

UNIVERSITÉ
DE BORDEAUX

FACULTÉ DES SCIENCES

LABORATOIRE
DE
PRÉHISTOIRE

Bordeaux, Jan 18, 1965

73, CHEMIN ROUL
TALENCE (GIRONDE)
TÉL. 92.99.02

Dear Mr Crabtree,

I hope you had a good trip back, and that the floods we have read about in Idaho did not affect Kimberley. Here, everything is all right, except that I will have too much work to do, as always.

Well, I did play a lot with the obsidian you left me, and almost every bit is transformed in one or other type of point. I can make reasonably good parallel flaking (transversal) ~~oblique~~¹ oblique² flaking, and even I am trying now the "fir tree" flaking (fig 3). This one I can do with the right hand, working as shown fig 4. I did also some pressure blades with the apparatus you left me, not as good as yours, but for that I lack training. I am out of obsidian slabs, so now I work with flakes. Not so easy, but one can manage. In obsidian I can now make 5cm retouches with ease, but not every time I try!

They have asked me in Berkeley to make a movie of flint and obsidian working. I said all right, but that I would prefer that the pressure work would be done by you, because: 1°, you are better than I am. 2°, that is your baby. You and not ~~me~~^I found again the technics involved. I am waiting for an answer.

Well, a lot of things to do. Best wishes for Mrs Crabtree and you, and hoping to see you again some day!

Sincerely yours,



P.S. I can also make the pointes à cran ("tanged points" in flint). But for some of the things* the solutrean made by pressure, they must have been very strong men indeed!

P.S.2. I also got terrible aches in the arms, the shoulders and the hands, and for one month the tips of my left hand fingers were "dead". It begins to fade out now!

Ce. 2.1.9