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Letter from Charlotte C. Leonard to Charles Scribner's Sons Copyright Department

Charlotte C. Leonard

Charles Scribner's Sons. Copyright Department

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Charles Scribner's Sons
597 Fifth Avenue
New York City 17, N.Y.
(The Copyright Department.)

5510 N. Kenmore Ave
Chicago 40 Illinois
Nov 23, 1952

Gentlemen:

A copy of your firm's anthology of Mr. Creekmore was forwarded to me and I wish to thank you; but there has been a serious error in giving me credit for any of Mr. Leonard's poems. I have tried at once to check this error by old letters and press letters.

November 24, 1949 Mr. Creekmore wrote me stating he had written months prior to that date and asked to use these poems: Sappho-- "Forever Dead" Catullus * "To Himself" and two Aesop's Fables. My reply was in my hand writing Nov. 28, 1949. My copy of it states "a close copy, but a very bad letter." I wrote him I had been very ill for months and was too ill to type the letter. It is, therefore, possible that in copying my letter I omitted some relevant and important facts and thereby confused Mr. Creekmore. If so, I express my deep regret to him and to your firm.

If there is a reprinting of this beautiful little anthology please give credit to The Century Company for Sappho and Catullus. Also credit Open Court Company for Aesop's Fables. I shall at once make proper financial settlements with both companies. I talked with Open Court and hope to get all letters in the same mail and checks to the proper persons.

Mr. Creekmore must have taken his selections here from The Century Readings in Ancient and Classical and Modern European Literature edited by Showman and Cunliffe because the only place that Catullus' "To Himself" is published to my knowledge is in that anthology. It is not in any of Mr. Leonard's books. The editors gave credit to Century for Sappho and Open Court Company for Aesop's Fables.

In my copy of my letter to Mr. Creekmore I referred him to both Century and Viking Press. I failed to state the reason. I knew that at some earlier date I had cleared this Catullus "To Himself" with Viking Press and others. All my books had been packed for weeks since others were trying to get my nurse and we moved as of Dec 1st. I had nothing at all to check any poem. So many are reprinted here and there it is hard to keep the first in mind...and my life was in greater confusion than usual and apparently my letter was also.

I am sending Mr. Creekmore a copy of this when the press letters are done much as I regret taking any pleasure from him for his accomplishment.

Again my regrets.

Yours very truly,

Charles W. Leonard

It is difficult to get replies from Open Court Company—they are not listed as publishers here, but are just out of Chicago—listed as a family name.