October 2015

Lawrence Dame Correspondence

Lawrence Clement Dame 1898-1981

Katherine Lavina Dame 1870-

Mrs. Edward Lawrence Dame 1870-

Mrs. Lamb
Maine State Library

Hilda McLeod Jacob
Maine State Library

See next page for additional authors

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DAME, Lawrence
Portland, Maine,
Portland, Maine,
Oct. 21, '40

Dear Sirs,

I note that the name of Lawrence Dame, (Portland born), who wrote "New England Comes Back", does not appear in the list of native authors, altho he is listed as one of the speakers at the Boston Book Fair. His book was on the list of required of Boston Univ. at the summer courses. He is now writing a book on Yucatan, a place he knows well, having traveled through many of its little known jungles.

Several times on the staff of the Paris New York Herald, once of the Portland Press Herald and now of the Boston Herald, and has been for years, a veteran of Foreign Wars and a student, having taken courses at Harvard, University of Grenoble, the Sorbonne, Univ. of Toulouse, and Univ. of Burgos.

Mrs. Edward Laurence Dame.
My son is the last person in the world to ever bring these things to mind, but you know what mothers are, wanting in a way, for their own to receive recognition too. Sincerely, and with best wishes for a fine exhibit from the State of Maine.

Katherine Dana.

Mrs. Edward Lawrence Dana.
October 28, 1940

Mrs. Edward Lawrence Dame
36 North Street
Portland, Maine

Dear Mrs. Dame:

It was most kind of you to write to us about your son, Lawrence Dame, author of NEW ENGLAND COMES BACK -- a book, by the way, which we purchased for our individual loan section of the library immediately upon its publication, and which has rarely been in the library since, so much in demand it has been.

First, we really should defend ourselves, and our reputation for recognizing Maine authors, by stating that we did not write the newspaper article, and therefore cannot take direct responsibility for its content. Of course there are literally hundreds of Maine authors whose names do not, and could not, for lack of space, appear in such an article.

Those of us who were attending the Book Fair were delighted to hear Mr. Dame speak at one of the sessions, and we are anticipating his forthcoming book on Yucatan, which the program chairman mentioned. We are greatly indebted to you for calling to our attention that Mr. Dame can be claimed as a Maine Author, and one of our autumn pleasures will be to write to Mr. Dame regarding the Maine Author Collection, and exhibit of books written by Maine authors.

Very truly yours

MAINE STATE LIBRARY
BY

hmj

SECRETARY
February 20, 1941

Mr. Lawrence Dame
c/o Boston Herald
Boston, Massachusetts

Dear Mr. Dame:

The pleasure of hearing you speak at the Boston Herald Book Fair last autumn, and the assurance of your mother that you might be claimed as a Maine author, combine to give us cause for congratulating ourselves! Permit us also to congratulate you upon your very fine NEW ENGLAND COMES BACK. We purchased the book immediately upon publication, and you may be interested to know that the call for it was instant and constant. We anticipate the book on YUCATAN, for which we have been watching; and we know that it will again testify to your reportorial competence, and ability to capture the attention of readers with felicitous phrase and absorbing incident.

The Maine Author Collection is an exhibit, here in the State Library, of books written by Maine people, comprised of about a thousand inscribed presentation copies. The inherent interest and value of such a collection is immediately apparent, and we hope that it will be possible for us to boast the distinction of including an inscribed copy of NEW ENGLAND COMES BACK, and of the new Yucatan book when it is available.

Please accept our best wishes for a most successful continuation of your work.

Very truly yours

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hmj
21 February 41

Dear Mrs. Lamb:

Thank you for your nice note about my book "New England Comes Back."

I am happy to surmise that in some way you got hold of a copy and that it reposes (now and then being disturbed, I hope), in your Maine author collection. Your good wishes are also deeply appreciated and I hope you will obtain the Yucatan book later in the year.

If there is anything I can do, please advise.

Sincerely,

Lawrence Dame
Mr. Lawrence Dame
30 The Boston Herald
Boston, Massachusetts

Dear Mr. Dame:

Your very pleasant letter of February 21 gives us reason to believe that we did not explain the Maine Author Collection as carefully as possible.

Your are entirely correct in your surmise that we have your book, NEW ENGLAND COMES BACK, in the library; but it is not in the collection. Our copy is in the lending section, and is indeed disturbed from time to time! In fact, it is rarely in the library, so much has it delighted our readers.

The Maine Author Collection is separate from the lending section of the library. The collection is an exhibit, and never is lent to borrowers. It is a permanent display and we are gathering these volumes to preserve the works of Maine people in one place, and the data about them.

Since these volumes are inscribed presentation copies, that means that we do not of course have a copy of NEW ENGLAND COMES BACK. We hope that you will want to inscribe a copy for the exhibit, and will realize that what may at first glance seem to you a grasping proclivity on our part is in reality only a great desire to pay the tribute of preservation to these books written by Maine men and women.

Our good wishes continue; and so does our anticipation of your forthcoming YUCATAN.

Very truly yours

MAINE STATE LIBRARY
BY

hmj

SECRETARY
May 19, 1941

Mr. Lawrence Dame  
c/o The Boston Herald  
Boston, Massachusetts  

Dear Mr. Dame:

This is the formal thanks which Miss Stuart promised you. -- We do not, however, feel at all formal after your extremely pleasant surprise visit!

The addition of NEW ENGLAND COMES BACK to the Maine Author Collection is a happy one. Thank you for the generosity of your gift, and for the individual inscription with which you distinguished the volume. It continues to be a book greatly in demand, and that of course is gratifying, because our interest naturally lies in seeing good books circulate widely. When they are books by Maine writers, our enthusiasm is even higher.

Thank you again, very, very much; and all good wishes for the book on Yucatan.

Very truly yours

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hmj  
SECRETARY
August 25, 1941

Mr. Lawrence Dame  
c/o The Boston Herald  
Boston, Massachusetts

Dear Mr. Dame:

The book on Yucatan is almost out -- at least, we read that the publication date is August 26, and so we are extending our congratulations at once. You will be glad to know that it is on our order list.

Is the Maine Author Collection to have an inscribed copy? Such a gift would delight us, and would also keep the representation of your work in this exhibit complete. We do hope you will want to present it for this purpose.

Our best wishes for the success of YUCATAN: THE LAND OF THE MAYAS.

Very truly yours

MAINE STATE LIBRARY

BY

h mj

SECRETARY
September 17, 1941

Mr. Lawrence Dame  
c/o The Boston Herald  
Boston, Massachusetts

Dear Mr. Dame:

YUCATAN has arrived! We refer, of course, to your new book, although the statement might almost stand literally, for you do bring the country's sounds and sights and smells, its whole personality, very vividly to a reader.

We are delighted with the volume. Its format is at once demanding of attention; and certainly no other book has done for this country what you have done. It is a genuine contribution to the literature on Central America. We are having more and more calls for material on these countries, and we welcome enthusiastically your YUCATAN, which we can see at once is authoritative, and yet is stimulating, pleasurable reading.

Of course it will enjoy a great success, as it should; and once more we congratulate you upon an outstanding book. We are especially pleased with the inscription in the Maine Author Collection copy, and we thank you once more for your generosity and interest in the project.

Already your reputation is such that as soon as one volume is released, we seize upon it avidly, and begin to anticipate the next!

Very truly yours

MAINE STATE LIBRARY
BY

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Encl—3¢ refund for postage on YUCATAN

SECRETARY