December 2015

Frances Wright Turner Correspondence

Francis Wright Turner 1882-

Maine State Library

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TURNER, Frances Wright.

Born at Richmond, Maine, January 31, 1882.
TURNER, Frances Wright (Mrs.)

Frances Wright Turner was born in Richmond, Maine, January 31, 1882. The daughter of Dr. J. L. and Laurie Batchelder Wright. Showed unusual talent at an early age both in writing and with the brush, being an artist with water colors. Married Chas. O. Turner of Farmington, Maine, and has two sons and two daughters. Is a member of the Maine Writer's Research Club, Order of Eastern Star, The Literature Club and Woman's Club of Ellsworth. Is active in the organization of the Woman's Christian Temperance Union, and is a member of the Methodist Episcopal Church. Is a teacher of English in secondary schools. Educated in the public schools of Maine, Farmington Normal School, and by special instruction.
Ellsworth, Maine
May 10, 1926

Mr. Henry E. Dunnack,
Augusta, Maine.

Dear Mr. Dunnack:

You and I have met several times, but I doubt if you will remember me. You will however know my husband C. O. Turner who is the Supt. of Schools here. We are methodists too, and they always know each other.

I am writing you in regard to my book of verse which will be off the press in a few days. The inclosed circular from the publishers will show you something of the nature of the book. Any way it is a Maine book, and I am a Maine woman, and the publishers suggested that you might like one or two copies in the State Library.

Possibly you could judge better if you could see one of them, and I will send one subject to your approval if you wish, as soon as they are off. In the meantime I am sending you a circular as I said, and if you will you may see reviews of the book in several of our leading papers, and in the new Maine magazine "Sun Up" as well as in the Boston Herald book review for John Clair Minot is going to review it there for me, and possibly the New York Times Book Review also. These reviews and write-ups will serve to give you more information than I can.

Many people in Maine and other New England states have shown great interest in me. I am to read from my verse at Bar Harbor next Saturday before the Co. Convention of the W. C. T. U and later at the Island Federation. I shall be very pleased if you will want my book for the State Library, and of course awfully proud too.

Yours faithfully,

[Signature]

Dorothy Wright Turner
May 11, 1926

Mrs. Frances Wright Turner
Ellsworth
Maine

Dear Mrs. Turner:

Just received your letter in regard to your book of verse, you forgot to enclose the circular - "just like a woman" - please call your husbands attention to this quotation.

Please enter our order for five copies of your book and please send a bill for the five copies and we will remit at once.

It would be a very great favor if you would make one of the five copies a presentation copy and in addition to your name write something that may be of interest in connection with the writing of the book. This copy will be placed in our section of Maine Authors. These books are never allowed out of the Library. It is a new collection I have started and we expect to make it one of the most valuable sources of information in the whole state, therefore, if you could send along a brief biographical sketch of yourself and a photograph for this particular collection it would be an additional favor. Fifty years from now we expect students all over the State visiting the State Library to use the original sources we are gathering. I am sending a Maine Library Bulletin that gives more definite information in regard to this collection.

Sincerely yours.

Henry E. Dunnack,
State Librarian

HED/T
Mr. Henry Dunnack,  
State Library,  
Augusta, Maine.

Dear Mr. Dunnack:—

Yours of May eleven at hand. I am glad you reminded me of my forgetfulness, "just like a man" and I am writing again to send you the circular, and more than all to thank you for the order for five copies of Drifting Leaves". It was awfully good of you and I hope to meet you again to thank you in person (and incidentally to remind you of the quotation you used).

I shall be happy to write a little of some kind in the presentation copy and to send my picture to go in it. I shall have Harry Plummer make me some prints as I have none on hand. The price of the book is $1.50 per copy and you may send the amount at any time, or wait until you receive the books. You know they aren't off yet, but expect them very soon.

