

September 2015

Ida M. Folsom Correspondence

Ida Mabel Folsom 1889-1979

Henry Ernest Dunnack 1867-1938

Maine State Library

Marion Cobb Fuller

Maine State Library

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FOLSOM, Ida M.

Born at Foxcroft, October 27, 1889.

Ida Mabel Folsom was born in Foxcroft, October 27, 1889, the daughter of John Jackson and Elizabeth McPherson Folsom.

Her childhood was spent in her native town where she attended the public schools and Foxcroft Academy, from which she was graduated in 1907.

Miss Folsom took up teaching as a profession and in 1910 became a member of the faculty of the Eastern State Normal School, teaching applied science. In 1911 she was transferred to the staff of the Aroostook State Normal School, Presque Isle, teaching natural science and expression. Miss Folsom still holds this position, through it having come into contact with hundreds of students who were interested in the great out-of-doors.

In 1927 Miss Folsom published a book entitled, "Lessons from the out-of-doors", as a direct request from many teachers who were anxious for a definitely prepared nature book which might be easily used by busy teachers.

In 1920 Miss Folsom was chosen as the official poet for the Centennial celebration of the town of Presque Isle, and has several other poems to her credit. Her chief interest, however, lies in teaching, to which she has given of her best in the endeavor to awaken an interest in the things that are a part of one's natural inheritance.

Dover Foxcroft, Maine
July 1, 1929

Maine State Library
Augusta, Maine

My dear Mr. Dumnack:

It is with pleasure that I send, under separate cover, a copy of my book for the Maine authors' collection. I think the statements on the cover contain purpose of book and other data for which you asked.

Very sincerely,

Ada M. Tolson

August 21, 1929

Miss Ida M. Folsom
Dover Foxcroft
Maine

Dear Miss Folsom:

We have just received your letter and your book, "Lessons from the Out-of-Doors". We are very glad to add this book to our Collection of Maine Authors. There is only one fault we have to find with the book at the present time; it is not autographed.

I do not know whether you are familiar with our Maine Author Collection. The following facts may be of interest to you. The Maine State Library has been assembling a Maine Author Collection with the idea of creating here a permanent exhibition collection of books, written by persons born in this state, or intimately associated with it. We are sending you a Maine Library Bulletin which contains an article about the Collection, written by Mr. John Clair Minot, at the time it was started, in 1922. We have met with a cordial response from every author to whom we have written, and the collection of the works of contemporary writers is steadily increasing.

At the recent session of the Maine Legislature a resolve was passed providing for a new State Library building. A feature of the building will be a room devoted to the Maine Author Collection, adequately accommodating the books and with facilities for research work by persons interested in Maine's literary development.

Since Maine has the honor of claiming you as one of her native authors, we wish the privilege of adding your books to the Collection. We do not ask you to give us the books - we are very willing to pay for them - but we do ask you to autograph each book, and any explanatory notes relative to the writing of the book which you care to add will greatly enhance its present interest and future value. In connection with the collection, we are assembling first-hand biographical information about our authors, so will you please send us data about yourself, a photograph, and, if possible, a photograph of your birthplace. We realize that we are asking a great deal, but we hope that your interest in your native state is great enough to induce you to take the trouble of assembling and autographing for us a complete collection of your works.

If you will autograph another book and add any explanatory notes we will be very grateful. The book we have will be in the general library and we will add the new one to our Author Collection. Please make your bill in duplicate to the Maine State Library for this additional book.

Very truly yours,

IDA M. FOLSOM
STATE NORMAL SCHOOL
PRESQUE ISLE, MAINE

Sept. 20, 1929

Maine State Library
Augusta, Maine

Gentlemen:

In compliance with the request of Mr. Dunnock I am sending a second copy of my book, and under separate cover the facts of my life, together with the two pictures he asked for.

Enclosed is a statement in duplicate for this second copy.

Sincerely yours,
Ida M. Folsom.

C O P Y

September 25, 1929

Miss Ida Mabel Folsom,
State Normal School,
Presque Isle , Maine.
My dear Miss Folsom;-

Thank you for the autographed and inscribed copy of your book and for the biographical data and pictures. The former is in place on our Maine Author Collection shelves , and the latter have been added to our scrap-book.

The items which you sent us did not arrive until after the October issue of the Bulletin had gone to press, so we could not use the inscription and the biographical information in connection with the note which we had already written.

I like "Lessons from the out of -doors" very much indeed. To express scientific facts so simply , accurately and readably seems to me a real achievement. Probably you realize much better than I do how few books there are in the class with yours.

Very truly yours,

(Signed by MCF)



Ida M Tolson



*Birthplace
Dover Foxcroft
#8 Green St.*



*Present home
Winter St.
Dover Foxcroft*

Lessons from the Out-of-Doors

By

IDA M. FOLSOM

Illustrated

This book is the result of years of natural science teaching, and answers many questions which keen-eyed children and thinking adults are asking about common, every-day phenomena.

It contains suggestions for the teaching of natural science, a carefully prepared list of questions often asked by children, a thoughtful suggestion of projects, and fifty well planned and carefully worded lessons, together with hints for the selection and use of the materials to be presented with the lessons. While it is especially designed for the use of teachers, *Lessons From the Out-of-Doors* will appeal to all Nature lovers.

THE STRATFORD COMPANY

Publishers

BOSTON, MASSACHUSETTS

LESSONS FROM THE OUT-OF-DOORS

By

IDA M. FOLSOM

The author of this book has, from childhood, developed an interest in the common natural phenomena and that interest determined her career. All her life she has been a devoted and careful student of plant and animal life. Through her teaching it has been her earnest desire to lead parents as well as teachers to an intelligent understanding of their physical environment so that they might, in turn, awaken in the children entrusted to them something of the joy which comes from a personal acquaintance with the things of the out-of-doors.

Lessons From the Out-of-Doors is a direct outgrowth of an invitation to the author, given by a large body of student teachers, as well as teachers of experience, to prepare such a series of lessons for the help of busy teachers.

The Stratford Company

Publishers

Boston - Mass.

Price \$2.00

BOOKS RECEIVED

September 1929

Lessons From the Out-of-doors

The Stratford Company, Boston , Massachusetts. 1927

INSCRIPTION:

" This book was written with the hope that it might help teachers and parents to answer some of the natural questions of children.

It is presented to the Maine author collection by its author

Ida Mabel Folsom
Dover-Foxcroft
Maine

Sept. 1927.