

UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA

DEPARTMENT OF ASTRONOMY
LOS ANGELES 24, CALIFORNIA

59-7-6

Dear Oscar:

Your ltr. of 6-23 was awaiting me on my return to the office on 7-1, after an 8 days' vacation with my family in Arizona. We spent five days in Oak Creek Canyon (Sedona), where of course we visited Nininger's museum (I myself repeatedly), a day at the Barringer Meteorite Crater, a day at the Grand Canyon (which my younger son Freddy had never seen before), and the rest of the time en route. Also awaiting me was a brief note from Van Long of Chickasha, Okla., which I have already answered. I told him that \$200 was the maximum price that I could or would offer him for the Amber meteorite, and that, if he sold it to you for \$250, that was all right, insofar as I ~~was~~ concerned.

I think you were quite right in acquiring as much of the Amber meteorite as possible, and I am glad that you have done so. There is no telling what would have become of it if you had left it in the hands of that avaricious farmer, who was evidently interested only in getting as much as he could for it from you or me or anyone else to whom he could sell it for an exorbitant price!

Since all I have of this mrt. is a few grams, by means of which I was able to identify it as a mrt., I should like, if possible, to acquire a piece of it from you for our departmental Meteoritical Museum.

I shall appreciate it if you will send me the weights of the pieces you have and also the price that, in your opinion, we ought to pay for each of these pieces. Of course you will be welcome to keep all of the specimen that we do not purchase from you. My letter to Long should, of course, have authorized him to cash the \$250 check that you gave him for the mrt.

I am glad that things have turned out as they have for Amber, and that, after all these delays and negotiations, the main mass is now safe in your hands. As I have said, I should like to acquire at least a slice of this specimen for our Museum here, since it was I who first described the mrt., some time ago, in the Publications of the Astr. Soc. of the Pacific.

With best wishes to you and Juanita, I am

Sincerely yours,



Frederick C. Leonard.