September 2015

Daphne Winslow Merrill Correspondence

Daphne Winslow Merrill 1904-1998

Hilda McLeod Jacob

Maine State Library

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MERRILL, Daphne Winslow
BIOGRAPHICAL DATA

Daphne Winslow Merrill

Born: Rockland, Maine

March 4, 1904 (Div. 4th Stet.-)

Education: Rockland, Maine, public schools

University of Maine, B.A. and M.A.

Middlebury French School

Vocation: Language teacher (have taught English, French, Latin, Spanish)

Union High School

Norway High School

Fryeburg Academy

Kennett High School, Conway, New Hampshire

Head Language Department at present

Organizations: Business and Professional Women's Clubs of Maine

Current State President

Miriam Rebekah Lodge, Rockland

Order of the Eastern Star, Fryeburg

Portland Branch of Phi Mu Alumnae

Several educational societies

New England English Teachers' Association

Classroom Teachers

New Hampshire English Teachers' Association

New Hampshire State Teachers' Association

etc.

Musical Society

Government: Appointed by Governor of State of Maine to serve on Committee of Employment of Physically Handicapped

Religious affiliation: Member Universalist Church, Rockland

Avocations: Music

athletics

photography and languages

Married: James W. Merrill

Publications: Began in 1939 with appearance of poem in newspaper contest, won an award

Miscellaneous: Speaks French, Spanish, and some German.

Was state chairman when Mrs. Goon, Portland, won American Mother award.
March 11, 1953

Mrs. Daphne Winslow Merrill
Fryeburg
Maine

Dear Mrs. Merrill:

Congratulations on the publication of your book, CONES FROM THE PINES OF MAINE. It is always a pleasure to anticipate reading a new Maine book, and we feel that your poems are certainly of Maine.

We want to buy a copy for the library, of course; should we do so from you? We also hope that your work may be included in the Maine Author Collection. Perhaps you already know of this permanent exhibit of Maine books. It numbers about two thousand now, most of which are inscribed presentation copies. The inscriptions are original and varied, and lend their particular distinction to an outstanding collection which constantly attracts visitors and students.

We hope that you will want to inscribe a copy for the collection. It would give us great pleasure to add CONES FROM THE PINES OF MAINE to the exhibit shelves. We shall also note the publication in the spring issue of the Bulletin of the Maine Library Association, so that other libraries in the state may be sure to know of its availability.

You have our warm wishes for the success of the book, and a cordial invitation to call at the library when you are in Augusta, and see the Maine Author Collection.

Sincerely yours

hmj
In Charge of
Maine Author Collection

clipping from BDN 3/3/53 given to MAW
Cones From
The Pines of Maine

by Daphne Winslow Merrill
Cones From
The Pines of Maine

by DAPHNE WINSLOW MERRILL

A collection of flavorful Down East poems, Mrs. Merrill's new book has that happy gift of immediate communication with the reader. Simply written, yet profound in mood and imagery, these are essays on common subjects—the abandoned farmhouse, the hard-working Maine lobsterman, the sea and forest in many moods—and they quickly draw on one's own imagination and experience for the utmost in spiritual effect.

The poet has the gift of economical story-telling; word pictures are succinct, meanings are clear. Her meditations on the changing beauty of the coastal scene strike a refreshing note, especially for the reader who shares the poet's deep love of her homeland and who appreciates the lessons Nature can teach.

The poems are most effective when read aloud.

Price $2.00

FALMOUTH PUBLISHING HOUSE
Manchester, Maine
Mrs. James W. Merrill  
Portland Street  
Fryeburg, Maine  

March 16, 1953

Mrs. F. W. Jacobs  
Maine State Library  
Augusta, Maine

My dear Mrs. Jacobs:

Thank you very much for your kind letter in reference to my recently published "Names from the Names of Maine". I am enclosing an order form whereby you may secure a copy if you so wish.

I must profess to utter ignorance as regards the Maine Author Collection. I would much like to peruse it some day. Meanwhile, as soon as I have a copy available I will be glad to inscribe one to add to the exhibit shelves.

Is there any way I might secure a copy of the spring issue of the Bulletin of the Maine Library Association, to which you make reference? I would be pleased to have a copy if they are available to anyone.

Very sincerely yours,

[Signature]

Daphne W. Merrill
March 20, 1953

Mrs. James W. Merrill
Portland Street
Fryeburg, Maine

Dear Mrs. Merrill:

Thank you for your friendly letter and the information about your book, CONES FROM THE PINES OF MAINE. We are ordering it through a book dealer, and look forward to reading the poems soon.

The Bulletin of the Maine Library Association is issued quarterly, and is sent to all members of the Association. We have none for distribution, although I think we would lend a copy happily. It is quite possible that your local library, or librarian, or a trustee, is a member of the Association, and would have copies of the Bulletin on file. The list we spoke of is one which we compile for each number, and briefly annotates books of Maine interest. The spring issue is due in May.

