Follow this and additional works at: http://digitalmaine.com/maine_writers_correspondence

Recommended Citation
Reed, Meredith; Henkle, Rae D.; Fuller, Marion Cobb; and Maine State Library, "Meredith Reed Correspondence" (2015). Maine Writers Correspondence. 436.
http://digitalmaine.com/maine_writers_correspondence/436

This Text is brought to you for free and open access by the Maine State Library Special Collections at Maine State Documents. It has been accepted for inclusion in Maine Writers Correspondence by an authorized administrator of Maine State Documents. For more information, please contact statedocs@maine.gov.
April 15, 1931

Miss Meredith Reed,

381 Fourth Avenue,

New York City.

My dear Miss Reed:

I note that the reviews of your new book, "The Glory Trail", speak of you as a Maine girl. I hope that this is true and that we may have the pleasure of adding your name to our list of Maine authors.

We have at the Maine State Library an exhibition collection of autographed copies of the works of persons born in Maine or resident here during their creative years. If you are a native of this state, we hope that you will be interested in sending us a copy of your book, autographed, for this Maine Author Collection.

We make it a point to mention in our Library Bulletin all books written by Maine persons or about Maine. We should like to have a brief note about you and your book, or books, in our July issue. Will you please send us some biographical data about yourself, something of a more personal nature than a Who's Who item. Something about the writing of your book would be of especial interest.

Very truly yours,

MAINE STATE LIBRARY

BY MCF
Miss Marion Caleb Fuller,
Maine State Library,
Augusta, Maine,
my dear Miss Fuller,

I believe that Mr.
I have sent you an autographed
copy of "The Glory Trail", which I am
glad to have included in the collection
of which you speak.

It is true that I
was born in Maine, but I lived there
for only two years, as my father, who
was a clergyman in the Methodist
Episcopal Church, transferred to the New
Hampshire Conference, and in New Hampsh
until recently, I have made my home as a graduate of Boston University, and as you may know from the reviews, I am interested in music and am a singer.

"The Clay Trail" is my first novel, but I have written poems and short stories.

I don't know that I can tell you anything about the setting of my book that would be of special interest. I am fond of the out-of-doors, especially of the mountains, so perhaps it is natural that the White Mountains of New Hampshire should be the background for my story.

I love music and there had to be music in the book.

Thank you for writing to me. I am proud to have "The Clay Trail" in your library.

Sincerely yours,

Meredith Reed
Miss Meredith Reed,
138 Warren Street,
Needham, Massachusetts.

Dear Miss Reed:-

Thank you for your prompt response to our letter about your new book. We are very glad to have it to add to our collection and we appreciate your interest in the collection. Come and see it when you are in Maine again.

I hope that your second novel will be about Maine. The "Glory Trail" is very good indeed and is the type of story which we like to use in our travelling libraries.

We shall be interested in keeping in touch with you and your work.

Very truly yours,

MAINE STATE LIBRARY

Will you please tell us where in Maine you were born so that we can make a note of your birthplace in our reference files?
138 Warren Street
Needham, Massachusetts
May 17, 1931

Miss Marion Colden Fuller,
Maine State Library,
Augusta, Maine,

My dear Miss Fuller,

I am sorry that you were put to the trouble of writing again. My birthplace is Danforth.

If I go through Augusta this summer, I shall be interested to visit the library and see your collection of books. Thank you for your
interest in my work. I appreciate it very much.

Very truly yours,

Meredith Reed
Miss Teresa C. Stewart,
State of Maine Library Commission,
Augusta, Maine.

Dear Miss Stewart:

The interest of the Maine State Library in Maine authors was indicated by a request which Miss Reed tells us she had from you recently for a copy of her book, THE GLORY TRAIL which we recently published. Apart from the fact that Miss Meredith Reed was born in Maine, the book, THE GLORY TRAIL is unquestionably one of the most charming books of the season and I want to bring it directly to your attention in the hope that you can find your way clear to making it available as far as possible in the public libraries of the state.

Enclosed with this is a facsimile sheet of typical reviews some of which you undoubtedly have seen. It is the sort of book, moreover that libraries seem to be searching for and that search meeting with little success in these days of neurotic literature.

When we publishers and librarians run across a book, which as the head of the English Department in one of the large universities says: "it is realism without ugliness and idealism without sentimentality", we feel that we want to push it all we can.

