

1988

# Maine Special Collections 1988

Maine State Library

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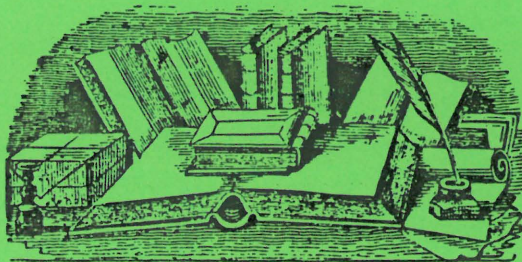
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# MAINE SPECIAL COLLECTIONS



Maine State Library



### BAXTER COLLECTION

The Baxter Collection includes the personal papers, letters, scrapbooks, and memorabilia left to the Maine State Library by former Governor Percival Proctor Baxter (1876-1969). Subjects emphasized are Maine state government, conservation, and the history and development of Baxter State Park. This collection, housed in the Maine Room, has its own special catalog as well as a printed guide on its use.

Percival Proctor Baxter was Governor of Maine, 1921-1925, a conservationist, and a preserver of Maine's mountains and forests through his gifts of the lands which now comprise Baxter State Park.

This collection is supplemented with original Baxter State Park documents covering the years 1931-1971.

The Maine State Archives also has some correspondence.

### TOWN REPORTS

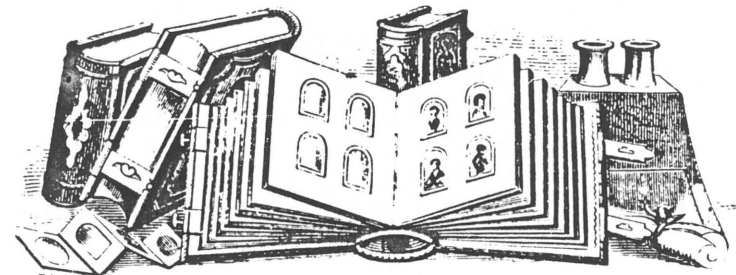
In 1892 the State Librarian wrote every town in Maine and requested a complete file of the town's financial reports. This was the beginning of the extensive collection of town reports now held and maintained by the Library. Maine law now requires that reports be filed with the Library annually. The Library also has substantial holdings of city directories and a complete file of Maine Registers dating back to 1820.

### THOMAS BIRD MOSHER PUBLICATIONS

From 1894 to 1926, the internationally known publisher Thomas Bird Mosher (1852-1923) of Portland collected and published poetry and prose selections representing little known masterpieces from world literature. Although they were produced in small and inexpensive format, the publications of the Mosher Press were distinguished by their fine quality imported paper, beauty and typography, and layout. The State Library's two complete sets of the Mosher Series are in the Maine Room.

### MANUSCRIPTS

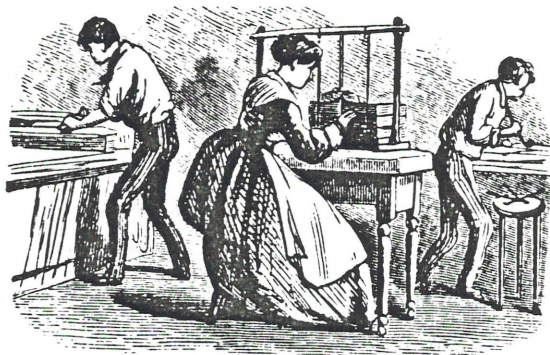
The State Library has manuscripts including Maine history, biography, personal papers, genealogies, diaries, and a few manuscripts of Maine authors. These manuscripts also include copies of deeds, surveys, vital records, legal and business papers and letters. These materials are accessible through the Library's public catalog.



### AVERY COLLECTION

The Avery Collection, an outstanding collection of materials relating to the Katahdin area and lumbering in northern Maine, is housed in the Maine Room. The collection, gathered by the late Captain Myron H. Avery, consists of paintings by George Hallowell along with pamphlets, slides, negatives and photographs covering the years 1876-1936. Among those contributing photographs to the collection were Fannie Hardy Eckstorm, Edward Draper, George Hallowell and the National Park Service. The collection also includes a large number of maps of the Katahdin and Northern Maine areas.

Captain Myron Avery (1899-1952) was born in Lubec, Maine. He followed a career in the U. S. Navy. His avocation was the out-of-doors and mountain climbing. He was first president of the Appalachian Trail Conference and an enthusiastic developer of the Appalachian Trail in Maine.



Book-binder.

### MAINE NEWSPAPERS

The cities and towns of Maine are well-represented in the Maine State Library's current newspaper collection.

Files of the principal Maine newspapers are available on microfilm, including such important early newspapers as the Bangor Daily Whig and Courier (1836-1900); Eastern Argus (1803-1921); and Le Messenger (1880-1946), a French newspaper published in Lewiston through July, 1967.

### MAPS

The map collection includes state, county, some city and town, regional, and special maps of Maine by Osgood Carleton, the Moses Greenleaf (1777-1834) maps of Maine, maps of fourteen counties circa 1860, a few manuscript maps and a set of maps of the Northeastern Boundary controversy.

The State Library also has an extensive collection of regional and town maps dating from the 1950's to the present.

MAINE AUTHOR COLLECTION

On permanent display in the Maine Room is the Maine Author Collection containing an outstanding representation of works of all major and many minor Maine authors, including those of Madame Sarah Wood of York (1759-1853), Maine's first woman novelist; the complete works of Jacob Abbott (1803-1879) of Hallowell, a pioneer writer of books for children; the historical writings of Jacob's brother, John S. C. Abbott (1805-1877); as well as the fiction of two prolific writers of stories for boys, Elijah Kellogg (1813-1901) and James Otis Kaler (1848-1912).

The idea of a Maine Author Collection originated with Henry Dunnack, a former State Librarian, who in the 1920's began to collect the literary works of Maine authors. For the purposes of this collection, a Maine author is broadly defined to include not only Maine natives but also those who have become Maine residents, or part-time residents and authors writing about Maine. A unique file of correspondence with many of the authors adds to the value and interest of the collection, as do the inscriptions in the books themselves.

## MAINE VERTICAL FILE AND KENNEBEC JOURNAL INDEX

In 1927, the Maine State Library started a clipping file of articles from Maine newspapers about Maine history, people and many other aspects of life in Maine. These clippings along with pamphlets about Maine and her people are arranged alphabetically by subject in the Maine Vertical File. There are also a set of scrapbooks on related topics.

In 1972, newspaper clipping, except for some weekly newspapers, was discontinued. Then the Library began indexing the significant Maine news in the Kennebec Journal. Indexing of its legislative material began in 1986. The index to the Kennebec Journal is located near the public catalog.

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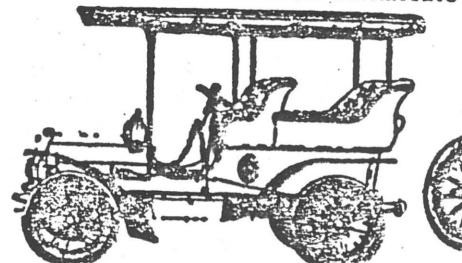
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