One more favor we have to ask of you. We try to have on file information about our Maine writers -- biographical and critical. We are able to locate reviews of books, and occasional articles of literary evaluation and criticism; but we often have to turn directly to the authors for biographical facts. Would you be willing, at your convenience, to send us such a sketch? It need not be long or detailed but we would appreciate having this information about you.

We anticipate adding CONES FROM THE PINES OF MAINE to the exhibit collection, and shall watch for the copy which you have so generously promised.

Sincerely yours

In Charge of
Maine Author Collection

hmj
Mrs. James W. Merrill  
Portland Street  
Fryeburg, Maine  

April 5, 1953  

Mrs. F. W. Jacobs  
Maine State Library  
Augusta, Maine  

My dear Mrs. Jacobs:  

I am enclosing an outline, biographical, as you requested. Since this is my first such requirement, I am at an utter loss as to what, or how much, or how little to say. Perhaps from the enclosure you can get what you want.  

There was a review in today's Portland Telegram which was very kind to me.  

Although it will be some time yet, I shall not forget to send you a copy of the book for your files. I am very busy right now with school and my B.P.W. Federation work, and have no books on hand. But I promise you, I shall try to remember; and should I fail, do not hesitate to write again and refresh my memory (and my manners!)  

Sincerely yours,  

Daphne W. Merrill  

P.S. There will also be a write-up (I guess you would call it) in the Lewiston Journal Magazine section soon.
April 6, 1953

Mrs. James W. Merrill
Portland Street
Fryeburg, Maine

Dear Mrs. Merrill:

Thank you very much indeed for sending us the biographical sketch. We like to have information about our authors, and we appreciate the care you took to put it into such convenient form. We shall be patient about the book, realizing the many duties which claim your attention. We plan to clip Maine papers for news of Maine writers and books, but we are glad you mentioned the two articles, so that we will be sure not to overlook them.

Sincerely yours

In Charge of
Maine Author Collection
May 20, 1953

Mrs. James W. Merrill
Portland Street
Fryeburg, Maine

Dear Mrs. Merrill:

You are quite right: "no one could ever do justice to Maine's beauty," but you have looked at the loveliness of the state with the appreciative eye of an artist, and have succeeded in capturing much of those qualities which endear it to those who live here and those who wish they might.

Especially appealing are PINES, AGES, THE OCEAN and MAINE LOBSTERMAN, I think, though I suppose all readers will have their own particular favorites.

You are very kind to see that the Maine Author Collection has this inscribed copy. We add it to the Maine books with warm thanks to you, and the hope that there will be more volumes in the future.

Sincerely yours

hmj

In Charge of
Maine Author Collection
March 25, 1965

Mr. Anthony J. Parrotto
Executive Vice President
Dorrance & Company
2038 Rittenhouse Square
Philadelphia, Pennsylvania 19103

Dear Mr. Parrotto:

Thank you for sending a copy of CONES FROM THE PINES OF MAINE by Daphne Winslow Merrill. We have been acquainted with Mrs. Merrill's work, and are most appreciative of your thought in sending her new book.

We are writing to Mrs. Merrill, also, to express our pleasure in this new collection.

Sincerely yours

hmj
In Charge of Maine Author Collection
December 30, 1964

The Librarian in Charge
Maine State Library
State House
Augusta, Maine

Dear Librarian:

We are pleased to enclose a sample copy of our new book, MORE CONES FROM THE PINES OF MAINE, by Daphne Winslow Merrill, who is a resident of Auburn, Maine.

The poet is a long-time resident of Maine and currently teaches at the University of Maine in the English Department. Her poetry conveys her genuine and beautiful love for the state with dignity and a strong appealing sense of optimism.

Since Mrs. Merrill is a resident of Auburn, there should be a great deal of local interest in her book.

We will be glad to ship you additional copies of MORE CONES FROM THE PINES OF MAINE, which retails for $3.00, at a 20% library discount.

The publication date is January 25, 1965.

We would appreciate your comments.

Very sincerely,

Anthony J. Parrotto
Executive Vice President

AJP: jc
enc.
March 25, 1965

Mrs. James W. Merrill
155 Field Avenue
Auburn, Maine

Dear Mrs. Merrill:

Your publishers have generously sent us a complimentary copy of your new book, MORE CONES FROM THE PINES OF MAINE. This is a delightful and sensitive collection, and we are most happy to welcome it to the Maine Author Collection.

We are sorry that it isn't inscribed, but perhaps some day you will drop in and add that touch for us -- or may we send it to your?

Your earlier book is in the collection, and this new one is a most appreciated addition.

Sincerely yours

hmj

In Charge of
Maine Author Collection