November 2015

Mary Russell Correspondence

Mary McSorely Russell 1881-

Maine State Library

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March 14, 1961

Miss Mary Russell

c/o Little, Brown & Co.
34 Beacon Street
Boston 36, Massachusetts

Dear Miss Russell:

A copy of your charming SKEET has been made available to us for inclusion in the Maine Author Collection, and we are delighted to have thus brought to our attention the fact that you are a Maine author.

The Maine Author Collection is a permanent exhibit of books by Maine writers, or books pertaining in some way to Maine. Most of the volumes are inscribed presentation copies, the inscriptions lending a distinctive and original touch to an outstanding and valuable collection. We also gather biographical and critical material, so that our files of information on Maine authors may be as complete as possible.

We are indeed sorry that we didn't have SKEET before, but you will be interested to know that he has been in our traveling libraries and bookmobiles, where he has made many friends.

Do you think it possible that some day the collection could look forward to having your other books? It would be an honor and a pleasure to be able to include them.

Sincerely yours

hmj

In Charge of
Maine Author Collection
Mrs. P. W. Jacob  
Maine Author Collection  
Maine State Library  
Augusta, Maine  

Dear Mrs. Jacob:

Thank you for your very gracious letter telling me you have met my SKERT, like it, have a copy in the Maine Author Collection and in your traveling libraries and bookmobiles. It is always gratifying to an author to know that her books are read and liked especially when they are for juvenile readers.

I am honored to have SKERT placed in the Maine State Library and would be pleased to contribute copies of other books if you think I qualify as a Maine author. For the fact is that none of my books were written in Maine or are about Maine. True I was born in Maine and graduated from one of its standard high schools but moved away when I was in my early twenties. Since then I have lived in six other states but never in Maine though I have spent many vacations there. Now do I rate as a Maine author by your classification? If so I shall be happy to send you other books. Again my thanks for your appreciation of SKERT and interest in me.

Sincerely yours

Mary Russell

26 Lombard Road  
Arlington 74, Mass.  
April 18, 1961