

(1) R. 17/1/98

Shot Jones  
Hart Hobart  
Aug 11. 1898

J. R. Walker Esq  
Hobart

Dear Sir

I would like you to see my collection of Tasmanian Aborigines Flint implements, so that you might assist me to classify them, and you could give me your opinion as to whether it is worth while pursuing the matter any further. Being surrounded

by their camping grounds (some of them being intact) I can collect good specimens of their flint implements & stones. The following is an extract from notes sent to Messrs Norton & Johnston.

"Judging from the specimens I have collected, the Indians had amongst them skilful and ingenious tool makers -

Admitting that the majority roughly broke their stones and were satisfied with anything that would suit their

purpose, yet it is fully evident that there were also some who exercised great intelligence and skill, shaping their implements somewhat to pattern & carefully forming their angles, curves & bevelled edges. They appear to have been able to control the break of the stone so as to make inward curves, outward curves, or straight breaks & edges, and made the angles more or less acute according to the intended use of the tool.

Their tools varied in weight from about one



sixth of an ounce to 2½  
pounds in weight, and  
some few of their tools  
are so delicately made  
that probably no Austral-  
ian Aborigine could excel  
the finest of them.

The Tas. Aborigines  
appear to me to have  
had 7 or 8 different  
tools or implements."

I have a very fine cutting  
flake shaped something  
like this -

The white is  
not unlike a  
human face.



1. transparent
2. opaque white
3. amber

We live 4 miles from  
train terminus, but you  
would enjoy the walk -

Yours truly  
J. P. D. M.