. There are many fine prospects and the beds are exact duplicate of the Wyo Laramie.

I could bring nothing out with me as the roads are such that it is all a single team can do to handle the camp outfit and tools. The only way to work that locality is to put in considerable time and get out a sufficient quantity as an inducement for some large freight outfit to come after. Again the shipping point will have to be at Belle Fourch on the Burlington.

There is no question but what the Hell Creek fields and those just found will furnish plenty of Laramie material. It is to be regretted that I could not work longer in the upper country, however the water problem has become a serious affair in Mont.

I shall be in Miles City by the 25th therefore you can make such arrangements as regards shipping as you wish.

There will not be over 6000 pounds all told, however some of the boxes are pretty large.

My pass to St Paul expires on the 30th of this month therefore will have to leave Miles in due time to reach there. Have ordered all mail forwarded from Jordan to Miles City. Should you write me direct to the latter place.

Yours

W.H. Utterback

[Telegram]

Miles City Mont Sep 21 [1904]

W.J. Holland

Cr. Egie Museum, Pgh.

N.P. Car 26340 have special rate to Minntransfer secure on Eastern lines at once.

W.H. Otterback

Miles City Montana

Sept 22d 1904

Dr. W.J. Holland Director

Carnegie Museum

Pittsburg

Dear Sir:

Your letter containing salary for August received, also one of later date encloseing check for $150.00 on expense acc't. Find enclosed receipts for both amounts. While my work for the season has not given the results as I had anticipated I believe everything considered the final outcome of the expedition will well repay us. There is no question but what I have located two very rich Laramie fields, and under ordinary circumstances should have had a much larger collection to send in. As I have written you in previous letters the drouth has been the worst known to the oldest settlers. Perhaps another season the problem of water will not be to conte[n]d with.

There is one box alone in the collection that I will pay the expense of the seasons work for if you so wish. By the way it will hustle us to get one box I have in the laboratory. It is 4 feet 8 in by 7 feet in length and high accordingly. It would just go in a box car with but little to spare.

The Agt has been very kind and obliging in my dealings with him, going so far as to telegraph to headquarters and getting half rates to St. Paul. He has no power to make rates farther East than that point. I enclose you a copy of his instructions.

The Agt would not bill out the boxes only as fossils in stone.

Your instructions regarding team and outfit noted and shall obey to the letter. Shall stop at Franklin Indiana to visit my father who is getting very old and feeble.

Most truly Yours

W.H. Utterback

Powderville Mont.

May 1- 1905

Mr Douglas Stewart

Carnegie Museum

Dear Sir;

The enclosed statement with bills will show you that I am having great success especially in running up a large expense acc't.

It was my intention when leaving Pittsburgh to go direct to Hell Creek to commence work where I left off the past season.

Upon my arrival at Miles City I learned that there had been neither rain or snow of any importance since I left there, and that many places there was no water or feed for stock. Am located at present about one hundred miles south of Miles City on Powder river, and will say that the prospects look very favorable for what I am after. As the long continued drouth is broken and we are having a glorious rain am not doing much in the fossil line. I visited the party at Columbus this state that had written the Smithsonian regarding a great discovery he had made, and whose letter you turned over to me the past winter. He had a few vertebrae of a plesiosaur and had taken the bones of a portion of both paddles of same and constructed a vertebral column that would cause Marsh or Hatcher to turn over in their graves. The specimen is of no value to us for exhibition purposes whatever, and the gall of him asking $450.00 for it.

You can charge up the $7.00 it cost me to go up there to Uncle Andy as he does not wish to die wealthy. Address me at Miles City if necessary to write as I do not know just where I shall locate, and from that point can have mail forwarded.

Sincerely yours

W.H. Utterback

Jordan Mont.

June 1 - 1905

Mr Douglas Stewart

Carnegie Museum

Dear Sir:

Enclosed find statement of expense acc't for past month with bills for same. Owing to sever drouth the past season a great deal of the country is barren of grass, and I was compelled to purchase considerable hay for my horses.

