

Othniel Charles Marsh Papers in the Archive at the Sterling Memorial Library, Yale University

Series I Dates: 1814, 1835, 1854-1903
15ft. (of these, 36 boxes are predominantly scientific correspondence, there are 56 boxes in all)

Arranged alphabetically by the last name of the writer, the letters in this series deal with Marsh's adult years, commencing shortly prior to his assumption of the chair of paleontology at Yale in 1866.

Among the prominent persons represented on this correspondence are: Alexander and Louis Agassiz, George Jarvis Brush, Edward Drinker Cope, James Dwight Dana, Charles Darwin, Leonard and Thomas Huxley, Simon Newcomb, Benjamin Silliman, Sr. and Jr., Eli Whitney and Ulysses S. Grant.

At the peak of his fossil collecting activities in the 1870's and 1880's, Marsh's most prolific correspondents were his 'bonediggers', two brothers named Felch [Note that Charles Felch wrote only once from Quebec concerning a curiosity he had found and mentioned his brother Marshall by way of introduction.], John B. Hatcher, Arthur Lakes, Benjamin F. Mudge, Samuel W. Williston, and W.H. Reed. As each specimen reached New Haven it was assigned an identifying number, and this was inscribed in a parallelogram on each letter pertaining to that particular specimen. [This number in the "diamond" is the accession number of the related specimens when determined.]

There are relatively few of Marsh's letters, though in some cases he retained a draft copy. [Please note however that his letters to Felch have been located at the University of Utah and are included in the Dinosaur Depot Museum transcription project.]