

June 18, 1925

Mr. J. B. Oakleaf,  
Moline, Ill.

Dear Mr. Oakleaf:

Thank you for your interesting letter  
of the 15th.

I think what you say about Dr. Barton's Life comes pretty close to my feeling. Volume I, at least the first third of it, is an unusual contribution. There are scattered bits through the rest, but Volume II is poor stuff.

I think your judgment in leaving all pictures of living authors out of your book is right. This is a collector's book, I should say, and I am thoroughly glad that you are putting in the names of the great collectors. It is interesting to have them, and I shall look with great interest for the volume and promptly send the balance of my contribution. It is a fine thing to have done, and we are all under great obligations to you.

I am particularly glad that you think I was not too hard on Dr. Barton. I do not want to be unappreciative of what I think he has really done, but I do not see how an honest reviewer could pass over what he has not done and yet which he claims so loudly to have done.

With all good wishes, believe me, my dear Mr. Oakleaf,

Sincerely yours,