Through an unavoidable accident the past week my saddle horse crippled himself so badly on a picket rope, that I was forced to shoot him to end his suffering.

Regret very much to report to you of having no success in the fossil line. Some three or four layouts that I had located the past season on Hell Creek proved to be worthless, after expending considerable labor upon them.

The fossil bearing horizon in the Laramie beds are few and far between and one has to travel considerable to find anything.

Am going to prospect the country between here and the Yellowstone river and finding nothing shall return to Wyo. Shall cross the river at Forsyth Mont where there is a ferry. Should you have other plans of work for me telegraph me at that point to await letter of instructions.

If you have written me at this place your letter will reach me at Forsyth. Have considerable supplies and provisions on hand and shall keep expenses down as much as possible.

In the mean time should the next sixty days bring no better than the past you may rest assured my collecting days are over.

Sincerely yours,

W.H. Utterback

Mayoworth, Wyo

July 4, 1905

Dr. W. J. Holland

Carnegie Mus.

Dear Sir;

Your letter written me at Forsyth Mont just received and am much pleased to hear of your return.

I will admit that I have met with every discouragement this season known to bone hunters. While I am willing at all times to take my share of the bitter with the sweet I must say the dose has been rather heavy this time. Of all the desolate barren country that I have traveled through this summer none can equal that from Jordan to the Yellowstone River. Nothing but the red capped Livingstone hills as far as the eye could see and entirely barren of fossils. Only one small exposure of the fossil bearing Laramie beds and that containing but a few acres.

I came up the Rosebud River from Forsyth across the Cheyenne Indian Reservation which I prospected until I was satisfied that I was wasting my time. It was my intention to go direct to the Laramie fields, however owing to high waters had to change my plans.

Has been raining since June 1st and everything has been flooded to such a stage that travel has been almost impossible.

Am camped on North Fork of Powder River 50 miles south of Buffalo.

Between showers have been out prospecting and have succeeded in making a number of discoveries, which I hope some may be valuable.

Have parts of a Brontosaurus skeleton consisting of a femur, tibia and a number of foot bones all of the same limb.

Also of the same skeleton there is in sight a number of vertebrae and other bones.

Shall remain in this locality so long as the work holds out and then give the Laramie one more trial.

You will observe by my past month's statement that I had let my man go as the continuous rain made it necessary for me to cut down expenses. This country is thickly settled and I can get board at ranches cheaper than keeping a cook.

Trusting to have better news to write in the near future I am

Yours sincerely

W.H. Utterback

Mayoworth, Wyo.

Mayoworth, Wyo.

July 24, 1905

Dr. W.J. Holland Director

Carnegie Museum

Dear Sir;

Have completed my work in this locality therefore shall move camp farther south. The Jurassic along the base of the Big Horn Mts as a rule are thinly bedded and one can prospect considerable ground in a short time.

While I have located much material a great deal of it can not be taken out owing to heavy expense removing sandstone.

Of the material collected I have one complete hind limb of Brontosaurus with tibia, fibula, and foot bones in position. Also have a good portion of another foot with part of tibia in position from the same specimen as the above.

There was much of this specimen in sight but too far gone for redemption. I have taken out about 30 vertebrae a large number of limb and foot bones &c of a small dinosaur.

As a great deal of this specimen is in the matrix I can not tell just what I have of it, however think it a pretty good thing.

The largest of the limb bones are not more than 18 inches in length.

Kindly hold my salary for this month until you hear from me again. Trusting I may have the pleasure of reporting better success in the near future,

I am Yours sincerely,

W.H. Utterback

Warren, Wyo.

Aug 14, 1905

Dr. W.J. Holland

Carnegie Mus.

Pittsburgh

Dear Sir;

Following the Jurassic along the Big Horns until it disapeared entirely I failed to discover anything that would justify the building of roads and expense of hauling to rail-road.

