Professor R.A. Fisher,
Galton Laboratory,
University College,

Dear Professor Fisher:

Harlow Shapley of the Harvard College Observatory has sent me four notes on the Theory of Errors by one of his young men, T.E. Sterne who seems to have worked out a good deal of this without knowledge of your various papers because I know that he didn't know anything about them when he was talking in a preliminary way about these results. At that time I gave him some references. What I should like to know is whether you think there is anything in any of these notes which is new enough to be worth printing in the Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences. I am quite sure that most of the material is not worthwhile for us although it might be worthwhile for some journal which specialized more on didactic matters. The fact is your small sample theory is still insufficiently known and astronomers as well as others ought to be informed of it but the Proceedings isn't the place for didactic articles. However, if there is something worthwhile in these papers in the way of new contribution to the subject I should be glad to print it because I should be glad to call attention that way to the importance of the small sample theory.

Yours very sincerely,

[Signature]