I was so much interested in the bulletin and I think your idea of having the collection of Maine Authors is splendid. I have always wanted to visit the Library but somehow when I've stopped in Augusta it's usually been for the Federation or something and I have been too preoccupied. If you come this way Mr. Turner and I would love having you with us.

Cordially yours,

[Signature]
Mr. Henry E. Dunnack,
Augusta, Maine.

Dear Mr. Dunnack:

With this I am sending you the bill for the five copies of my book "Drifting Leaves" which you were so kind to order, and they will go out to you on the same mail. Possibly I will send collect, as I do not pay the postage, and in sending thus you will be saved the botheration of remitting postage.

I have made one a presentation copy as you desired me to, and have written in it to the best of my ability. The Foreword which Mr. Wohlfarth wrote will supply anything I have failed to say perhaps.

I'd be awfully glad if you find any merit in this first little volume of mine, if you would tell me so. Isn't this "just like a woman" too, wanting praise? I fear so, and yet it's very encouraging. I am proud to know my book is in the Maine Authors collection, and in the presentation copy you will find my protograph and a short biography which you may fix up any way to please yourself.

Cordially yours,

[Signature]
FRANCES WRIGHT TURNER

Author of:

"Drifting Leaves"

Inscription:

TO

The Library of our State of Maine which I so love,
I present this little book -
My first child - hoping
There will be something found in it worthy to
Express that love.

The Author.
"Drifting Leaves"
A Collection of Verse by Frances Wright Turner

A rarely beautiful series of poems by a Maine author, full of the inspiration of New England fields and skies, rich in spiritual power and in suggestions of the deeper insight into Nature.

Such subjects as "Maine," "Boy o' Mine," "Treasure," "The Signpost" and "Compensation" indicate the variety and versatility of the writer.

Mrs. Turner is a native of Ellsworth, Maine; a poet of recognized talent in a circle that is constantly widening. Her verse has appeared in many publications of high standing in educational and religious fields.

This volume will be issued in cloth; price $1.50, plus postage.
To Frances Wright Turner
Ellsworth, Maine:

Enclosed please find check for $ ________ for which please send ______ copies of “Drifting Leaves.”

Name

Address
Ellsworth, Maine.
May 11, 1936

Miss Hilda McLeod,
Augusta, Maine,

Dear Miss McLeod:

The notice given in the press concerning my essays—East Horizon was not correct. It is true I have done them, one at a time, and they have been printed in various periodicals, but as a collection in book form, they are not yet out. They seem to have got favorable comment and, when published, I shall be very glad to notify you, and see that the State Library has one. Other things done have been most kindly spoken of and appreciated by you.

Affectionately yours,

[Signature]

Francis Wright Turner
March 21, 1941

Mrs. Frances Wright Turner
32 Bolton Street
Portland, Maine

Dear Mrs. Turner:

Congratulations upon the publication of SALT OF THE EARTH. We wish for it the success that we feel certain it merits.

Our traveling libraries, which include novels, will order the book from our regular sources; but we write at present to mention that the Maine Author Collection, to which you have in the past been very kind, will not be complete without an inscribed copy. We do hope that you will want to continue your generosity, and present a copy of SALT OF THE EARTH for this exhibit.

We are anxious to see a copy, and shall hope to give ourselves the pleasure of reading your new book very soon. Please accept our best wishes for a happy reception for SALT OF THE EARTH, and for a long continuance to your fine work.

Very truly yours

MAINE STATE LIBRARY
BY

hmj

SECRETARY
"Silver Linings," March 28, 41,
Hampden Highlands, Maine.

Dear Mrs. Jacob:

Your recent letter requesting a copy of my book *Salt of the Earth* is at hand. I shall be very glad to send you one for your Maine Author's Collection, and am sending one under separate cover.

The copy in proof to be a safer, poor edition with some errors, but I
hope you may like the story itself, and I shall be glad to know if you do.

Thank you for your kind wishes and your congratulations.