Having no other fields near I came to the Laramie beds in Converse County. While it is a discouraging proposition to return to a field that has been worked by every Museum in the country I have hopes of finding something. The material collected in the Jurassic 2500 lbs is a Clearmont on the B and M rail-road. It is stored in a warehouse and will be all "OK" until further orders.

It was necessary for me to engage a man when leaving Mayoworth in order for me to prospect the country.

If you will send me another hundred dollars I promise to either report the finding of something or mail you a receipt for your team and outfit from some ranchman.

My salary for July and this month kindly mail to me at this place. Trusting the other expeditions are having good success, I am

Sincerely yours

W.H. Utterback

Warren, Converse Co., Wyo.

Agate Neb.

Aug 31- 1905

Dr W.J. Holland

Dear Sir;

Having no success in the Laramie beds I closed work Aug 26th and let the man I had with me go. Being but a short distance from Mr Peterson I brought the team and outfit to his camp where I am at present working. If satisfactory to you shall continue work with him until close of season, if not write me at your earliest convenience.

Having considerable supplies and material on hand have turned same over to Mr Peterson for his use.

I enclose statement and expense acc't for month. If you have written me at Warren your letter will reach me in a few days.

Yours sincerely

W.H. Utterback

Agate Neb.

Sept. 10, 1905

Dr W.J. Holland

Carnegie Mus.

Dear Sir;

Mr Peterson informs me that it is your request for me to turn over the balance of money on hand. I enclose his receipt for same. The material I collected in the Jurassic 2500 lbs is at Clearmont on the Burlington.

Do you not think it a good plan to have them shipped to Crawford the junction of the two roads, and load in with the material from this locality? Work is progressing rapidly with the finest of bone weather.

Yours sincerely

W.H. Utterback

Apr 30 - 1906

Dr. W.J. Holland

Carnegie Museum

Pittsburgh

Dear Sir;

Have had splendid bone weather since my arrival, and work has progressed nicely.

Found everything in and around the quarry in good condition as we left it the past season.

Our teams were in excellent shape owing to the good care given them by Mr John Anderson with whom they were left. Dr there is a letter of thanks due Mr Anderson for the many favors shown the Carnegie people. Since 1900 when Mr Hatcher and myself worked in this locality he has cared for our stock and outfits and has never accepted one cent of pay in return. He is very enthusiastic in anything that will help along the bone business and has shown us many favors.

His address is Mr John Anderson, Harrison, Neb.

I enclose statement of expenses as per bills. Hopeing all is well and progressive around the Museum I am

Yours sincerely

W.H. Utterback

[Agate Neb June 1st [1906]

Dr. W.J. Holland

Carnegie Museum

Dear Sir;

I enclose statement of expenses for past month.

The unsettled condition of the weather which has prevailed during the past two weeks prevents me from writing any good bone news. Between showers we have stripped off considerable ground and as soon as the rain lets up work will go ahead again. Have a large number of the ribs of the larger specimen in sight. As the proximal end of these ribs are all pointing in the one direction am expecting to strike the vertebral column soon.

Nothing would give me greater pleasure than having you visit this country this summer. As this has been a great field for fossils for years, and I am acquainted with the country and formation in all directions could show you around better than a stranger.

Dr, in my letter of May 1st I suggested you thank Mr Anderson for favors received in keeping our outfits at different times since 1900. Now as they will be to leave in this locality I presume next winter I think it time well spent in writing him a nice letter of thanks.

Very sincerely yours

W.H. Utterback

Agate Neb. 7-30-1906

Dr. W.J. Holland

Carnegie Museum

Pittsburgh

Dear Sir;

Enclosed find expense account with bills for July. Work is progressing nicely and we are adding good material to our collection each day.

I sent you by express prepaid a pair of Moropus lower jaws and some terminal phalanges to show you what condition the bones are in from quarry No. 2. This is the ninth complete pair of jaws of the same specie and any number of odd jaws. Of limb bones and other different parts of skeletons we are taking out great quantities.

