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AMATEUR ASTRONOMY
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Dr. Carleton Moore
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Tempe, Arizona 85281

Dear Carleton:

I acknowledge receipt of the two photographs of the Bells section and they are very interesting. Thank Chuck or whoever made them. I am glad to have them for my files and perhaps some day publication.

Your outline of further efforts to do work on the Bells piece pleased me very much, it is certainly going to get a good working over!

I realize some of the results may be hurt by the fact that the piece got rained on so liberally, about 10 inches in Hurricane Carla, but at least that was all at once and it was found in a field of fairly high grass where drainage was good. About five of us combed this particular area one day and an outsider I had invited in found the piece. It seemed intact when he picked it up, but soon thereafter cracked into two pieces. He wanted to give his daughter piano lessons and eventually I bought it from him for enough to pay for the lessons.

When we get through with all this I want to consider whether we should cut any more of the Crescent for any further work. I have also a little 6 gram piece of the Crescent found amile away from the original find, but it has broken into two pieces and I think it hardly worth any cutting. It is really chiefly a memento illustrating forcibly how many tiny pieces these things must break into.

I know of three other cases where we feel strongly that some such fragile meteorites fell, but were never able to find anything. My experience is that in such cases one would do better to hunt in back of the subfinal point for little scraps, rather than go forward in hopes of finding larger pieces. The big ones just do not seem to survive. In one case a man described seeing a group of sparks that looked like popcorn. Whether these all evaporated entirely or dropped small fragments we never learned. We did not search that particular area, but I have often regretted it.

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I am going to have a lens implant in my right eye next Tuesday in hopes it will help my peripheral visions, which seems to have become very cloudy due to the cataract. I cannot hope for any central vision improvement but maybe this will help some.

At present I am not very much inclined to think I can go to Europe for the meeting.

Sincerely,

Oscar E. Monnig