

Montclair, Sept. 28/07

Dear Mr. Smokey

Yours of 27th and
letter from Little Brown Co. are at hand.
Every business letter to you or the Judge,
or to other people on your behalf,
was copied into our letter books.
Therefore, if we had written either to
you or to L. B. Co. about the plates
of Entom. Soc., the letter would be
accessible today. Since there is
no such letter on the records, I must
believe that none was written, either
to them further about the auction
or to you explaining my "hitch".

You may have meant to
ask us to follow it up further,
but you evidently declined the
plates at \$50, and so far as the
record goes that was the last of

it, and I prefer to rest on records rather than on anyone's memory.

Since L. B. & Co. took over the stock if not all of Roberts Bros books & business, I imagine there was no "auction" at all, but the plates in question (and doubtless the contract under which they were used) simply passed to the successors in the Roberts business. Whether they would owe any copyright royalty on the balance of the edition sold to you, would depend on the wording of the contract. If they sold them at cost, as they did pretty nearly if not actually, I should suppose that no royalty was due. However, L. B. & Co. are an honorable firm and will do the right thing, I am sure. You see there have been

no copies made or sold since you bought out all they had

I am sending this and your letter ^{to the one} from L. B. & Co. to Mr. Wallcut, and, if he thinks of anything further to add, he will do so before mailing them to you.

Perhaps as to size of the book it might be well to print it uniform with the latest of Fools Errand & Bricks. If Mr. W. has a copy of those, he will send you the size of the trimmed book.

Very truly Yours,

J. W. Howard
* And perhaps, if he can find it, the size of the paper in the sheet.