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Maine Writers Correspondence

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January 2016

Eleanor P. Wheeler Correspondence

Eleanor P. Wheeler

Maine State Library

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February 5, 1936

Eleanor Wheeler
c/o Smith & Haas
17 East 49th Street
New York City

Dear Miss Wheeler:

May we congratulate you upon the favorable reviews which TORY HOUSE MYSTERY has received. We notice that the story is set in a Maine scene, and wonder if we can claim you as a Maine author.

Some years ago we started an exhibit collection of the works of Maine authors - those born here, or who have lived in and written about, the State. There are several hundred volumes now, most of them inscribed and presented, and the collection, increasing steadily in size and interest, forms a valuable background of Maine literature. We are always eager to welcome a new writer to this list, and we hope that you will be represented in the Maine Author Collection. Won't you please send us some biographical data?

A very cordial invitation to visit the library and the Maine Author Collection is extended, as well as our best wishes for your continued literary success.

Very truly yours

Maine State Library

hm

Secretary

February 20, 1936

Eleanor P. Wheeler
343 East 50th Street
New York City

Dear Miss Wheeler:

JEMMIE and TORY HOUSE MYSTERY, both delightfully inscribed, reached us some days ago, but we have delayed acknowledging them, hoping that a biographical sketch would be received. We do hope you will be kind enough to send us a little information of this sort, at your convenience.

Please accept our sincere thanks for your generosity in presenting the Maine Author Collection with your books. We are pleased and proud to be able to add them to our shelves, and we hope that when you are in Maine, you will call to see the collection.

Very truly yours
Maine State Library

hm

Secretary

343 East Fiftieth Street
New York, New York
February 22, 1936


Dear Miss Mc Cleod,

Thank you for your cordial letter of February fifth, about the Maine Author Collection of the State Library. I should like very much to stop in Augusta some time, on my way to North Brooklin where I go every summer.

Unfortunately I am not a citizen of Maine, though I own eight acres "more or less" of rocky shore and spruce woods, and I have a house and flower garden not unlike Aunt Henry's in Tory House Mystery. I have owned beautiful, long-haired Maine kittens, too, not unlike Jemie. But they do not usually transplant well, and I have given up bringing them to New York. You see I am only a summer resident of your state; but I am very proud of being told by some of the native residents that "we count you one of us--not just a rusticator." And most of them call me by my first name.

I mailed to the Maine State Library, last Thursday, copies of Tory House Mystery and Jemie, the Kitten from Maine, to be added to your collection. I hope they reached you in good shape. Just now I am working on a continuation of Tory House.

Sincerely yours,



Miss Hilda Mc Cleod, Secretary
Maine State Library
Augusta, Maine

February 26, 1936

Eleanor P. Wheeler
343 East 50th Street
New York City

Dear Miss Wheeler:

Thank you for your letter of February 22nd. We did, indeed, receive the books which you so kindly sent. Doubtless our letter of February 20, acknowledging them, has reached you by now.

We are particularly interested in the fact that TORY HOUSE MYSTERY is to have a continuation, and we hope that a copy of the new story will find its way into the Maine Author Collection. We wish it success!

Very truly yours
Maine State Library

hm

Secretary

343 East Fiftieth Street
New York, New York
March 3, 1936

My dear Miss Mc Cleod:

It pleases me very much to think of Tory House and Jemie occupying a portion of the Maine Author shelves; and it would please me even more if I knew that they were being read. Thank you for your cordial letters and for the invitation to visit the library.

Meanwhile it has occurred to me, in connection with the new book I am beginning, that you might know where to lay hands on the material I want. Is there any book, old or new, in your collection, containing true accounts of mysterious happenings in Maine--lost or hidden treasure; veins of precious metal (such as in the old silver mines on Deer Isle); precious or semi-precious stones found in some of the mountains; pirate's treasures; Indian mysteries; or oddments of history, rather curious than important?

The core of the Tory House plot came to me from an old man on Cape Rozier. For my new mystery, I want to depend not entirely on my own imagination. If, as a Maine librarian, you know of any books with material of this sort, would you be so kind as to send me a list?

I may drive to North Brooklin for the Easter holidays--weather permitting. In that case, I could stop in Augusta to see what is in the library; but I should like, if possible, to get some books before that time. I shall be most grateful to you for any suggestions.

Sincerely yours,

Edwin Whelan

Miss Hilda Mc Cleod
Maine State Library
Augusta, Maine

*to
to
Mc
Research*

March 20, 1936

Eleanor P. Wheeler
242 East 50th Street
New York City

Dear Miss Wheeler:

Your letter of March 3, requesting Maine information, was referred to our research librarian, who I notice, has written to you. Should you require further information or assistance, please do not hesitate to call upon us, for we are always anxious to be of service, especially to those who are giving us books about Maine.

We do hope if you come to North Brooklin at Easter, you can stop in the library — at present flood conditions are not conducive to travel!

Very truly yours

Maine State Library

hm

Secretary