

wrote 2/6/79

1979, Jan. 21

Dear Mr. Conklin,

I'll take the Esthervilliks, mesosiderites and enclose check for \$250.00.

I have a couple of small ones that I got in old collections but you don't encounter them very often. The major part of the fall is in museums, which practically freezes ownership!

I saw some beauties once in the collection at Harvard University. In addition to the funny looking knobby metallic ones some have stony inclusions or exposures that do not look the least like a meteorite of the types we ordinarily see. They look like they have some almost ashy material in them.

I had an interesting conversation with a member of The Meteoritical Society the other night. He and some associates had gone back to the Esthervills arm sites of this fall just last year (99 years later!) and had found tiny fragments in the soil, many not too oxidized. This is amazing in view of the repeated cultivation of the ground and especially considering the fertilizer that had presumably been dumped in during the interim!

Buchwald thinks that iron meteorites would generally be quite stable except for the infiltration of waters containing chlorine. In other words, he thinks the lawrencite (iron chloride) contained in some is not of celestial origin, but is strictly terrestrial.

Sincerely,