Very truly yours,

Frances Wright Turner.
April 2, 1941

Mrs. Frances Wright Turner
Box 95
Hampden Highlands, Maine

Dear Mrs. Turner:

Your unusual and sensitive story of the Parmenters has reached us. It is a novel written with insight and compassion, and certainly with compelling indication of your gift of observation. The details of life and character are true; the book is wise and sympathetic; and we congratulate you upon its advent.

Please accept our most sincere thanks for your generosity in presenting an inscribed copy to the Maine Author Collection. We are delighted to place it on the shelves, and wish again for it a happy career.

Very truly yours

MAINE STATE LIBRARY

hmj
SECRETARY

Encl—3¢ refund of postage
FOLLOW THE RIVER

BY

FRANCES WRIGHT TURNER

For many years Frances Wright Turner has been happy to recount for the public the daily lives and doings of the kind of people who made possible our todays, when they blazed the trails through the wilderness with God in their hearts and lives, those pioneers of yesterday. "Follow the River" is so-named because the early settlers founded their homes along the river banks to facilitate the building of gristmills, sawmills and ships. The river which provides the setting for this story is the historic Penobscot River in Maine.

Using the journal and letters of Judith Snow as a guide, the author is able to tell the story of five generations of the Snow family with accuracy and color. Their history began with the coming of Micah Snow and his bride from Scotland. They built their first home in the Province of Maine, but the hardships involved in this pioneering proved too much for Margery, and Micah was left a widower after the birth of their second child. With Margery gone, Micah labored harder than ever to provide for his two small children, Lavinia and Nathan. He built a beautiful home in which to raise them, and passed it on to his son when he brought home his bride many years later. Nathan raised a large family of nine children, five boys and four girls, the youngest of whom was Judith Snow, and it is around this generation, particularly Judith, that the story revolves.

Judith's diary sets the time as that of the Revolutionary War. She tells of the heartbreak the family felt when the four oldest boys had to leave home and fight for their country, and how two sacrificed their lives. There were happy days, too, when her two oldest sisters were married and the laughter of children was heard in the old house.
AN EXCITING AND COLORFUL HISTORICAL NOVEL

once again. And there was tragedy, as she tells of a rivalry in love between herself and her sister Jael, and the sorrow which comes to the family because of it. Judith never married, but devoted her life to taking care of her family as they grew older. She lived to be one hundred years old, long enough to lay away all, one after one, of her loved ones. This wonderful woman lived through two wars, and as a climax to a remarkable life, she died on the same night that President Lincoln was assassinated.

Frances Wright Turner, the author, was born in Richmond, Maine, and received her education from the University of Maine. She is a member of the Maine Historical Society, Maine literary groups, National League of American Pen Women, American Bookfellows, and the Professional Artists League of America. Mrs. Turner has previously published two volumes of poetry, “Drifting Leaves” and “Star Dust”, and one novel, “Salt of the Earth”. And she is a well-known water color artist. Her latest work “Follow the River”, now joins these other fine books from her prolific pen.

The historical data contained in “Follow the River” is correct, and the facts in the story are true happenings taken from the author’s own ancestry. What was not found in the journals has been handed down by word of mouth from generation to generation. All of these things combine to make this novel vivid, exciting, and above all, exceedingly interesting.

Cloth, Price $3.00

ORDER BLANK – ORDER NOW

The Christopher Publishing House
1140 Columbus Avenue
Boston 20, Massachusetts

Please send me ............... cop...... of “Follow the River” by Frances Wright Turner, for which I enclose $............... Name ...........................................................................................................
Address ........................................................................................................
For many years Frances Wright Turner has been happy to recount for the public the daily lives and doings of the kind of people who made possible our todays, when they blazed the trails through the wilderness with God in their hearts and lives, those pioneers of yesterday. "Follow the River" is so-named because the early settlers founded their homes along the river banks to facilitate the building of gristmills, sawmills and ships. The river which provides the setting for this story is the historic Penobscot River in Maine.