Very cordially yours,

RAE D. HENKLE, PUBLISHER.

[Signature]

Rae D. Henkle.
June 11, 1931

Mr. Rae D. Henkle,
381 Fourth Avenue,
New York City.

Dear Mr. Henkle:

Thank you for your interesting letter about Miss Reed's book, and for the press clippings. We are not only interested in all Maine authors and their works but we have special reference files containing information about them and we are glad to have the information which you sent us to add to our notes about Miss Reed. The autographed copy of "The Glory Trail" has been added to the Maine Author Collection, an exhibition collection of autographed copies of books by persons born in Maine or resident here during their creative years. We have ordered five copies of the book for use in the traveling libraries; it is the type of book which we always welcome for these libraries. We wish that there were more of them and we hope that Miss Reed will continue to write stories in this vein.

We shall be grateful to you if you will call our attention to books by Maine authors which come from your publishing house. We make it a point to mention the work of Maine authors in our Library Bulletin. We will send you a copy of the July issue, with a brief note of Miss Reed's book.

Very truly yours

SIGNED

M

C

F
The Glory Trail
By MEREDITH REED

Blind Peter and the Disgraced Physician
'Come to 'Glory Trail'

As clean and refreshing as the breezes across its New Hampshire hills.

How the Mountains Make Love
Grow Big and Strong

THE GLORY TRAIL. by Meredith Reed. RAE D. Henkle, 200 pp. $2.

Here is a novel which was much of a surprise to the reviewer. It has so much of charm in the telling that we are justified in having its advent with unqualified enthusiasm. The story is one of sentiment unashamed, but there is a fine restraint, both in the chronicle of all that happens and in the portrayal and interpretation of the emotional development. It is a story of friendship that proves itself greater than love, and of a New Hampshire mountain environment that of itself helped to be as big and strong as friendship at its wonderful best.

Principal characters are three—Mary Malvern, a beautiful girl who has been kept at home in a mountain village by ties and duties there, though her musical talent has often filled her with wistful longing to follow the road to the far-off city; Daniel Gordon, a surgeon famous, and at the head of his own hospital at 36, but driven by a nervous breakdown to leave the city, behind and bury himself among the peaceful, healing hills; and blind Peter Piper, a foundling left in babyhood on the doorstep of a mountain home where there are already so many children that the family has willingly allowed Mary Malvern, his neighbor, to fill the role of mother and teacher. Peter is one of the most appealing children that we have met in a month. A serious injury to the boy leads Dr. Gordon, who has taken a keen interest in him, to try to reveal his identity and carry the story toward its climax. To all these three, Miss Reed succeeds very happily in giving personality and vitality. Nor are the incidental characters at all peripheral or conventional. The kindly village folk as well as the restless and selfish Clarice Gordon have a story of their own, and a future, brave, likeable persons with the sun in their faces, walk gloriously out of the story. A fine, fresh story of understanding people, a wholesome, invigorating novel is this.

She educates Peter Piper, an angel. He is sightless, but Mary Malvern sees for him. Dr. Gordon, outslided from his hospital because of a fatal surgical error, seeks mental and physical health in the New Hampshire mountains. A successful operation on Peter's spine is the means of Dr. Gordon's return to his former fame, but the outcome is clouded by a series of events which, for Mary Malvern's 'high heart', might have resulted disastrously. Even at the close of the novel the solution is not at hand, but the reader has reason to hope.

The story has great emotional if not literary depth, and, contrary to the current custom, the characters are worth their weight in words.

