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Maine Writers Correspondence

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7-9-2014

# Hortense Gardner Gates Correspondence

Hortense Gardner Gates 1879-1967

Hortense Gardner Gregg Gates 1879-1967

Hilda McLeod Jacob

*Maine State Library*

Maine State Library

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GATES, Hortense Gardner.





**Hortense Gardner Gates**  
Of all Life's memory-pictures  
My Heart loves to recall,  
My hours with little Children  
"I love the best of all."

### CHILDHOOD CHIMES

Chimes of childhood ringing  
Down thru passing years  
Echo sweetest music  
To our older ears  
And here within these pages  
All dear in memory  
I now give back, my Laddie  
Glad days you've giv'n me.

Writes Hortense Gregg Gates in her latest poem book, dedicated to her son, Roger.

Other poems for little folks are included, together with nature poems of the out of doors, a world the writer has always loved.

Like our beloved children's poet, H. W. Longfellow, Mrs. Gates, too, believes children are "living Poems" and says her happiest hours have been spent among our little People.

**On Sale before Christmas**

**Price 50c. Postage 2c**



April 1, 1949

Mrs. Hortense Gardner Gates  
Norway  
Maine

Dear Mrs. Gates:

It seems to us that your volume of poems, CHILDHOOD CHIMES, should be in the Maine Author Collection. It may be that you already know of this permanent exhibit of the works of Maine writers. Each volume is inscribed and presented for this purpose, and the books are always maintained as a unit, available for visitors and students to examine.

The inscriptions are original and lend much to the value and interest of the exhibit. Some authors have inscribed the books by means of artistic pen-and-ink sketches, some by autobiographical anecdotes, some by tributes to Maine, some by verse: everything seems different and original. We are constantly delighted by the concern of our authors in generously providing books, and by the interest of people who come to see the collection.

We also collect biographical information about our authors, and preserve correspondence in special books.

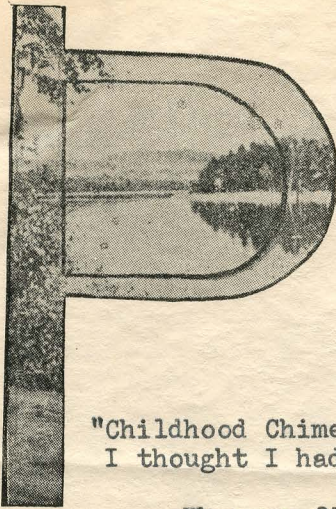
We hope that your volume of poems may be included on these shelves. When you are in Augusta, call at the library and see the collection.

Sincerely yours

hmj

In Charge of  
Maine Author Collection

Hortense Gardner (Gregg) Gates  
Norway, Maine



July 30, '49

Mrs. Helena McCleod Jacobs  
State House, Augusta, Maine

Dear Mrs. Jacobs:

When you wrote me about my latest poem book "Childhood Chimes" last April, I did not reply for at that time I thought I had sold all that were printed.

When my first poem books (two others, "My Girlhood Poems" dedicated to my Mother, and "Memory Gems" dedicated to my Friends) published several years ago, contained my pages and illustrations, yet only costing half what this last little booklet did at Xmastime, so many of my poems and pictures had to be omitted. And, too, I could not afford to have but a small number put in type.

Today I am now 70yrs old, and my dream is to have all three books bound in one volume when I am 75 and printing costs come back to normal. Then I will gladly send you one of this "Dream Poem Book" also if you really do wish it. Or it may be I can find a copy each of the other two, I'll try, if you do wish them.

Am sending "Childhood Chimes" under separate cover, and as I reread your April letter to me there is a song in my heart to know I can be with other authors in the State Library.

I thank you, Mrs. Jacobs, and will surely call when I do come to Augusta. Katherine Richardson Conant, stenographer for years there now has a dear little apartment near me, and tells me I will enjoy knowing you some day.

My home is on Main st here opposite the Fletcher Candy store and I'd love to have you call when in Norway, too.

When I was 16 I wrote a little novel  
Jac and Gill and sold 1,000 because I was young, maybe, because I am  
OLD at 75 I can still find friendly hearts.  
I found six copies yesterday way up attic hidden away, and have just  
two left now, of my "Childhood Chimes"

Sincerely,

*Hortense Gates*

August 10, 1949

Mrs. Hortense Gardner (Gregg) Gates  
Norway  
Maine

Dear Mrs. Gates:

It was a very friendly letter which you sent in reply to ours about the Maine Author Collection, and we appreciate your kindness and interest.

The inscribed CHILDHOOD CHIMES and PINE TREE LYRICS have been received, and we are very glad to have them for the Maine Author Collection. Your love of children and nature makes itself felt in your poems, and we know that these two interests are a constant joy to you.

The possibility of your publishing your collected verse in a DREAM POEM BOOK is one which we hope will be realized, and we certainly hope also that in inscribed copy may be available for the Maine Author Collection.

Perhaps at your convenience sometime you would be kind enough to let us have a little biographical information. We collect such facts about our authors, you know, and we like to have the information as complete and accurate as possible.

Thank you for your invitation to call. If I am in Norway, I shall be happy to do so. And thank you for the Maine Author Collection additions which you have been so kind as to present.

Sincerely yours

In Charge of  
Maine Author Collection

hmj



December 23, 1949

Mrs. Hortense Gardner (Gregg) Gates  
Norway  
Maine

Dear Mrs. Gates:

Thank you for the poems which brought a Christmas greeting from you. It is a delightful gesture.

We join in wishing you a very happy holiday.

Sincerely yours

In Charge of  
Maine Author Collection

hmj