Ralph Henry Barbour Correspondence

Ralph Henry Barbour 1870-1944

Hilda McLeod Jacob

Maine State Library

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BARBOUR, Ralph Henry.

b. Cambridge, Massachusetts, November 13, 1870.
April 16, 1942

Mr. Ralph Henry Barbour
C/o D. Appleton-Century Company
35 West 32nd Street
New York, New York

Dear Mr. Barbour:

It was called to our attention that as the author of THE THREE-CORNERED DOG, you could be claimed by us as a Maine author. We are always delighted to welcome another name to the literary roster of the state; but we have been unsuccessful in verifying this rumor.

We are particularly interested because of the Maine Author Collection, an exhibit of over a thousand presentation copies of books, all inscribed with unusual tributes to the state, interesting incidents connected with the writing of the particular book, an original sketch or verse. These individual touches of course distinguish the volumes, adding to their present and future worth.

The books are written by those born in Maine, resident here, or using the state as a setting, and we have been extremely happy with the enthusiastic response from all our authors. If it is possible to include the THREE-CORNERED DOG, and claim its writer as a Maine author, through birth or residence, we shall be very glad of the opportunity.

Very truly yours

MAINE STATE LIBRARY

BY

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SECRETARY
Mrs. F. W. Jacob,
Maine State Library,
Augusta, Me.

Dear Mrs. Jacob:

I can't lay claim to Maine citizenship, having been born in Massachusetts and now being a resident of Florida. However, the book you allude to was written as a result of several vacations in your state, all pleasantly remembered, and on the chance that that entitles THE THREE-CORNERED DOG to a place in the collection I am requesting the publishers to send you a copy of it.

Very truly yours,

Ralph Henry Barbour
May 6, 1942

Mr. Ralph Henry Barbour
1401 El Rado
Coral Gables, Florida

Dear Mr. Barbour:

Your interest in the Maine Author Collection delights us, and we are very glad to receive the gift copy of THE THREE-CORNERED DOG.

Our disappointment in being unable to claim you as a Maine-born author is mitigated by your kindness and pleasant words, and by the fact that we can "adopt" you, as we have many others such as Ben Ames Williams, Booth Tarkington, Rachel Field, Gladys Hasty Carroll, and Laura E. Richards -- by virtue of residence or writing about the state.

THE THREE-CORNERED DOG is a fine addition to the collection for the spirit of its story and the authentic feeling of its background. We are sure that boys, and probably some girls, have enjoyed it greatly, and will continue to do so.

Please accept our thanks for your generosity, and also our cordial invitation to visit the library and the Maine Author Collection when you are again in Maine.

Very truly yours

MAINE STATE LIBRARY
BY

hmj

SECRETARY
For I have seen dreamt this dream,
A hand held out from human sight,
To meet our false weight on the scale
Will set the Sasser scales aright.

Feb. 29, 1872