September 2015

Simon Moulton Hamlin Correspondence

Simon Moulton Hamlin 1866-1939

Henry Ernest Dunnack 1867-1938

Maine State Library

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Recommended Citation

Hamlin, Simon Moulton 1866-1939; Dunnack, Henry Ernest 1867-1938; and Maine State Library, "Simon Moulton Hamlin Correspondence" (2015). Maine Writers Correspondence. 266.  
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HAMLIN, Simon Moulton

Standish, Maine

Aug. 10, 1866
Simon Moulton Hamlin, congressman; b. Standish (Richvill), Me., Aug. 10, 1866; s. Ebenezer C. and Abby M. (Hasty) H.; prep. edn. Gorham Normal School, 1888-90; Bridgton Academy, 1890-92; A.B. Bowdoin College, 1900; m. Luetta Higgins, 1894; children - Catherine, Zelma; m. 2d, Anne Wilson Hitchings, 1901 (died April 1933); m. 3d, Mrs. Evelyn Field Ward, of North Windham, Dec. 15, 1934. Teacher public schools and supt. schools, Me., 1890-1925; farmer and in real estate business; mayor of South Portland, Me., 1933; mem. 74th Congress (1935-36), 1st Me. Dist. Democrat. Universalist. Mason.

-- from Who's Who in America
July 22, 1936

Hon. Simon M. Hamlin
10 Cottage Street
South Portland, Maine

Dear Sir:

I have noticed with great pleasure mention of your recent book on the famous Hamlin family, and I wish to offer my congratulations upon a work which I am sure is well and accurately written.

This book would answer questions regarding the Hamlin family which we receive at the State Library, and I hope it will be possible for us to secure a copy for the general genealogical lending section.

In addition, we will not feel that the Maine Author Collection, started several years ago, and including books written by Maine people, is complete if it does not contain a copy of your book, inscribed, as are these volumes, to add interest and value.

I realize you must have a great many demands upon your generosity, but I do hope it will be possible for the State Library to receive these two copies of the Hamlin history. I assure you we would be most appreciative of your kindness.

Very truly yours

HED/Hm

State Librarian
The Hamlins have been among the most distinguished of the families of New England as well as one of the most numerous. It has numbered many who have won their way to fame, including Maine's only Vice President, Hannibal Hamlin, and Dr. Cyrus Hamlin, the founder of Robert College in Turkey and thousands scattered all over New England and living in other states, who have been men and women of substance in various walks of life.

A numerous progeny has been that of James and Anna Hamlin who came from London in 1639 and settled in Barnstable on Cape Cod and it is still increasing and thriving, even though the large families of Colonial days have gone largely out of style.

One of the best known of the living Hamlins is Representative Simon Moulton Hamlin of this district who is just completing his first term in Washington.

The representative has devoted part of his time since he has been at the National Capital to writing a history of the Hamlins of New England, which has just been printed. Mr. Hamlin's book was not printed to sell, but it is one that every member of the Hamlin family will be eager to possess.

Quite properly the little book contains a sketch of the Vice President, the most distinguished of the Hamlins and a brief account of the erection of the memorial to him near the place where he was born on Paris Hill.

There is also the story of the dedication of the statue to him in Washington which was officially presented to the Nation by Representative Hamlin.

A chapter is also given to Cyrus Hamlin, the missionary, who won fame in the East and concluded his distinguished career by founding Robert College, which still remains a monument to him.

Representative Hamlin devoted much time and study to compiling a genealogy of the New England Hamlins and to this genealogy a liberal part of the volume is devoted. In addition there are little stories of the early life of the author, written in entertaining fashion.

Such a volume would not be complete without pictures and it contains some good ones, including portraits of the author and of the Vice President, the pupils of a country school where Simon Hamlin taught, with the teacher standing among them, and several others.

The book possesses historical value and is the first we believe about the New England branch of this great family.—F. K. O.
Mr. Henry E. Dunnack 
Maine State Library 
Augusta, Maine.

My dear Mr. Dunnack:

I am sending to you one of my books, "The Hamlins of New England".

With kindest regards, I am

Yours truly,

Simon M. Hamlin
July 28, 1936

Hon. Simon Hamlin
10 Cottage Street
South Portland, Maine

Dear Mr. Hamlin:

THE HAMLINS OF NEW ENGLAND has reached us, and we are indeed appreciative of your kindness. This is a most useful contribution to Maine genealogy, and we congratulate you upon the efficient and attractive manner in which it is compiled.

Would you be kind enough to send us a second copy, together with the bill, for the general lending section of the library.

Very truly yours

HED/m State Librarian