10-31-2014

Sidney Baldwin Correspondence

Sidney Baldwin 1885-1978

Marion Cobb Fuller
Maine State Library

Miss Proper

Harriet Smither
Texas State Library

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Baldwin, Sidney
Born at Peoria, Illinois
May 5, 1932

Editor, Maine Library Bulletin,
Maine State Library,
Augusta, Maine

Dear Sir:

Your pamphlet has just come to hand. I think you will be interested to in the fact that I have a children's book, "Young Prince Hubert", published by Row, Peterson & Company of Chicago, which is really a Maine publication as it was bought on Monhegan, where I have been writing for two years.

Yours very truly,

(Signed) Sidney Baldwin
May 19, 1932

Miss Sidney Baldwin
Harbor Rocks
Monhegan, Maine

My dear Miss Baldwin:

Thank you for taking the trouble to write to us. I had on my desk a brief clipping about you and I had meant to write to you about your work.

We shall be glad to have you send us an autographed copy of your book "Young Prince Rupert" for the Maine Author Collection, which is an exhibition collection of autographed books by authors born in Maine or resident here during their creative years. In connection with the collection we assemble biographical and critical material about our writers. Will you please send us biographical data about yourself, something of a more personal nature than a Who's Who item, please? If you are not a native of this state please mention how long you have lived here, and how you happened to come to Maine.

Very truly yours,

MAINE STATE LIBRARY

BY MGF

If you do not care to give your book to the Collection please make a bill in duplicate to the Maine State Library.
Mrs. Marion Cobb Fuller,  
Maine State Library,  
Augusta, Maine  

My dear Mrs. Fuller,—

I am sending you the autographed copy of  
"Young Prince Hubert" which you asked for and the biographical data about myself.

Born in Peoria, Illinois, in November 1885. Mother spent the summer on the Maine coast at Squirrel Island and Monhegan that year, if there's anything in pre-natal influence, for, although I didn't come back until I was seventeen, my heart has been here ever since. Smith College 1910 and post graduate work at Columbia, but I have written and published ever since I was twelve, beginning with newspaper work at that age.

I bought a house on Monhegan four years ago and have spent most of the year here since, the last two years continuously and I have been writing steadily for children, stories about this part of the country and more character building stories such as "Young Prince Hubert" is. I hope to be able to send you a real Maine story called "On Old Monhegan", written about this island seventy-five years ago. It hasn't been accepted yet by a publisher, but there's no harm in hoping.

Sincerely yours,

[Signature: Sidney Baldwin]
June 14, 1932

Miss Sidney Baldwin
Harbor Rocks
Monhegan, Maine

My dear Miss Baldwin:-

Thank you for sending a copy of Prince Rupert for the Maine Author Collection. It is a delightful book and I should think children would love it.

The book came some time after your letter did and I was on the point of writing to inquire whether it might not have been lost. Island mails are sometimes uncertain.

Please give my regards to Miss Proper when you see her.

How I wish that I could come to your lovely island when the blue flag and buttercups are in bloom! I saw that gorgeous colorfulness once and I shall never forget it.

Very truly yours,

MAINE STATE LIBRARY

BY MCP
My dear Mrs. Cobb-Fuller:

I want some information about the state of Texas. What can I get from the State Library that will give me information about the early days?

I am enclosing a list of bibliography copied from the Encyclopedia Brittanica. I don't suppose many of these, if any, are available, but I'd very much appreciate the loan of them if they are.

In a week, I expect to be able to mail you my latest book, called "Ben of Old Monhegan." As you can judge by the title, it is a story of a boy on this island about 75 years ago. I am glad to say that it went on the reading list of Illinois and Ohio before it was off the press. It is a similar book for Texas that I want the information for.

Yours sincerely,

[Signature]

B/R
Miss Sidney Baldwin,
Harbor Rocks,
Monhegan, Maine.

Dear Miss Baldwin;-

I am sorry that we have only one of the books on your list, the Creel Biography of Houston. I have made a list of such references on Texas as we have. I think that you might find useful Lomax's Cowboy Songs, and a book with very fine illustrations, a collection of poems by a man named La frentz, Cowboy Stuff. The latter is not an anthology, as the Lomax book is. Do you suppose that Will James's Lone Cowboy would interest you?