While we have as yet no skull we live in hopes. The jaws I send you are entirely free of matrix.

The party from the University of Neb under Dr Barbour are taking out some very nice material of Moropus.

The Field Columbian party are drifting nearer all the while, and presume it is only a question of time until they will be upon our grounds.

Splendid weather for work and nights very cool.

Yours,

W.H. Utterback

Harrison, Neb., Aug. 15, 1906

Dr W.J. Holland

Carnegie Museum

Dear Sir;

I ship you by to-days express a small box of fossils presented to the museum by Mr Cook. As he understood your letter you wished them shipped at once. I pasted the most fragile parts of the skull and packed very carefully therefore trust it will reach you in good shape. I sent you by express July 27th a small box contain[in]g pair of lower jaws for your examination. As yet have no word of your receiving them.

Well Dr. Holland I have great news in the discovery of something nice a few days ago. While I am not easily excited, or allow my enthusiasm to carry me away I am nevertheless all upset over our latest find. It is in the way of a monster skeleton such as has never been taken out of this formation before. Have had Dr Barbour to see some of the more important bones taken out and he is completely dumbfo[u]nded and can give me no information. Mr Harold Cook who saw most of the large material taken out the past season informs me that there is no comparison whatever for size. The Elotherium and Titanotherium of the Oligocene are small in comparison. We have one complete fore limb with scapula, large number of vert ribs &c in sight. From the position of the skeleton am satisfied we will secure the greater part of it. It is necessary to work each bone separately, therefore have a slow tedious job on our hands.

Since writing you in July have taken out considerable Moropus material and several good Rhinoceros skulls. Drop the cares and troubles of a busy life and visit with us a few days. It would be benificial to yourself as well as the future of the Museum. Should you conclude to come stop off at Andrews the first station east of Harrison. A good covered rig makes daily trips to Mr Cooks ranch in two hours drive.

letter in Utterback's handwriting; incomplete

Agate Neb. Aug 31 - 1906

Dr W.J. Holland

Pittsburgh Pa.

Dear Sir;

Find enclosed statement with bills for August. My find that I wrote you about sometime ago turned out to be a gigantic Moropus. Found foot bones and terminals in such position as to leave no doubt as to it being that. Never dreamed they attained such enormous size.

This animal stood fully eight or nine feet in height. Found just enough of the skeleton to make us wish for the other parts. As we have all of our ground worked out that we have stripped am going to close work in the quarries for this season and try my fortune in another locality that I have in view.

Shall write you soon regarding making arrangements for shipping our collection.

Yours

W.H. Utterback

Warren Wyoming

Sept 15 - 1906

Dr. W.J. Holland

Carnegie Museum

Dear Sir;

Your letter containing checks to the am't of $180.00 received and return receipts for that am't.

Regarding the shipping of my summers collection will say that if you will have the agent at Harrison instructed to furnish me a car on or about the 10th of october I will attend all other details.

The better plan will be for me to get the material at Crawford up to Harrison and load with this years collection. Have from 16 to 18 thousand pounds and still adding a little from time to time.

The weather has been very unfavorable through this month for work owing to heavy rains. Am at present engaged upon some very nice Laramie material in the way of turtles something we are short of. Have five different individuals, three of which promise to be splendid specimens considering the scarsity of them in this formation.

One of them has the skull in position a rare find in the Laramie.

Address me at Harrison as that place is connected with telephone communications all over this country and I can keep in touch with you in that manner.

Trusting your son's illness was nothing serious, I am

Yours

W.H. Utterback

Warren Wyo.

Sept 18,- 1906

Dr. W.J. Holland

Carnegie Museum

Dear Sir;

Immediately following my letter of 14th inst we made some very important discoveries in the Laramie in this locality.

