

April 2016

Bernice Bassett Wyman Correspondence

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Bernice Bassett Wyman 1891-1962

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WYMAN, Bernice Bassett (Mrs. A. Percival)

b. Indiana, 1891 - (b. July 20, 1890 PEE)

d. Waterville, July 19, 1962.

Obituaries



MRS. A. PERCIVAL WYMAN

WATERVILLE—Mrs. Bernice Bassett Wyman, 71, wife of A. Percival Wyman, died in her Mayflower Hill Drive home yesterday after a long illness.

Born in Greencastle, Ind., July 20, 1890, she was the youngest child of the late Rev. Thomas J. and Anna Ridpath Bassett. John Clark Ridpath, historian, was her uncle.

She was educated in Indiana schools and was graduated from De Pauw University in 1910. She did graduate work at the University of Illinois, taught languages and home economics in Indiana public schools before going to Japan to teach in 1919 under the Methodist Board and was there during the great earthquake of 1923.

On Aug. 7, 1929, she married A. Percival Wyman and made her permanent home in Waterville, where she became interested in church, club and civic affairs.

She was a member of the Waterville Congregational Church, of the General Society of Mayflower Descendants, the

Waterville Woman's Club, the American Association of University Women, and a charter member of the Zonta Club.

She was a member of the Waterville Friends of Music, a past president of the Maine Writers' Club, the board of directors of the New England Home for Little Wanderers and the Waterville Garden Club.

She was the author of one book, "A Strand Of Pearls From Old Japan," and was collaborator on another. She had contributed to the Ladies Home Journal, and to magazines, newspapers and periodicals.

She is survived by her husband; a daughter, Miss Clairanne Wyman, Boston; a son, Paul H. Wyman, Waterville; a sister, Mrs. R. B. Walsh, Portland, Ore.; two nephews, C. B. Walsh, Portland, Ore., and E. W. Bassett of Danville, Ill.; two nieces, six grandchildren and several grandnephews and nieces.

Services will be held in the Congregational Church at 2 p.m. tomorrow.

June 9, 1954

Mrs. A. Percival Wyman
Mayflower Hill Drive
Waterville, Maine

Dear Mrs. Wyman:

A STRAND OF PEARLS FROM OLD JAPAN does not seem to be in the Maine Author Collection. This is rather an oversight, because the collection is supposed to contain all the books of all Maine writers. You probably know of it: a permanent exhibit collection, most of the volumes inscribed presentation copies, now numbering about two thousand. It constitutes a valuable and fascinating collection, and of course you should be represented here.

We hope that you will want to inscribe a copy of A STRAND OF PEARLS FROM OLD JAPAN for this purpose.

Did the cookbook about which we read some time ago ever come to publication?

Sincerely yours

In Charge of
Maine Author Collection

hmj

Christopher, \$2.25

already noted in bulletin

Mayflower Hill Drive
Waterville, Me.

June 12, 1954

Mrs. F. M. Jacob
Maine State Library,
Augusta, Me.

Dear Mrs. Jacob, —

Thank you for your recent letter expressing interest in my book. No doubt you have received an autographed copy by this time.

In answer to your inquiry about my Christmas cook-book. It has suffered many unexpected vicissitudes and hit many snags. I shall send you a copy if or when it appears in book form.

Sincerely yours,

Bessie Bessett Wyman

June 15, 1954

Mrs. A. Percival Wyman
Mayflower Hill Drive
Waterville, Maine

Dear Mrs. Wyman:

Thank you very much for the autographed copy of your book, A STRAND OF PEARLS FROM OLD JAPAN. We are placing it in the Maine Author Collection with appreciation of your kindness, and gratification the the collection now includes this charming and perceptive book.

We do not seem to have biographical information about you on file. At your convenience, would you be willing to let us have a few vital statistics to complete this part of our Maine authors file?

It's too bad about the Christmas book book, but we shall hope that in time the obstacles will be overcome, and that we shall see the printed pages. It sounds like such a wonderful idea.

Sincerely yours

In Charge of
Maine Author Collection

hmj

June 15, 1954

Mrs. A. Percival Wyman
Mayflower Hill Drive
Waterville, Maine

Dear Mrs. Wyman:

Mayflower Hill Dr.
Waterville, Me.
June 21, 1954

Dear Mrs. Jacob:

In reply to your recent letter of inquiry about myself, I feel that I have little to contribute. These are the skeleton facts which you may want:

Born in Indiana where I received my education through St. Paul's Univ.

have one daughter, a teacher
and a step-daughter and son, who
are married. Enjoy my six grand-
children and spending first of all.
then a host of other interests. These
include gardening, piano and house
work, writing, ^{to guests} church work, my
collections of antique dolls, garments,
dishes, trunks, kitchen utensils,
foreign spoons and shoes, Indian
papers, beads, et cetera. I am an

University. Home Economics
Graduate Study, Univ. of Illinois.
Further study at Merrill-
Palmer School, Detroit.
Taught in America (U. S.) -
(Latin, German and English,
and later, Home Economics)
for seven years, and in
Japan some years. Have
taught English, music, kinder-
garten work, adult cooking
and sewing classes.
Married A. Percival Wyman,
Civil Engineer from N. of Maine.

Dear Mrs. Wyman:

Mrs. A. Percival Wyman
Mayflower Hill Drive
Waterville, Maine

June 12, 1924

innumerable collector.

I have had both poems
and articles published in a
number of magazines including
Ladies Home Journal, Home Beautiful,
D. A. R. magazine, Music Club
magazine, Hobbies, Girls World
& others.

Member of City Woman's Club,
Garden Club, D. A. R. Congregational
Church, E. A. C., D. F. P. A., May-
flower Descendants, Maine Writers
Research Club, Delta Beta Sorority,
Federation of Music Clubs, &
that's enough.

Coincidentally, I am sixty-three
years old.

Sincerely,
Bernice Bessett Wyman

June 23, 1954

Mrs. A. Percival Wyman
Mayflower Hill Drive
Waterville, Maine

Dear Mrs. Wyman:

Thank you very much for sending us the
biographical information. We appreciate your
kindness.

Sincerely yours

hmj

In Charge of
Maine Author Collection

MAYFLOWER HILL DRIVE
WATERVILLE, MAINE

R. 3 Shawhegan, Me.

July 13, 1954.

State Librarian,

Augusta, Me.

Dear Madam.—

Do you care to have for any possible genealogical
help it might give, the accompanying family sketch
of my own ancestors which I have recently written?
If you wish it, please keep it with my compliments.

Sincerely yours,

Bernice B. Wyman
(Mrs. A.P.)

July 30, 1954

Mrs. A. P. Wyman
Route 3
Skowhegan, Maine

Dear Mrs. Wyman:

Thank you very much for your gift of LOVELY
MOUNT... We are indeed pleased to have it to add
to your other work, and appreciate your thought
of us.

Sincerely yours

hmj

In Charge of
Maine Author Collection