We shall delighted to receive your new book, Ben of Old Monhegan. Will you be good enough to autograph it? There won't be a Library Bulletin until July, but I shall be glad to mention it then, and of course it is always a pleasure to recommend to patrons who ask for book suggestions a Maine book by a Maine author.

This must have been a lovely winter on your island. Please give my regards to Miss Proper if Monhegan is a winter resort for her, also.

Very sincerely yours,
My dear Mrs. Cobb-Fuller:

Thank you so much for your service on Texas which I am returning in this mail. I have made a copy and I should like three of the books to start with. These three I am listing.

I have not yet seen "Ben of Old Monhegan", myself. You shall have a copy at an early date.

Yours sincerely,

Sidney Baldwin
February 1st, 1933

Mrs. Marion Cobb-Fuller,
Maine State Library,
Augusta, Maine

My dear Mrs. Cobb-Fuller:

I am sending you a copy of Miss Harriet Smither's letter to me. Do you suppose the Maine State Library could borrow the five books listed? I'd be ever so grateful if they would.

I have seen "Ben" but as yet have no extra copies. He looks very well in print. The illustrations would have been better if I could have criticized the pencil sketches, but they put the entire printing through in three months, so that there was not time to send them on. As it was, the book had a good sale even before it was off the press.

Yours sincerely,

B/R
Miss Sidney Baldwin,
Harbor Rocks,
Monhegan Island, Maine.

Dear Miss Baldwin;

We do not make a practice of borrowing books for use outside the Library but in this instance Dr. Dunnack is glad to make an exception to our rule and is borrowing for your use the five books listed in your letter of January twenty-fourth. He is sending to the Texas State Library for them, since any other library, even the New York one, might not have them all. They will be sent to you as soon as we receive them.

Very truly yours,

Maine State Library

by MCF
March 9, 1933

Miss Sidney Baldwin,
Harbor Rocks,
Monhegan Island, Maine.

Dear Miss Baldwin;-

Thank you so much for the autographed copy of "Ben of Old Monhegan" which arrived this morning. You are very kind to send it to us and we are delighted to have it to add to our collection. Comparatively few of the books by Maine writers are about Maine. I shall be glad to mention "Ben" in the Library Bulletin and it will be a pleasure to recommend it to young readers.

I hope that you are getting along well with the Texas book. We sent you earlier in the week a book from the University of Texas (Or was it the Texas State Library) Library. This is the only one of the books on your list which they could lend us for your use. The others are not available for loan.

Hoping that "Ben of Old Monhegan" will have a successful and prosperous career,

Very sincerely yours,

(Signed) MGF
June 2, 1948

Miss Sidney Baldwin
Boothbay Harbor
Maine

Dear Miss Baldwin:

It has been far too long since we have had a book from you, and we are delighted to notice that CASTING OFF FROM BOOTHBAY HARBOR is now published. It goes on to our order list at once, of course, and we hope that the Maine Author Collection will also be privileged to include the book.

You may remember this collection, which now has over fifteen hundred volumes, inscribed and presented for this purpose. The exhibit increases in worth as in size, and also in attraction for visitors and students.

We hope that you may want to inscribe and present a copy of CASTING OFF FROM BOOTHBAY HARBOR. It would give us great pleasure to place such an appropriate book on these Maine shelves. You have our good wishes for its instant and enduring success.

Sincerely yours

hmj

In Charge of
Maine Author Collection
June 17, 1948

Miss Sidney Baldwin
Boothbay Harbor
Maine

Dear Miss Baldwin:

Congratulations upon CASTING OFF FROM BOOTHBAY HARBOR, which is a delightful book, and amazingly generous with pictures. It will be at once comforting and stimulating to the many people devoted to this region, who can unfortunately spend only a limited time each year in the vicinity of these lovely scenes.

Thank you very much for inscribing and presenting to the Maine Author Collection a copy of the new book. We are very pleased to be able to add it to these shelves. We trust that CASTING OFF FROM BOOTHBAY HARBOR will enjoy a lively demand this summer, and for many future summers; and that you yourself will have an extremely pleasant season.

Sincerely yours

In Charge of
Maine Author Collection