SAWTELLE, WILLIAM OTIS
December 21, 1931

Dear Henry Dunnack:

You once said that certain duplicate copies of the Unit. Soc. Sec. were
you might loan to Interford Collection.

I was so busy entertaining visitors
to the Collection last summer that I
didn't get round to writing to you about them.

Now I am working hard on
"Sagadahoe" by Thomas Coram. So Blythe
Lake - Col. 3 and Dunbar and the rest of the bunch. If you could send
some here vol. IX, X, XI of Box No. 21, so called, it would speed up the work.

I was in Boston the other day and
learned for the first time of Col. Charles E.
Bartrum death. Great loss. How does one get a copy of his book on Yorks? They could not sell me at Mass. Hist. Soc. Did you get "Pownall" that I sent to you?

Compliments of the season.

Yours Sawtelle
December 28, 1931

Mr. William Otis Sawtelle
Box 398
Haverford, Pennsylvania

Dear Mr. Sawtelle:

In response to your request of December 21st we are sending you volumes 9, 10 and 11 of the Baxter manuscripts.

The death of Col. Charles E. Banks is certainly a great loss to the State of Maine and to New England. It seems to me that the men who have been interested in history are rapidly disappearing, and at present no one seems to be taking their places. This is a most unfortunate situation and leads me to suggest that some active steps should be taken to create an interest in history and in the writing of history.

I wish we had a copy of the History of York to send you, but the book was so expensive that the state only purchased twenty-five copies. Why don't you borrow our copy? You may keep it two or three months, and perhaps an additional one will show up or one that we can secure from you at a low price.

"Pownall" has been received and I have read it several times, not only with great profit, but with pleasure. The footnotes are a great addition, and its accuracy gives it a place of high merit among our historical sources, and the spirit and style of the writing greatly enhance its value.

Very truly yours,

State Librarian.
My dear "Mason Cobb",

Your letter with the Trails and Waterways I found here on my desk this morning on my return from Bangor.

I broke away for a few days from my beloved Island - long enough to make a couple of speeches (if they can be called that) at some luncheon clubs. I am staying here until election day as I vote desk and have for many years.


P. 25 at 25. [Limited edition non-unique rare. But you must have a copy in Yale Library. Islesford Collection has long had a copy].

I expect to be in Augusta before lunch on my way and family are living in cropped shirt. I will drop in and report. 6 year when I go through.

Very sincerely,

William "Bill" Pantalee.
November 9, 1932

Professor William Otis Sawtelle,
Isleford, Maine.

Dear Professor Sawtelle:—

Thank you for the books and for the information about David Ingram. We do not have *Sailors' Narratives of New England Voyages*, I am sorry to say. I shall borrow it from the Bangor Library which, as you know has and can have nearly everything because I should like to see the Ingram narrative. I am sure that I have read most of it somewhere rather recently, within a few years, that is. The narrative was I believe reprinted in the *Historical Magazine*, some time ago.

Be sure to come to see us when you are visiting your family.

Very truly yours,

MAINE STATE LIBRARY
BY MGF
March 15, 1933.

My dear "Marion Cobb:

My black ribbon is worn out and I cannot wait to get a new one before writing to you about something which irritates me beyond words.

Perhaps you have already seen the book "Romantic and Historic Maine" by A. Hyatt Verrill, published by Dodd, Mead and Company, 1933. The author lifts bodily my material from Maine's Trails and Waterways which he garbles unmercifully. And the Maine Development Commission gives him permission to do so.

"When one finishes reading this book," to quote from the jacket, "one agrees heartily with Mr. Verrill that no state in the Union has a more romantic and colorful history than Maine." Incidentally, when an author is unhindered by facts and is indifferent to historical accuracy he can delve in romance to his heart's content and easily produce a "history" which puts to blush the chromatic scale of the solar spectrum.

In his prologue Mr. Verrill, like certain high pressure salesmen who claim too much for their wares, overshoots his mark when he claims as internationally known sons and daughters of Maine James G. Blaine, (b. West Brownsville, Pa.) General Henry Knox (b. Boston) James Anthony Froude (b. Devon, England) and so on. Among his celebrities he includes names of people of whom I never heard, and concludes his list with Mellie Dunham.

Even the cuts come in for criticism. The heading of Chapter III is a drawing of the old State House at Augusta with the legend: "Augusta in the 18th Century." I always supposed the State House was built when the 19th century was well on its way.

To again quote from the jacket: "The most important and interesting feature of this particular book is the surprising wealth of hitherto undiscovered or forgotten incidents." Hitherto undiscovered is a broad statement, and it raises the question as to the actual scope of Mr. Verrill's researches in the preparation of his Romantic and Historic Maine.

As for "forgotten incidents" which presumably refers to the Marie Antoinette and Wiscasset myth, the question may well be asked, how can one forget something which never was?

But to be specific: On page 41 it is stated in regard to an Indian raid at Wells that "Esther Wheelwright an Abenaki girl was carried as a prisoner to Quebec." Later "she became the mother superior of the Ursuline Convent, the first Indian girl to become a Roman Catholic nun."
Shades of Mere Marie and the ancestors of the Wheelwright families of Maine and Massachusetts. This is romance with a capital R. And this interesting information is obtained from the Maine Development Commission according to "acknowledgements" printed on a page in the first part of the book.

