SCRIBNER, FRANK LAMSON

Frank Lamson-Scribner

Born Massachusetts, 1851. Adopted by Scribner family of Winthrop Maine at age of three.
1849 California St. N.W.
Washington D.C. Aug. 26, 33

Mr. Henry E. Bunnacl.
State Librarian.
Augusta, Maine.

Dear Mr. Bunnacl:

Referring to yours of Aug. 17:
No second part of my "Ornamental and Useful Plants of Maine" was ever published. Am sorry.

Will autograph the copy of the first part you have, and the "Birds of Maine" if you have this in your library. I have no extra copies of either publication.

I have always regarded Maine as my home state.

Was brought up in Manchester
Maine and was appointed from that State to the position of Assistant-Botanist in the U.S. Dept. of Agr. in Washington, D.C. in 1885, by Norman J. Coleman, then Commissioner of Agriculture.

When M.S. L. Goodale was Secretary of the Maine State Board of Agriculture I served for two seasons as Clerk in his office in the State House. For some months in those early times, I did research work in the State Library for Mr. Charles W. Atkinson, then Fish Commissioner, looking up laws regarding the protection and breeding of fish in the fresh waters of Maine. In 1865 or 1866 I borrowed my first book from the State Library. It was "Seaside Studies in Natural History by
Alexander Agassiz and others. It opened a new world to me in which later I became much interested. I recall State Libraries, Tracy and Mr. J.T. Woodard. I knew Woodard very well and admired him for his social and literary ability.

I would like mention here an incident that is connected with my early history which took place in the State Capitol of a meeting of the State Board of Agriculture. I was invited to attend the meeting and give a talk on the Weeds of Maine using as a basis for my remarks an herbarium collection of weeds which I had prepared the previous season. This was my first public appearance as a botanist, and the outstanding feature that I recall in con-
Meeting with the meeting was a
remark made by a member of
the Board (Mr. Watson I think) in
which he said "We will hear
more from this gentleman in the
future."

Pardon me for these digressions
from the subject of your letter.
I am sending autographed samples
of several of my publications on
grasses and also your library my
"American Grasses," a work contain-
ning about 650 illustrations of N. Amer.
grasses, with full description of the
species shown and an extended
bibliography.

Very sincerely yours,
F. Lamson-Forbush
September 22, 1933

Mr. F. Lamson-Scribner,
1849 California Street,
Washington, D. C.

Dear Mr. Lamson-Scribner:

We have received the five autographed pamphlets which you sent us. They are a valuable and interesting addition to our Maine Author Collection and we are sincerely appreciative of your kindness in sending them to us.

In accordance with your suggestion, we are sending to you to be autographed the two Maine items, "Weeds of Maine", and "Ornamental and Useful Plants of Maine". Will you please add to the latter a notation to the effect that a second part was not published? We have this information in our catalog but it will be more interesting to have it in the pamphlet in your writing.

We have the three volumes of your work "American Grasses", as published by the U. S. D. A. Division of Agrostology, Bulletins 7, 17 and 20. Was it ever issued in book form?

Very truly yours

MAINE STATE LIBRARY

(Signed) HED

We enclose an address label and postage for use in returning the pamphlets.
August 17, 1933

Mr. F. Lamson-Scribner,
1849 California Street, N.W.
Washington, D.C.

Dear Mr. Lamson-Scribner;

While looking over your "Ornamental and Useful Plants of Maine", privately printed for you in Augusta Maine, I noticed that it was your intention at that time to publish a second pamphlet. My search has failed to reveal this pamphlet. I wonder whether it was ever printed. Any information you can send me will be greatly appreciated.

While you were born in Massachusetts we feel that you really belong to Maine. Therefore, I think you may be interested in our Maine Author Collection. We have a special exhibition collection of works by Maine authors, giving special attention to living authors, so that it is possible to acquire autographed copies of their books. If there are any of your books or pamphlets which you are willing to autograph and send us for this collection we shall be delighted to receive them.

(Signed) HED
1949 California St. NW.
Washington, D.C.
Sept. 27, 1933

Mr. Henry E. Dunnack
State Librarian, Augusta, Me.

My dear Mr. Dunnack,

The pamphlets sent with yours of Sept. 22, were duly received, and I am returning the publication with this, as requested.

I autographed the "Ornamental and Useful Plants of Maine," but the "Weeds of Maine" sent, was a later publication than mine which was published in 1869 and issued in the same form as "Ornamental & Use-ful Plants." It was a pamphlet of 62 pages, including a glossary and index. Have you a copy of this? "American Grasses" was published only in bulletin form. Yours very truly

F. Larnson Seibert