

10-31-2014

Mary Russell Bartlett Correspondence

Mary Russell Bartlett 1857-

Marion Cobb Fuller

Maine State Library

Follow this and additional works at: http://digitalmaine.com/maine_writers_correspondence

Recommended Citation

Bartlett, Mary Russell 1857- and Fuller, Marion Cobb, "Mary Russell Bartlett Correspondence" (2014). *Maine Writers Correspondence*. 116.

http://digitalmaine.com/maine_writers_correspondence/116

This Text is brought to you for free and open access by the Maine State Library Special Collections at Maine State Documents. It has been accepted for inclusion in Maine Writers Correspondence by an authorized administrator of Maine State Documents. For more information, please contact statedocs@maine.gov.

BARTLETT, Mary Russell.

Born at Bangor

January 16, 1930

Miss Mary Russell Bartlett,
66 Hartford Street,
Upham's Corner,
Boston, Massachusetts.

My dear Miss Bartlett:-

We understand that you have recently published a collection of verse, "April Song and Wellesley Memories", which we should like to add to our Maine Author Collection. This is an exhibition collection of the autographed works of writers who were born in Maine, and already includes several hundred volumes. We enclose a clipping from a recent issue of our Library Bulletin which will tell you more about this collection. We shall be very glad to have an autographed copy of your book to add to it, and perhaps you will increase the value and interest of the book by writing in it an inscription or a few lines about the writing of the poems.

To add to the collection's value as a reference source we are assembling biographical and critical data about our authors. May we have some information about yourself, a photograph, and, if possible of the house in Bangor where you were born; All of this, together with any correspondence we may have with you, will be carefully preserved in our files.

If you do not care to give us your book we shall be quite willing to pay for it. Please make your bill in duplicate to the Maine State Library.

Very truly yours,

MAINE STATE LIBRARY

BY MCF

MISS MARY R. BARTLETT
66 HARTFORD STREET
UPHAM'S CORNER
BOSTON, MASSACHUSETTS

January 23 - 1930

My dear Miss Fuller, I mailed to you yesterday a copy of my little book, April Song and Wellesley Memories, for which you have asked. I am much interested in your collection and think it an honor to be included in it. I am glad to give you this copy and hope the inscription may be what you wished. The table of contents probably explains the poems sufficiently, but if you want a descriptive sentence for cataloguing purposes, it might be something like what I have used on my advertising cards — Verse on varied subjects with a series on Wellesley College founders and occasions. But I leave this to your judgment.

I was born in Bangor in a

house on Hammond St. nearly
opposite Hammond St. Church, But.
I have no picture of this house and no
photograph of myself later than 1904,
of which photograph I have no extra
one to spare. — My parents were
both born in Harmony, Maine, my
father, Russell David Bartlett, in the
village of Harmony and my mother,
Lavinia Lord, on an outlying farm.
My father was an inventor and
was considered a young man of
great promise but lost his life at
the age of thirty-three, in the ship-
wreck of the Steamship Hungarian,
off Cape Sable in February, 1860.

At the time of his death he was
engaged in a project for raising
wrecked vessels, and had been suc-
cessful in raising one in the St
Lawrence River, and was at work
on a wrecked steamer, the Canadian,
near the mouth of that river. He

MISS MARY R. BARTLETT
66 HARTFORD STREET
UPHAM'S CORNER
BOSTON, MASSACHUSETTS

this purpose he had constructed a steam scow, provided with machinery of his own contrivance, to which he gave the name Dixigo, the motto of Maine. — My mother had been a teacher before her marriage and after my father's death she taught in Bangor public grammar schools for sixteen years, until we moved to Boston at the beginning of my third year in Wellesley College. I entered Wellesley on the opening day and was a member of the first class whose fiftieth anniversary was observed in June 1929, at which time my little book was brought out.

Hattie, in the dedication, is Miss Harriet A. Leonard of Bangor, who died two years ago.

I was a cataloguer in the Boston Public Library for a number of years and three of the poems refer to persons with whom I was associated there.

To a Thistle was written during a vacation in Gardiner, Maine, when I gathered large numbers of Bull thistles and made them into fluffy balls as described in the poem. — The Inscription of Nature was the beginning of a rather ambitious and unsuccessful — attempt at a college prize poem, and was written in Bangor the last summer of my life there, though somewhat revised since. With the exception of these two, all in the book were written after I came to Massachusetts.

If you feel like making a little return favor for the gift of the book you can do so by making it known to individuals in Augusta or elsewhere who are book buyers and poetry lovers, — or to stores which might like to try selling one or more copies — or libraries which might order a copy or have one sent them on approval, — so that I may get back some part of the cost of printing to put to some other good use.

Sincerely yours.

Mary Russell Bartlett

January 25, 1930

Miss Mary R. Bartlett
66 Hartford Street
Upham's Corner
Boston, Massachusetts.

My dear Miss Bartlett:

Thank you for sending us a copy of "April Song and Wellesley Memories". We are very glad to have it to add to our Maine Author Collection. I have been glancing through the book this morning and I find the poems charming, especially the lovely April song.

We shall mention the book in the next issue of our Library Bulletin, and I am very glad to have such interesting biographical notes about you, to add to the notice of your book. For the convenience of our librarians, we try to give the biographical data about our Maine authors. Your letter will be placed in our special Maine author files. I wish every author could write the sort of inscription which you did!

With grateful appreciation of your gift to the Maine State Library, I am

MCF

MISS MARY R. BARTLETT
66 HARTFORD STREET
UPHAM'S CORNER
BOSTON, MASSACHUSETTS

Oct-2-1930

Miss Marion Cobb Fuller
Maine State Library
Augusta-Maine.

My dear Miss Fuller,

Last winter, you sent me a copy of your Library Bulletin, which I gave, after reading it with much interest, to a relative, formerly a Maine resident, whom I knew to be much interested in anything about Blaine, who was featured in that number.

Now I am thinking of writing to some of the Maine Librarians to see if they would like to have me send them, on approval, copies of my little book, —April Song and Welleley Memories—,

and I remember that your Bulletin contained a list of names and addresses of such libraries. Would you send me another copy — one which contains this list of libraries? I enclose 20 cents. If not enough, please let me know. Possibly you have the one in which you mentioned my book. If not, any one containing such a list will do. The Bangs and Dexter libraries bought the book, and possibly others might, though I realize that some may be unable to buy more than some of the more important books published. I should select a venture from the list.

You might give
me the date of
mention of it, so

Yours sincerely,
Mary Russell Bartlett

that I may refer librarians to
the same, if convenient.

C O P Y

October 3, 1930

Miss Mary Russell Bartlett,
66 Hartford Street
Upham's Corner
Boston, Massachusetts.

Dear Miss Bartlett,

I am sending you a copy of the January, 1930 issue of our Library Bulletin and a copy of the report of the state librarian which also contains some information about the libraries of the state. I hope that some of the libraries will be interested in acquiring your volume of verse. I liked it very much, and I should think that persons with Wellesley connections would find it extremely interesting.

I am returning the postage which you enclosed.

With best wishes for the success of your collection of verse.

Very truly yours,

MISS MARY R. BARTLETT
66 HARTFORD STREET
UPHAM'S CORNER
BOSTON, MASSACHUSETTS

Oct. 10-1930

Miss Marion Cobb Fuller
Maine State Library
State House
Augusta - Maine.

My dear Miss Fuller,

I thank you for
the bulletin and report which I re-
ceived from you and for your kind
words and wishes about my book.

Yours sincerely

Mary Russell Bartlett

