

1968, Feb. 22.

Dr. E. P. Henderson,  
Smithsonian Institution,  
United States National Museum,  
Washington, D. C. 20560

Dear Dr. Henderson:

Since you are like a little boy at Christmas time, and can hardly wait to cut the Tishomingo piece, I am writing here at the store in an effort to relieve your anxiety!

Since you do not seem to think it feasible or desirable to cut parallel to the large flat sides (which I thought would be good because it would expose such a large area), then go ahead and cut about along the B-B' line.

I have no objection to going at some angle to B-B' if you prefer to do so (in order to get a little larger area exposed). I do request that you try to make the cut so as to get two approximately equal halves. What I have in mind here is that this will probably end up with the boy keeping one piece and my getting the other, and I feel it would be simpler and more desirable if they were about equal.

My suggestion of plastic mounting is not critical and we can talk about it later if necessary. Here again what I had in mind was that one piece would probably end up in the boy's possession, and laying around a farm home or being shown to friends and neighbors would be better off in plastic than just bare. I wouldn't want any piece I got put in plastic. Incidentally, the boy, Glen Orr, won't care how we cut it.

I have always been curious as to how many grams per square inch or cm<sup>2</sup> are lost in cutting an iron. If you don't have statistics on this, how about weighing this before and after and giving me the loss in weight and the area cut?

I would like to come to Washington this spring when circumstances are favorable but I doubt if my wife would unless I taled her on to New York, which is her heaven (I don't know why). Maybe a little later on you can advise me when you will have good weather, no strikes, no riots, and somebody at the Meteorite Division (they generally seem to be traveling!).