And again, on page 85, "Pemmaquid, why the spelling? And it was here, according to Veritas Verrill that the Province of New Ireland was established soon after the Treaty of Utrecht! That Governor Philips of the Massachusetts Colony was ordered to occupy Pemmaquid and that he sent Colonel David Dunbar there as his agent.

Now put these statements along side of those made on page 263, under Chronology of Important Historical Events (which the publishers say is a distinct contribution for use of students of Maine history, or words to that effect):

1770. First Irishman in Maine. Colonel David Dunbar commissioned to build fort at Pemmaquid.
1771. Establishment of an Irish Colony at Pemmaquid.

Hurrah for the Maine Development Commission. They are certainly enlarging their field. Of course it is too bad for them that the Province of Ireland was a proposal of the British Government for a Loyalist Province which was to take in Eastern Maine about the close of the Revolutionary War, but declared impossible by the Attorney General of Great Britain since it would be a violation of the sacredness of the Massachusetts charter. But perhaps it was the Treaty of Utrecht of 1713 that terminated the War of Independence. I don't feel quite sure about it and I suppose I ought to put the question to Verrill when I get round to it. Possibly the Maine Development Commission might decide the matter.

It is also unfortunate that Governor Philips was governor of Nova Scotia, not Massachusetts. Why obliterate Governor Jonathan Belcher? But as I said when one is unhampered by such silly things as facts some wonderful yarns may be spun.

Dunbar commissioned to build fort at Pemmaquid. That's a good one too. Find the commission. But pay no attention to Dunbar's own statement that all he did was to lay up a dry wall - and he didn't spell the place with a double m.

Speaking of treaties on page 137 we find mention of the Treaty of Breda, 1677. This must be one of the "hitherto undiscovered or forgotten incidents." It certainly adds color to a very colorful history written by the Maine Development Commission and one Verrill. It would be a shame to even suggest that the Treaty of Breda is here meant and that, unhampered by facts the date is given as 1677 instead of 1667/68. A mere detail. I just mention it in passing.

It is nice to know that Acadia National Park was the first national park to be established! And so I might run on and on, but I will spare you. For real downright amusement Romantic and Historic Maine beats any jigsaw puzzle ever placed on the market.

Very sincerely,

William Ohi Sandecca
Dear Marion Cobb:

Your most welcome letter found me here still reluctant to leave my island fastness. Though the family returned to town about September 20 I have remained here or in Bangor.

The summer passed quickly and I certainly was busy running the collection hall alone. I didn't get off the Island from early June to early September. The Eastern S.S. excursionists from New York and Boston came Tuesdays, Thursdays and Saturdays - and on those days I didn't even get home to lunch. Wednesday afternoons the Acadia Park people came over her fifty strong - and now next year they want to make it twice a week.

It is fine to be published by the Interior Department and the Educational Division of the National Parks Association but
sure as shooting they are taking it out of my hide.

Isn't that Yarrell book on muss?

Even the map on inside the cover makes Mount Desert a part of the mainland and places Bucksport on the west bank of the Penobscot. Now can any body get away with such stuff?

Too bad you couldn't get down this way. We had a ferry running this summer to and from Seal Harbor making four round trips per day - but very few Maine people found the way here.

Pownall's administration of the Colonies has not been surpassed since his time. If I mistake not the last impression was 1767.

Just now I am going over Robert E. Moody's M.S. of his History of Maine and find it a fine piece of work. Also of work on my M.S. European Journal of Capt. Sam Hadlock Jr. 1826-31. for

Incidentally rebuilding the Wharf having "the Head" our summer from Falmouth - and doing a bit of grading around the dock. As well from these. Nothing much doing.

Yours truly;

Wm. Old Falmouth.
November 10, 1933.

My dear Marjor Cobb:

Your most welcome letter reached me a day or two ago.

As I am leaving here in a few days—these confounded snowstorms are a nuisance—I will answer now.

Robert E. Moody, 38 Commonwealth Avenue, Boston, is Professor of History at Boston University. I have just returned from N.Y. to finish that portion dealing with Thomas Corbin, David Dunbar and Samuel Waldo. It is a very carefully done, accurate bit of work.

Moody is one of Professor Charles M. Andrews' students (Yale) and I think we shall hear much...
from the young man. I met him last winter at a meeting of the Colonial Society in Boston. I had a pleasant chat.

I don't believe I can stop off in Augusta this time. Egerlon, my little dog, has been sent by the railway Dept. to Moscow to straighten out some difficulties the engineers there have managed to get into. His wife (Muriel Stake) is in Boston with her parents and I want very much to see the new granddaughter - Christine Stake.

By the way here's a good one - a recent inquiry from the Liverpool Office of the Cunard J.S. Co. seeks information in regard to one Daniel Brockettbank, a Sheepsfoot ship builder 1770-1776 - afterwards settling in London. I have some of his family and he himself founded a line of steamers. Keep! keep!!

Yours! Regards -

Very sincerely,

[Signature]
My old friend J.ack
1922-1932. Shipwrecked
on the Sch. Don Parsons,
1933. With Cranberry Tides
he adopted me and the
Staerford Collection and
was faithful to the end.
Jack and I are selling
on the slopes of the main
building of the Collection.

W.O.S.