September 2015

T. Morris Longstreth Correspondence

Thomas Morris Longstreth 1886-1975

Hilda McLeod Jacob

Maine State Library

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LONGSTRETH, T. Morris.

Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, February 17, 1886-
February 11, 1942

Mr. T. Morris Longstreth  
c/o The Westminster Press  
Philadelphia, Pennsylvania

Dear Mr. Longstreth:

Although we realize regretfully that you cannot be claimed as a Maine-born author, yet we venture to write to you about JESS, because of the book's setting.

An appreciative review of the book called to our attention the Maine background, and it seems possible that you might be interested to know of the Maine Author Collection. This is a permanent exhibit of books written by Maine people, or about the state. These volumes are inscribed for the purpose, often with fascinating sidelights on how the book happened to be written, some especial detail about the author or book character, or with a tribute to the state. The books are presented to the collection for the sole purpose of exhibition, since none of them is ever lent. They are constantly available to visitors and students, and of course increase their value with their age.

It is possible that you may want to inscribe for the collection a copy of JESS. We cannot be insistent, of course; but we can assure you of our genuine appreciation of the gift and of your generosity.

Very truly yours

MAINE STATE LIBRARY
BY

hmj
SECRETARY
65 Lexington Road, Concord, Mass

Dear Miss Joan, I'm sending a copy of the test for the Maine Author Collection.

Thanks for telling me of it. I once came to Augusta to teach Mr. Sannett skiing 20 years ago. Give him my best if you see him. And Augusta had one of the few places in the north I've ever succeeded in seeing any snow.

Sincerely, J. Morris Longfellow
Mrs. F. W. Jacob
Marine State Library
Augusta
Maine
February 20, 1942

Mr. T. Morris Longstreth
65 Lexington Road
Concord, Massachusetts

Dear Mr. Longstreth:

Your delightful postal card prepared us for the arrival of JESS, but not for the inscription which of course pleases us very much.

You will be interested to know that JESS is already in our traveling libraries, which go out to rural communities all over the state and reach people who could not otherwise enjoy library books. The inclusion of a copy of this charming story in the Maine Author Collection is a privilege which we appreciate sincerely, and you are very kind to make it possible.

Your recollection of Augusta twenty years ago amused and interested us. We have snow now, too—but no ski instructors!

Please accept our thanks for the inscribed exhibit copy of JESS, and our best wishes for the continuing success of the book. And when you are in Maine again, we hope you may find it possible to accept our cordial invitation to visit the State Library, and to see the Maine Author Collection.

Very truly yours

MAINE STATE LIBRARY

HMJ
SECRETARY

Encl—5¢ postal refund