~~Office of~~

~~U. S. Geological and Geographical Survey of the Territories,~~

Winchester, Mass, July 22 1875

My dear Ingersol,

Do you ever turn your eyes now-a-days toward such little insignificant subjects as fresh water shells? I say fresh-water but I mean mineral-water. I have been at the "Warm Springs" in Bath Co. Virginia & here I found — as I suppose every one has before me — some snails that I thought might be interesting because they did live in the warm mineral water, & twisted the wrong way, as did the shells in the Sulphur Springs of the Middle-park. The obstinate creatures, however, seem to live in Boston, Cochituate & spring water as well as on their native heath, & probably, after all, are nothing but common folks. Thinking they might be more interesting alive than dead — as to their habits &c, though in their new element they may not behave themselves properly — I brought a bottle full alive from the Springs to Boston for your special benefit, & was disappointed to find that you had jumped the Natural History building & fled to N.Y. Why is this thus? I send a few of the shells dead to your new address to see, first, if you are there, & second, if they are worth anything, especially if worth sending some live ones on to you. They live in water of the temperature of 98°

Fahr. a gallon of 231 cu. in of the water holding, of

Nitrogen	3.25	cubic in.
Sulphuretted Hydrogen	0.25	" "
Carbonic acid	1.00	" "
or	4.50	" " total

Gaseous ingredients, viz., at 60° temperature

Sulph. of Potash	1.371 grains
" " ammonia	0.369
" " Lime	14.531
Carb. " "	5.220
Cromate of Iron	2.498
Silicate of Magnesia & alumina	1.724
Carbonic acid ?	6.919

Dr. Hays of Boston Analyst.

showing a decided, but moderate mineral water, but with not much Sulphur.

Do you want the waste?

~~I~~ I went to the Springs from here as soon as I was able to stand the journey & after a stay of 5 weeks, have just come here to visit my sister-in-law & enjoy country quiet. Physically am fairly restored - just getting able to go up stairs two steps at a time, but have to be mighty careful about exposure, mentally, can not do much if any, work, though I read a good deal. Just getting so I can write a letter or two a day without getting two tired, which explains my introducing myself to you again. Tell me about yourself. How is Mrs. W.? With kindest regards, Yours truly

Archt. R. Mayonne
care Jas. A. Whitman
Winchendon, Mass.