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Sarah Bridge Graves Correspondence

Sarah Bridge Graves 1905-1998

Florence Elizabeth Libbey 1906-
Maine State Library

Hilda McLeod
Maine State Library

Hilda McLeod Jacob
Maine State Library

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GRAVES, MRS. SARAH BRIDGE

Born in Atlanta, Georgia.

Resident of Saco, Maine.

Mrs. Sarah Bridge Graves: Daughter of James Weldon Bridge and Augusta May Mitchell Bridge of Atlanta, Georgia. Education: B.A. degree from Brenau College, Gainesville, Georgia; majored in political science. Graduated in 1926. Member of Delta Zeta, national sorority; poems published in its magazine, The Lamp. Contributed poems to various poetry periodicals and religious poems in the Parish Bulletin of Trinity Episcopal Church, Saco. Author of FU FUR, two books of collections of original poems for children. THE SHORT-TAILED WHALE, STORY OF SPOTS BABY and DREAMS FROM STRUDEL TOWN, (not yet published). Residence: Saco, Maine.

April 27, 1937

Miss Elizabeth Libbey

My dear Miss Libbey:

Miss Lysla Abbott of the School Department of the Portland Public Schools has suggested that I tell of my forthcoming book to you, and hope that you will be interested in subscribing to its publication. Miss Abbott has taken several copies for the library, at \$1.00 per copy.

The book THE STORY OF SPOTS BABY is about a calf with a fondness for turnip greens. A quite short tale and illustrated with nine black and white drawings by Miss Rebecca Spencer, art teacher in public schools of Biddeford, the book is to be published the latter part of June by the Falmouth Book House of Portland, Maine.

It is necessary for me to obtain a guaranteed subscription of 250 copies before publication, and to that end I am writing a number of notes. Will you be kind enough to let me know if you are interested in taking copies? they to be paid for on receipt of them from publishers, or within a day or so? I have 200 subscriptions at present with over half that equivalent of money already collected and in the bank.

I shall appreciate hearing from you, Miss Libbey, even though you may not take any copies, but of course I trust that you do.

Sincerely yours,

Sarah Bridge Graves

62 Pleasant Street
Saco, Maine

Sarah Bridge Graves

April 28
1937

Miss Sarah Bridge Graves
62 Pleasant Street
Saco, Maine

Dear Miss Graves:

Thank you for your letter of
April 27th, telling me about your new
book "The Story of Spots-Baby."

As it is not our policy to
place advance orders before publication
I will not be able to give an order at
this time. All our book orders have to
go through the purchasing department
and no doubt we will be able to include
your book among our later orders.

Dr. Dunnack's secretary is
going to write to you concerning the
possibility of securing a copy for the
"Maine Author Collection."

Cordially yours
MAINE STATE LIBRARY
By

Director
Bureau of Library Extension

April 29, 1937

Mrs. Sarah B. Graves
62 Pleasant Street
Saco, Maine

Dear Mrs. Graves:

Recently we learned of your new book, STORY OF SPOT'S BABY, which will be published this spring. May we offer our congratulations upon what promises to be a truly delightful story.

We are also very much interested because of the Maine Author Collection, a project of some years' standing. In the collection are several hundred books, most of them inscribed and presented by our very generous writers. These books are for exhibit purposes only, and the number and value increase each year. Authors who were born in Maine, have lived here, or have written about the state, are included.

In connection we maintain a biographical and correspondence file, in which we collect all the material which the writers are kind enough to send us.

We hope you will want to inscribe a copy of STORY OF SPOT'S BABY for the Maine Author Collection, and also send us some biographical information. Such kindness on your part would be very much appreciated.

Please accept our cordial invitation to visit the State Library and Maine Author Collection when you are in Augusta.

Very truly yours

MAINE STATE LIBRARY
BY

hm

SECRETARY

August 6, 1937

Mrs. Sara B. Graves
62 Pleasant Street
Saco, Maine

Dear Mrs. Graves:

Some time ago we wrote to you, expressing pleasure at the news that we might expect a book from your pen, STORY OF SPOT'S BABY, and hoping that we might include you in the Maine Author Collection.

Since we have not yet seen the book, we are writing to inquire whether it may have been delayed. We hope it will be only a brief delay, and that it may, with its inviting title, greet us this fall.

You have our best wishes for the success of STORY OF SPOT'S BABY.

Very truly yours

MAINE STATE LIBRARY
BY

hm

SECRETARY

Miss Hilda McLeod
Maine State Library
Augusta, Maine

My dear Miss McLeod:

Your letter of August 6 has now an answer !
I am mailing you tomotrow a copy of THE STORY OF SPOTS BABY, and hope it will find a happy place among the books in the collection. As for biographical information, in the Portland Sunday Telegram August 15, an article about the little book and its author was written by Mrs. Louise Hall Littlefield, feature writer. I hope you will be able to secure a copy as I have only one for my own files.