We have first a good skull of Triceratops or rather Torosaurus the fellow with the horns pointing directly forward. In working around the skull we have uncovered one humerus-ulna both scapulae and a number of other bones that are not sufficiently uncovered to identify.

With the vertebral column running into the bank, from the condyle of the skull the outlook is encouraging for a good part of the skeleton.

Count no chickens until hatched!

Another layout consists of some eight or ten dorsal vertebrae running into the hill with numerous other bones in sight which look very promising. Also a number of individual bones at various other places.

All this material has been found within a half mile of one of Mr Hatcher's old camps and upon ground that every museum in America have had parties searching over.

We are working early and late to get the skull and such bones as we have uncovered out in order to have them at Harrison by the 10th of Oct the date I wrote you in my last letter for closeing. I shall leave all material not taken out thoroughly covered for your future disposal.

My son who has assisted me this season leaves for school Oct 1st and I hope to have the work almost completed in this section by that date. You may send my salary for this month to Harrison along with any instructions you wish to give.

Shall endeavor to reach harrison about the 5th of oct. which will give me ample time to get the material up from Crawford.

Sincerely yours,

W.H. Utterback

Harrison Neb

Oct 3d 1906

Dr. W.J. Holland

Carnegie Museum

Dear Sir;

I enclose statement of expenses for Sept with bills.

A portion of this was for the month of Aug also have had some supplies left over.

Owing to a combination of circumstances I was compelled to give up the skeleton upon which I was working when I last wrote you. In working around the skull I came in contact with such great numbers of limb bones vert ribs &c that I could not complete the work this season. I covered the entire business up and enclosed it with a good fence so that it will be there for future disposal.

Shall have the material up from Crawford in a day or two and am ready to load the material as soon as you can arrange for car. Perhaps this could be done by wire.

Yours,

W.H. Utterback

Harrison Neb.

Oct, 4- 1906

Dr. W.J. Holland

Director Carnegie Museum

Dear Sir;

Your letter of Sept. 29- containing salary for that month received and enclose receipt in return. The Ag't at this place will provide me a car as soon as the necessary arrangements can be made. If it were possible to have such a thing done it would be a good plan to have the car run through with-out transfer at Chicago. If you have to pay full freight on the amount I have Uncle Andy will have to go down in his "jeans".

Shall wire you as soon as loaded.

Sincerely yours,

W.H. Utterback

Harrison, Nebr. Aug. 4, 1907

W.J. Holland

Director Carnegie Museum

Pittsburgh Penn.

My dear Sir:

Your letter of July 30 received, and I see that you want me to sell your horses. I could sell your team harness and wagon for $150.00 but I dont know what I could sell the horses for as they are very old, and the wagon is not very strong. You will probably have to buy a new wagon for next year anyway, and for Utterback's kind of work, it takes a good one, but if you don't want to let the out-fit go at $150.00, I will try and sell the horses for what I can. For my trouble I don't want anything, as Mr. Peterson and Mr. Utterback are old friends of mine, and anything I can do for them, I will be willing to do. The parties that would buy the outfit, are going to Yellow Stone Park, and expect to start about Aug 15. The tools and camping outfit are boxed up and put away, and who ever you send out can get them at any time. Mr Utterback had a time of it last spring and you fellows in the east don't know what it is to gather up bones out here, and camp in the mud knee deep. Awaiting your reply I am,

Yours very truly

John A. Anderson

Harrison Nebr. Aug. 17, 1907

W.J. Holland

Director of Carnegie Museum

Dear Sir,

Your letter of Aug. 13 received and I am too late to sell the horses to the outfit that wanted them. I enclose you a draft for the amount and run the risk of selling them to some one else. If you yourself should come out here wire me what day you will arrive and I will meet you there with the team and buggy and any service I can be to the Museum, yourself, or your men I would gladly perform it.

Hopeing this will be satisfactory to you.