The author has done some lovely work with this story. Romance, genius, tragedy play their part. But the real charm of the story is in the exquisite naturalness with which 'Peter Pan' makes his way from a flower sweater, with fragrance; a ring of glowing embers; a young girl who cherished a dream, with great musical talent, the way she had been to her betrothed; to a flower of a sponging aunt. Then the father died, and she had to remain in the village, to care for a censernous father, and a sponging aunt. Then the father died, and she had to remain in the village, to care for a censernous father, and a sponging aunt. Then the father died, and she had to remain in the village, to care for a censernous father, and a sponging aunt. She was a sweet, gracious girl, who kept her gaze upon the stars while her feet trod the common ways of service. But she knew the story was not for her. And there was a blind boy with a wonderful gift for music. She gave him lessons and taught him the story of the Glory Trail along which she was going to send him some day. He was a waif left upon the doorstep of some roving gypsy who refused to give him up because of the 'Prince' they talked would some day come for him with a great ransom. And because he was so full of music, and because every day she could hear his flute ringing along the mountain forest, where he could roam at will, without sight, the girl grew fond of him and as Peter Pan, the name already given him, she saw the star above him being Peter. So he was Peter Pan. An ideal is the child, and of Peter Piper, one of the most eye-pleasing characters in the story, the author has done some lovely work. She has given him a heart like a lilies and a soul like a new born baby. She has made him a perfect combination of innocence and knowledge, of beauty and wisdom, of strength and grace. She has made him a perfect combination of innocence and knowledge, of beauty and wisdom, of strength and grace. She uses the key of romance, with the mountain residents, to open the door to the reader. The mountain residents are likeable persons with the sun in their faces, walk gloriously out of the story. A fine, fresh story of understanding people, a wholesome, invigorating novel is this.

The author has done some lovely work with this story. Romance, genius, tragedy play their part. But the real charm of the story is in the exquisite naturalness with which 'Peter Pan' makes his way from a flower sweater, with fragrance; a ring of glowing embers; a young girl who cherished a dream, with great musical talent, the way she had been to her betrothed; to a flower of a sponging aunt. Then the father died, and she had to remain in the village, to care for a censernous father, and a sponging aunt. She was a sweet, gracious girl, who kept her gaze upon the stars while her feet trod the common ways of service. But she knew the story was not for her. And there was a blind boy with a wonderful gift for music. She gave him lessons and taught him the story of the Glory Trail along which she was going to send him some day. He was a waif left upon the doorstep of some roving gypsy who refused to give him up because of the 'Prince' they talked would some day come for him with a great ransom. And because he was so full of music, and because every day she could hear his flute ringing along the mountain forest, where he could roam at will, without sight, the girl grew fond of him and as Peter Pan, the name already given him, she saw the star above him being Peter. So he was Peter Pan. An ideal is the child, and of Peter Piper, one of the most eye-pleasing characters in the story, the author has done some lovely work. She has given him a heart like a lilies and a soul like a new born baby. She has made him a perfect combination of innocence and knowledge, of beauty and wisdom, of strength and grace. She has made him a perfect combination of innocence and knowledge, of beauty and wisdom, of strength and grace. She uses the key of romance, with the mountain residents, to open the door to the reader. The mountain residents are likeable persons with the sun in their faces, walk gloriously out of the story. A fine, fresh story of understanding people, a wholesome, invigorating novel is this.

She educates Peter Piper, an angel. He is sightless, but Mary Malvern sees for him. Dr. Gordon, outslided from his hospital because of a fatal surgical error, seeks mental and physical health in the New Hampshire mountains. A successful operation on Peter's spine is the means of Dr. Gordon's return to his former fame, but the outcome is clouded by a series of events which, for Mary Malvern's 'high heart', might have resulted disastrously. Even at the close of the novel the solution is not at hand, but the reader has reason to hope.

The story has great emotional if not literary depth, and, contrary to the current custom, the characters are worth their weight in words.
April 23, 1933

Miss Marion Fuller.
Maine State Library, Augusta, Maine.

Dear Miss Fuller,

I am sending for your collection of books by authors born in Maine my second novel, "Shy Lady", published this spring. You may remember "The Glory Trail" which I sent you two years ago. I am awaiting copy and will mail it when it arrives.

Very truly yours,

Meredith Reed
May 18, 1933

Miss Meredith Reed,
67 High Street,
South Hanson, Massachusetts.

My dear Miss Reed;-

"Skylark" has just arrived and we are delighted to have it to add to the Maine Author Collection. Thank you for sending it to us and for autographing it for us. It will be placed with your other books and we shall take pleasure in mentioning it in the Maine Books and Authors section of the Library Bulletin. Lack of space will prevent our having more than a few lines about each item, in this issue, but at least there will be enough to inform our patrons what Maine writers are doing.

At the Federation of Women's Clubs Field Day at Lewiston Saturday the library has a book exhibit, including recent books of special Maine interest. I am glad that "Skylark" has arrived in time to be included in the exhibit.

With best wishes for the success of your book, and grateful appreciation of your generous interest in the library, I am

(Signed) MCF