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Maine Writers Correspondence

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December 2015

Charles Asbury Stephens Correspondence

Charles Asbury Stephens 1844-1931

Maine State Library

Louise Harris

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STEPHENS, C.A.

October 17, 1969

Miss Louise Harris
C. A. Stephens Collection
Brown University
Providence, Rhode Island 02912

Dear Miss Harris:

As you know, your C.A. Stephens books are in this library, purchased for use in the lending section.

You may or may not know of the Maine Author Collection, a permanent exhibit of Maine books and books written about the state. The Stephens volumes are here, of course, and it occurs to us that those which published the result of your labors would be a most valued addition to such a collection. This collection is not for lending, but is available for study and browsing by students and visitors, together with correspondence, biographical and critical material.

If at some time it should appeal to you, please know that we should be delighted to welcome the addition of any or all these books which your study has made possible.

Our good wishes go to you for a successful continuation of the research.

Sincerely yours

hmj

In Charge of
Maine Author Collection

A chuckle and a laugh
A comprehensive bibliography of C.A. Stephens
"None but the best"
The star of the Youth's Companion



BROWN UNIVERSITY Providence, Rhode Island • 02912

BOOKSTORE
401-863-2220

October 21, 1969

Mrs. F.W. Jacob
Maine State Library
Augusta, Maine 04330

Dear Mrs. Jacob:

Your letter of October 17th addressed to Miss Louise Harris has been referred to us for answer.

Please be assured that your interest in the books on C.A. Stephens is very much appreciated and we are grateful for your efforts in publicizing them. However, insofar as a contribution of copies to a permanent collection is concerned, will you allow us to make our position clear.

The C.A. Stephens collection and the books associated with it represent definitely a non-profit operation: income from each book published by the Collection is immediately plowed back into production of further volumes. Additionally, retail prices are left as low as possible to make purchase a minimum burden to the author's many followers. For this reason we have not found it feasible to donate (as we would have wished) the many copies requested by collections at institutions such as yours who have expressed a similar interest; and dearly as we would like to make an exception for the State of Maine, we feel that to be perfectly fair our policy must be consistent and impartial.

Again we thank you for your interest and good wishes and will take care that you are kept well informed on all future activities of the C.A. Stephens project.

Very truly yours,

BROWN UNIVERSITY BOOKSTORE

Margaret A. Surprenant

Mrs. William A. Surprenant

mhs

October 30, 1969

Mrs. William A. Surprenant
Brown University Bookstore
Providence, Rhode Island 02912

Dear Mrs. Surprenant:

Thank you for your gracious letter about the Stephens books.

Indeed we do understand, and although we regret that the Maine Author Collection must, at least for the present, lack these volumes, we can hope that there may be a happy solution some day. Perhaps our own budget for the collection will increase to the point where we can purchase titles which are not otherwise available.

Meanwhile, our good wishes continue for the project, and we shall appreciate news of its progress.

Sincerely yours

hmj

In Charge of
Maine Author Collection