I am your's very truly,

John A. Anderson

Harrison

Nebraska

Harrison Neb. Apr 13 [1908]

My dear Mr Stewart,

Having disposed of our entire outfit the past season it was necessary to replace them this year. Had everything in readiness to leave for the quarry to day, when I received the enclosed letter from Mr Cook, the owner of the ranch upon which the quarry is located. As he has gone to Lincoln and will not return for sometime I do not feel at liberty to camp upon his place until I have seen him. If Mr Peterson contemplates coming to Neb perhaps it might be well to delay starting until this matter is settled. Should Cook place such restrictions upon us that we cannot work the quarry then Peterson could take the outfit we have. Horses are very expensive and to get up another outfit will cost considerable. Kindly write me at Harrison.

Yours

W.H. Utterback

April 16, 1908

Mr. W.H. Utterback

Harrison, Nebraska

My Dear Utterback;-

Your letter of April the 13th has just been received. From the correspondence between Mr. Cook and Dr. Holland it seems there was a perfect understanding about the continuance of work in this quarry without any interference from outside parties. I think that Mr. Cook's note to you was simply a desire to talk things over with you before you started work, and do not think he realized he was delaying the work by requesting this. If I were you I would treat it in this manner, and would start work upon the quarry as soon as possible.

Peterson does not expect to start out west until some time later than this, probably not until July. I think you had better go ahead with your work and simply take it for granted that Mr. Cook is going to stick to his first understanding with us. Should any objection be made by Mr. Cook, telegraph me, and we will make further arrangements. In the mean time push on the work as if nothing had happened.

I am,

Yours very sincerely,

[Douglas Stewart]

Assistant to Director

April 18, 1908

My Dear Doctor Holland;-

Affairs at the Museum have gone on very well since my last letter to you. Nothing startling has happened. The first part of the week I had a letter from Utterback saying he had arrived safely and that he was ready to start work, but found a note from Cook awaiting him stating that he would like to see him before he started work on the quarry, and as Cook had gone to Lincoln, being a witness before the Grand Jury, he would not return until April the 20th. Utterback seemed quite worried by this information, thinking Cook wished to place obstacles in his way. I at once wrote to him to say that you had a perfect understanding with Cook and that I thought it advisable to go ahead with the work and see Cook on his return.

The cases for the organ-outang group and the Dinohyus have arrived from Kates and are being set up. The Dinohyus case is finished, and the other will be to-day.

Mr. Elder arrived here from New York this morning, and will spend the afternoon with Geschwend and myself going over the coins. He will then give me an estimate on the value of the collection, which I will present to the Museum Committee at its next meeting.

The most surprising thing that has happened this week was a proposition present by Bigelow at the annual meeting of the Board of Trustees, in which he proposed that the city should condemn forty-three acres of ground on Forbes Street and turn it over to the Tech. The ground embraced in this plat is practically all the property on the right hand side of the street going up from Morewood avenue to Woodlawn avenue, embracing the houses of Mr. Mellon, Harry Brown, John R. McGinley, etc. No inkling of this had been given any member of the Committee beforehand. It came as a complete surprise to Mr. Frew and Colonel Church. Bigelow has a plan to have the city buy this property, under condemnation proceedings if necessary, for a million and a half dollars, and on his own hook had gone on to see Mr. Carnegie, and A.C. had promised him three millions for buildings in case he secured the property. Of course nothing will every happen in this connection.

The Heinz watches have all been arranged in the case. I have had stands made to support them three inches high, but in the shape of the watches, and have succeeded in getting a small reflecting mirror to show the opposite sides of the watches. I will have Prentice make the labels for these, as he will finish the labels for the coins the first part of next week.

Mrs. Courtney returned to work Monday, and we are pushing the accession lists for the Annual Report as fast as possible.

I was very glad to hear that you and Coggeshall had arrived safely and suppose you are busy in Berlin getting Diplodocus ready at this time.