Hanging in the Governor's office is the portrait of Reuel Williams, a great-great grandfather of mine. I am Sarah Bridge, my father, James Weldon Bridge was born in Atlanta, Georgia; his father, James Bridge was the son of Judge and Mrs. James Bridge of Myrtle Street, in Augusta, and lived in the house now occupied by my cousin Miss Helen Child. Mr. Nollie Hall can tell you something of the family, no doubt. That connects me with Maine I should say; and as for my maternal side, my mother was Augusta May Mitchell of the Georgia Mitchell's, daughter of Doctor and Mrs. Wesley DeWitt Mitchell of Atlanta, Georgia. I am a distant cousin of Margaret Mitchell, at present quite famous for her splendid book GONE WITH THE WIND. As my father and mother were second cousins, I am twice related to Margaret, but neither very close--2nd or third cousins, I suppose. /// Trust you like the book-- oh, I

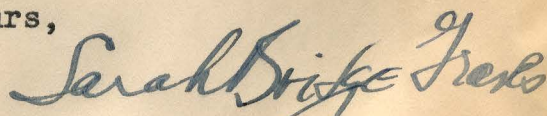
almost forgot, you might wish to know something of my education and my present activities in Saco. I have a B.A. degree from Brenau College, Gainesville, Georgia; while there wrote for the Alchemist, the newspaper; assisted with the annual; was in Student Government, very active in athletics--majored in political science, and graduated in 1926. Was a member of Delta Zeta, national sorority, and have had poems appear in its magazine The Lamp.

Have also had poems appear in Paebur Anthology, Crown Anthology, The Yearbook of Contemporary Poetry 1937, Christmas Lyrics of 1936, American Women Poets 1937, Pirates Press book America Speaking, as well as religious poems in the Parish Bulletin of Trinity Episcopal Church, Saco. I have written a biography of a Red Chow Dog titled FU FUR, and two books of collections of original poems for children THE SHORT-TAILED WHALE (also illustrated by Miss Spencer who illustrated the STORY OF SPOTS BABY), and DREAMS FROM STRUDEL TOWN. These are not yet published.

here in Saco, I am Recording Secretary of the Women's Educational And Industrial Union, President of the Saco-Biddeford Garden Club, chairman (for the second consecutive year) of the Flower Show and member of various organizations and on the board of two others. I am one of three directors for the Saco District of the Garden Club Federation of Maine to serve 3 years, until 1940.

If this is not what you wished by way of personal information, I shall be happy to answer any additional questions.

Sincerely yours,



Sarah Bridge Graves

62 Pleasant Street

Saco, Maine

August 20, 1937

September 2, 1937

Mrs. Sarah Bridge Graves
62 Pleasant Street
Saco, Maine

Dear Mrs. Graves:

THE STORY OF SPOTS BABY, which you have very graciously inscribed and presented to the Maine Author Collection, has been received.

Spots Baby has completely captured our affection. She is one of the most appealing characters whom we have met, and we know that young people will find her just as amusing and fascinating as we do.

Thank you very much for your generous contribution to the collection, and for the sketch of yourself and your activities with which you answered our inquiry. This is exactly what we wish for biographical information.

We wish your book a pleasant and gratifying success, and we hope that we will be enjoying more of your books in the future.

We enclose eight cents in stamps, to refund the amount expended on mailing the book.

Very truly yours

MAINE STATE LIBRARY
BY

hm
Encl--8¢

SECRETARY

October 27, 1949

Mrs. Sarah Bridge Graves
Stockman Avenue
Saco, Maine

Dear Mrs. Graves:

Congratulations upon the publication of THE SHORT TAILED WHALE, which we anticipate reading soon. We learned of its publication too late to note it in the November issue of the Bulletin of the Maine Library Association, which carries brief annotations of Maine books; but we will see that the next issue includes mention of these poems.

You may remember that when the delightful STORY OF SPOT'S BABY came out, we wrote to you about the Maine Author Collection, and you very generously inscribed and presented a copy for this exhibit. We hope that you will want to do the same for the new book, which we should be most happy to have beside your earlier story.

Our best wishes go to you for the success of THE SHORT TAILED WHALE.

Sincerely yours

In Charge of
Maine Author Collection

hmj

October 20, 1950

Mrs. Sarah Bridge Graves
Stockman Avenue
Saco, Maine

Dear Mrs. Graves:

Last fall we wrote to you about THE SHORT TAILED WHALE, hoping that you would want to inscribe and present a copy to the Maine Author Collection, to which you had previously presented a copy of your earlier book, STORY OF SPOT'S BABY.

We have never had a reply, but this may be because our letter failed to reach you, so we are writing again. It would give us pleasure to welcome this volume of verse to the exhibit shelves.

Sincerely yours

In Charge of
Maine Author Collection

hmj

November 10, 1950

Mrs. Sarah Bridge Graves
Stockman Avenue
Saco, Maine

Dear Mrs. Graves:

The delightful SHORT-TAILED WHALE came today, and it is with a great deal of pleasure that we add it to the Maine Author Collection. These poems have a light spirit and lilt that appeals to youngsters, and many an older person will enjoy them, too.

Thank you for making it possible for the collection to include this book.

Sincerely yours

In Charge of
Maine Author Collection

hmj