UNIVERSITÉ LAVAL
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DEO FAVENTE HAUD PLURIBUS IMPAR

5 February 71

Dear Mr. Crabtree:

Thank you for your informative letter. It is most interesting to have your opinion on the Calico material. Certainly the majority of the conference members would agree, especially after hearing the adverse remarks of a few prominent authorities on the final day. On the other hand, it is no less interesting that John Witthoft, who has also specialized in stone-working techniques, was equally positive that most of the material was struck off by man (perhaps you have not seen his paper? — it was marked "Not for Publication.").

For my own part, having only minor experience in stoneworking but an interest, nevertheless, I am forcibly led to compare with what I observed in four years of detailed work on the Shequandah site. The material was an excellent quartzite that flaked easily. Geologists, after long studies, declared that the tools were embedded in glacial till in primary position. Some archaeologists, led by Griffin, disagreed and insisted on solifluction. No matter. The point is that there was <u>movement</u> yet these natural flakes were almost never produced. Conditions were far better for tumbling and breakage here, as there was no mud or fine soil with the boulders and gravels, whereas at Calico, each object was completely cushioned in <u>mud</u>.

Again, at Calico, distributions argued for the work of man. For instance, in one small area, some 27" long, 1100 small flakes were found, in four different materials, without the finding of any parent blocks nearby from which they could have come.

But opinions will differ and it may be that we must await the finding of other sites, by <u>others</u>. Personally, I was impressed by part of what I saw. It was clear that many were rejecting the evidence, as one man bluntly told me, because Leakey is an "outsider" and Simpson does not have her Ph. D. And those are not good enough reasons for me.

Should circumstances improve for you, as I hope they will, I would be very glad to have at any time a short article from you for appearance in our Journal.

Sincerely,

Thomas C. Lee