I am,

Yours very sincerely,

Douglas Stewart

P.S. Cleared two cases from Haseman at Customs this morning, will get them out Monday & attend to them as per your instructions.

D.S.

Harrison, Neb. Apr 17 1908

Mr. Douglas Stewart

Carnegie Museum

Dear Sir:

I have decided to give up the fossil business for all time, and shall send receipts and account of all expenses to-date, in a day or two.

Should you send Mr Peterson to work in this locality you can inform him that there is sufficient tools for four or five men in the two outfits.

Shall be in Harrison until the 25th of this month, however shall consider my salary as stopping the 15th of this month.

Sincerely yours,

W.H. Utterback

April 20, 1908

My Dear Doctor Holland;-

Much to my surprise I received the following letter from Mr Utterback this morning:

"I have decided to give up the fossil business for all time, and shall send receipts and account of all expenses to-date, in a day or two. Should you send Mr Peterson to work in this locality you can inform him that there is sufficient tools for four or five men in the two outfits. Shall be in Harrison until the 25th of this month, however shall consider my salary as stopping the 15th of this month. Sincerely yours,"

Knowing how anxious you were concerning the work at Cook's ranch, this has worried me greatly. I at once went to town and had a consultation with Mr. Clapp, Mr. Mellor not having yet returned. I placed the correspondence before him, and neither of us can imagine what has caused Utterback to take this step and place us in this very embarrassing position. Clapp's advice was to start Peterson as soon as possible. This of course will leave me without any man to supervise the work in the laboratory, but it seems best to do so, and Peterson tells me that he can arrange matters so that Lou Coggeshall and Agostini will have sufficient work to keep them busy until your return, though of course they cannot go ahead with rhinoceros material without someone to direct them. It is most inconvenient for Peterson personally to start West at this time, but he has very cheerfully agreed to go immediately after Founder's Day. I have written to Mr. Cook advising him of this fact, and hope my action in this matter will meet with your approval. In case you have any further instructions to give me it might be well to cable.

Clapp says he cannot understand what has happened to Utterback, but knowing his peculiar disposition as you and I do, I think he has once more simply grown tired of the work and didn't think or care whether he made it hard for us or not. I shall certainly not remit his salary to the 15th to him until I have instructions from you. There is no reason I can see why we should pay him after we have paid his expenses out West where he wants to be and he has done nothing but purchase an outfit.

I enclose copy of the letter I have written Mr. Cook to-day. Everything at the Museum is going very well. I am sorry that this little trouble has turned up, but will get along the best we can.

I am,

Yours very sincerely,

Douglas Stewart

April 20, 1908

Mr. James H. Cook

Agate, Nebraska

My Dear Mr. Cook;-

As you know, Dr. Holland departed for Europe on the 7th of April, and will not return to this country until probably the last of July. Before starting he had some correspondence with you concerning the work at the Agate Spring quarry during the coming summer, and, I believe, reached an understanding with you that the Carnegie Museum was to push this work and would not be interfered with by outside parties. Acting under this understanding about two weeks ago he sent Mr. W.H. Utterback of this Museum to your place to begin operations. Mr. Utterback had instructions to buy an outfit, hire sufficient labor, and push the work on. Dr. Holland left instructions with me to see that Mr. Utterback was supplied with money to carry this work on successfully, and Mr. Utterback's instructions were to report progress to me from time to time. On April the 16th I received my first letter from him, written from Harrison on April the 13th, saying that he had everything in readiness to go ahead, but that he had received a note from you saying you would like to see him before he started work, also saying that you had been obliged to go to Lincoln, nebraska, and would not return to your home until April the 20th. I at once wrote Mr. Utterback that you and Dr. Holland had a perfect understanding concerning the work and that I did not think it necessary for him to await your return, but to be sure and see you as soon as you did return. In the mean time to go on with the work of getting out the fossils.

