

1955, March 27.

Dear Mr. Pinckney:

This is a delayed answer to yours of March 1. I am in correspondence with Dr. Henderson, but have not sent him the iron yet because he wants to get his slice in exchange for the cutting work. I may have to make that deal, but I'm trying to get him to let me pay them for the cutting work, and exchange a slice of some other iron for the one they keep from ours. I tell him frankly that money is easier to get than meteorites!

I have had the iron photographed in several views as I always like to do that before cutting one. The general shape and form should be preserved for posterity.

If I wanted to get in on the bidding for the original Sylacauga stone, whom should I address? Do you have the names of the lawyers on each side, or of the owner of the house who is suing the Hodges? I think one of the attorneys is named in the "Life" article, but if you can give me any other dope I'd appreciate it. I don't believe the big one will sell for anything like they hope, and maybe by getting my car in I'd have a chance. There will probably finally be a compromise.

I'm sorry your other two leads evaporated. An iron of 34 pounds was just found near Richland, Texas, about 70 miles SE of Fort Worth. It was found 4 years ago by a man cleaning out a water well, but he just took it up to Southern Methodist University in Dallas last week. He wrote to the Dallas News and they referred him to a geology prof at the University. Curses! I know some of the writers over there, and they would have referred it to me, but it apparently didn't get to my friends' ears. Of course it is not known where this iron was first found, or when, but presumably it was thrown down into the well by some one who wanted to get rid of it in the past!

I have another lead just now of a 100 pound or better piece near Mexia (pronounced "Me-hay-a"), just a few miles SE of where the Richland piece was picked up. I'll check with the Pacific Museum you mentioned, but they're probably offering an oxidized Odessa piece or something from Canyon Diablo.

Sincerely,