

1956, Nov. 16.

Mr. Van Long,
Route 3,
Chickasha, Oklahoma.

Dear Mr. Van Long:

I was writing to my friend at the U. S. National Museum the other day and he said he had no record of the meteorite you had found. Do you know who it was that wrote you about it from there? I am sure they would be interested in having some of the specimen, but I doubt if they would want to go the price you say Dr. Leonard quoted you.

I know Leonard well, as I see him every year or two at a meeting of The Meteoritical Society, to which we both belong. He is the editor of their publications, and teaches astronomy.

I would hate to exceed his price, which I think is very high, both for personal and financial reasons. But I make this proposition: you keep the small end piece you want, and I'll pay the \$200.00 for all the rest of the meteorite.

Then I'll furthermore see to it that it goes in part to Leonard or to the U. S. National Museum if you so desire. I would not try to make any profit on what they took, but merely ask them for their pro rata part of the cost, or maybe take a "swap" from the U. S. National. If you have softened in your feelings towards the University of Oklahoma, I will even try to arrange for them to get some outright, or lend them part of the stone for display.

Fair enough?

I hope Mr. De Shazo wasn't too disappointed about his rock not being a meteorite. It was very much like one, in general, but I even submitted the chip to an expert petrologist to be sure. It just isn't a meteorite.

Sincerely,