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Cloth, Price $3.00

ORDER BLANK — ORDER NOW

The Christopher Publishing House
1140 Columbus Avenue
Boston 20, Massachusetts

Please send me ............... cop...... of “Follow the River” by Frances Wright Turner, for which I enclose $.............

Name ..................................................................................................................

Address .............................................................................................................
Mrs. Frances Wright Turner  
Union  
Maine  

Dear Mrs. Turner:

It was a pleasure to be able to welcome a new book by you this fall, and you will be glad to know that the library ordered FOLLOW THE RIVER as soon as we knew about its publication.

Do you remember the Maine Author Collection, to which you very kindly presented inscribed copies of your other books? We hope that the new one may be included also.

It is a fascinating story you tell, and we anticipate a well-deserved popularity for the book.

Sincerely yours

hmj

In Charge of  
Maine Author Collection
Union, Maine. Bop 1844
Nov-4, 1957

Dear Mrs. Jones,

The letter from you at Maine State Library at hand.

I thank you for the very kind remarks about my recent book and other,

If you care to mail me a copy of

Helen No Rives, I shall be most happy to autograph it. I see no other way
in which it can be done, unless you

care to wait until I sometime may get

Augus to again. Should you send

in time, I will write in it at once

and return it to you. I gladly

pay the postage.

Sincerely yours,

Frances Wright Turner
November 5, 1957

Mrs. Frances Wright Turner
Union
Maine

Dear Mrs. Turner:

We are asking Campbell's Book Store in Portland to send a copy of FOLLOW THE RIVER to you for your inscription, and we shall very much appreciate your kindness in sending it on to us at your convenience for the Maine Author Collection.

Sincerely yours

In Charge of
Maine Author Collection
November 5, 1957

Campbell's Book Store
604 Congress Street
Portland, Maine

Gentlemen:

Will you please send a copy of FOLLOW THE RIVER to the author, Mrs. Frances Wright Turner, at Union, Maine; and the bill to us?

Very truly yours

MAINE STATE LIBRARY
By

hmj

Secretary
Union Maine. Oct. 1841
November 6, 1857

Dear Miss Dean:

I see very sorry you seem to be having a hard time getting on with your books. I did not take any to handle. They allowed me 10 copies for my family.

I understand that Campbell was not carrying the book, but Assing, Sherr and Harmon have it, and also Bates Book Store in Bangor. A little further, I shall have to buy three or four, and if you would like to have me send one to let you have one.

Very sincerely,

Frances Downing Turner

56. Let me know if you'd like me to get it for you.
Union, Maine, Nov. 1847.

November 9, 1857

Dear Mr. Jones,

Yesterday the book Follow the River came from Mr. Campbell, I am glad he procured it for you.

I feel very sorry that I could not donate it to you there. I went to see Mr. Dunwoody and also Mr. Stewart were friends and at that time隧道

Now I am unemployed and have no income. I've not taught long enough to receive the pension. Teacher cannot get Social Security, and the OAS have denied me the assistance.

And I thought about it, I would have donated one of the two copies the publisher gave me. Now, of course I have to purchase any drat, like everyone else also has one. I am so sorry for the greatly interested in it that let us not.

Very truly yours

Frances Night. James.
November 12, 1957

Mrs. Frances Wright Turner
Box 184
Union, Maine

Dear Mrs. Turner:

Thank you very much for autographing your book, FOLLOW THE RIVER. We are delighted to be able to place it in the Maine Author Collection, and appreciate your very kind interest in this exhibit.

Please don't be distressed because we had to buy the book. We always hope that it will be possible for authors to present their books, but sometimes it isn't, and in those cases, we try to stretch our own budget. We are very happy to purchase FOLLOW THE RIVER, and we hope for your sake that many readers will do the same.

Sincerely yours

hmj

In Charge of
Maine Author Collection