Much to my surprise I received this morning a letter from Harrison, Neb., written by Mr. Utterback, under date of April the 17th, saying that he had decided to give up the fossil business and wished to resign from the Carnegie Museum forces, his resignation to take affect on April the 15th. He says in this letter that he has purchased an outfit, and that he will make a statement to me of cash expended, etc. I am at a perfect loss to understand this action of Mr. Utterback's, as it was Dr. Holland's intention to keep him at work on your quarry until July, at which time Mr. Peterson and Dr. Holland would go out and continue the work. Mr. Utterback's action places me in a most embarrassing position, as we wish particularly to go on with the work on your ranch during the coming summer. I cannot understand Mr. Utterback's reason for suddenly giving up his job and placing the Museum in this position. I am writing you now to know if there was any objection which you had to Mr. Utterback, or whether he had an misunderstanding with you. Under the present circumstances it is very hard for the Museum to find an available man from our force to take up this work. Mr. Douglass is out on the Uinta Reservation. Mr. Peterson was in charge of the laboratory here and is the only competent man we have to keep in charge of the laboratory, as Dr. Holland took Mr. Coggeshall abroad with him.

I understand from my conversation with Mr. Peterson and Dr. Holland that you are very anxious to have this work go on, and I assure you that we are just as anxious to get out the material as soon as possible. Therefore I write to say that if it is entirely agreeable to you, and if, as you said before, we could have the exclusive right to this field, Mr. Peterson will give up his work here, though this will be a great inconvenience to the Museum, and to Mr. Peterson personally, and start for your place on May the first. He will then rush the work as fast as possible, and I have no doubt that Dr. Holland will join him on his return from abroad.

If this plan is agreeable to you, would you kindly have some one go to Harrison and take charge of our outfit, horses, &c., and take it to your place and keep it until Mr. Peterson's arrival? We will be very glad to reimburse you for this trouble.

Kindly reply to this as soon as possible. Hoping that we will not be obliged to delay this work any later than this time, I am,

Yours very sincerely,

[Douglas Stewart]

Assistant to Director

Harrison Neb. Apr 20 1908

Mr. Douglas Stewart

Carnegie Museum

Dear Sir:

In reply to yours of 16th inst will say that I had fully decided not to commence work upon Agate quarry when I last wrote you. Perhaps in the future when Dr Holland gets a collector to work as hard and faithful in the interests of the Museum as I have endeavored to do, he will not allow any one person to use him for his own personal glorification.

After helping Mr Peterson out upon this quarry in 1905 when the season was almost closed, with nothing to show for his summers work, they planned to have me go back with Peterson in 1906 and do all the hard labor while he acted the roll of gentleman. It was only when I threatened to throw up my position that they agreed to allow me to work the quarry alone and unmolested. Material that I worked so hard to collect and work out in the laboratory, has been put away while other material more recently worked out has been mounted and put upon exhibition. No Mr Stewart, Peterson has preached, written, and boasted of Agate quarry to Dr Holland until he persuaded him to send Old Bill out to do the hard dirty work, and he to follow a couple of months later. Dr Holland has not kept his word or promises with me since the death of Mr Hatcher, and I have lost all respect for him. He promised me most faithfully to allow me to continue work upon dinosaurs, both in the field and laboratory, and we know how well he has kept his word. Again the life of a collector is h-ll, with-out being subject to restrictions from such bombastic, wind bags as J.H. Cook.

When I have to get down and toady to each and every whim of such d--m fools as he, it is time to step down and out.

Mr Stewart, I sincerely regret that this should occur under your administration, as I should be more than pleased to give Dr Holland just a few parting words.

Your team and out-fit is in the care of Mr Anderson, who has so faithfully looked after your property since 1900, with-out one cent of pay, or thanks from the Carnegie Museum.

I enclose statement of expenses, with bills and receipts which I trust will be satisfactory. I enclose list of property at Mr Andersons as well as at Cooks.

Shall leave Harrison Thursday or Friday at the latest.

Sincerely yours

W.H. Utterback