

New York. 9th Dec^r. 1816

My dear Sir I have examined the animal specimen from your land of antelope's nose; and find it to be similar to several that, during the last summer, were found in digging a ditch on the south side of Staten island. In my opinion, they have belonged to an animal well known to veterinary surgeons. The *Equus caballus* of the Naturalists, was the former proprietor of the tooth. The individual probably ended his days on the mountain, and during the age of his vigour might have been a fleet & mettlesome Steed.

This may be truly called the age of inquiry. We are daily becoming better and better acquainted with our Country. The Sand stone of Nyack Rockland, overlays with the eight feet, a stratum of the broken bones of Land animals. The never.

Funk Hills in Monmouth County New-
Jersey are underlain by the remains of
Quadrupeds & marine creatures not now
known to be alive. of these, a Crocodile,
an Elephant & a Rhinoceros, are some.

I have just finished a Memoir on
these extinct animals; which I suppose
that I have evidence to prove were at least
twenty in number, I have no doubt there
are many more; and that I am but
beginning the extensive inquiry.

Geology will receive great aids
from the facts disclosed in the Piedmont
Regions of North America. But they, as
well as antiquarians must beware that
they misinterpret the Barber's Labor for the

Yours &c. —
adieu, my dear Sir
be assured of my goodwill & thanks
Samuel H. Child

Cal. Pierre Van Cortlandt

Albany

(to be forwarded) by Judge Miller



received
from Judge
Miller

1816

Van Cortlandt

