April 2016

Louise Lamprey Correspondence

Maine State Library

Louise Lamprey 1869-1951

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LAMPREY, Louise

Born at Alexandria, N. H., April 17, 1869
Resident of Limerick
Died at Shapleigh, January 14, 1951
(See separate folder).
LAMPREY, Louise.
August 22, 1922

Miss Louise Lamprey,
Limerick, Maine.

My dear Miss Lamprey:

Referring to your offer to send us copies of your books, I am very sure you will be interested to hear about our Maine Collection. Under separate cover I am sending you a copy of the Library Bulletin in which are several articles relating to this collection.

I am trying to secure for the State Library a collection of all books written by Maine people. It is my purpose to have a special room for this collection. Under no circumstances will the books be sent out of the library. They will form a permanent exhibition for the use of visitors and students.

I am also trying to gather all possible information about each author, so that students will have material for any investigations they wish to make. Will you be kind enough to send me a list of magazines and newspapers that, so far as you know, have had biographical articles concerning you and your work. If you have copies that you can furnish us for our purpose, so much the better.

I very much desire to have a complete set of all your short stories and books autographed. I would like to have each volume contain a brief statement concerning where and why the book was written, in fact, any interesting item of this sort.

You can easily see that such a request as I am making would be impossible except that it is an appeal from your state. This is not for personal use or financial gain, but wholly for historical purposes, so that the state may properly honor those whose achievements should be recognized and from whom our coming generations will receive instruction and knowledge.

Yours very truly,

MAINE STATE LIBRARY,

by

State Librarian
Henry E. Dunnack, Esq.
Maine State Library
Augusta, Maine.

Dear Sir:

Your letter of August 22 has just come to hand. Your Maine Room strikes me as an interesting idea, and I shall be glad to send you autographed copies of my books. I don't know of any magazine or newspaper that has published anything about me or my books beyond the usual book notices and reviews, but Frederick A. Stokes Company might perhaps have something about such articles, although I doubt it.

I have never been a magazine writer, so that my work in that line is practically nil. Before I went into miscellaneous writing I was for eight years editorial writer and book reviewer on the Washington Times, where I got most of my training; but of course newspaper articles are inaccessible at this date, besides being ephemeral in interest.

The "where and why" of each book is also rather difficult to furnish, because most of them were written to order after a talk with the publishers as to whether such and such a book would "go". In the case of all the Stokes books, - "In the Days of the Guild", "Masters of the Guild" and the "Great Days in American History" series, the second of which will be out this fall, I suppose, the idea was to furnish some juvenile historical fiction that would have enough ginger and plot to be acceptable to boys and girls in their teens, too old for ordinary children's books. The Little, Brown and Company series of "Children of the Ancient World", and the geographical reader published by the World Book Company of Yonkers, "The Alo Man", in collaboration with Mara Chadwick, are intended for children rather younger, perhaps grammar school age. The place where each was written did not in any way affect the book. My biography, what there is of it, is in the latest edition of "Who's Who in America".

I lived in Maine several years as a child, and have always meant to come back, although we left Parsonsfield when I was seven. I used to insist that Maine was my native state, though I was born at my grandmother's home in Alexandria, N. H. To me at the age of seven your native state was the one you considered home. I expect to live here from now on, except for temporary absences, and I think that Maine contains an unusual proportion of people who live there, not because they happen to drift there or were born there, but because they like it. The third of the "Great Days" books, which deals with the Revolution and I suppose is due to come out next year, is dedicated to my Limerick neighbors, and I am enclosing a copy of the dedication, which expresses my feeling about it.

Very truly yours,

A. Limerick
Maine
August 23, 1922
Dear Miss Lamprey:

I was very glad to get your letter of August the twenty-third with its splendid news. I shall be very glad to receive your books. They will make an invaluable addition to our collection.

I am especially grateful for the poem to the neighbors, and I wonder if we might not print it in the library bulletin.

Very truly yours

State Librarian

Miss L. Lamprey,
Limerick,
Maine
March 19, 1923.

Dear Madam:-

Some days ago I received the books, seven volumes, for which I am sending my sincere and enthusiastic thanks. There is one very serious criticism I have to make on your books, they are not autographed. However, this criticism applies chiefly to the State Librarian for I am under the impression that I neglected to ask you to do this.

May I send these books to you and will you be kind enough to make them presentation copies to the State Library so that I may add them to the permanent Maine collection.

In looking over the list of books we loaned you, I notice that Historic Highways, Vols. 3, 4 and 9, California by Royce and Ancient and Modern Greece, Vols. 1 and 2 have not come back. I speak of these books only because I think you may have returned them and they may not have reached us and I wanted to be sure about this. I am,

Sincerely yours,

Henry E. Dunnack,
Librarian

Miss L. Lamprey,
Limerick,
Maine
Limerick 
Maine 
March 21, 1923

Mr. Henry E. Dunnack 
Librarian Maine State Library 
Augusta 
Maine 

Dear Sir:

Your kind letter of March 19 is at hand. I am glad you like the books, and I should have autographed them if I had known you wanted me to. As a general thing I do not write things on the title-pages of my books unless asked. Then if people want to give them to somebody else they can, without embarrassment. I shall be glad to autograph them if you want to go to the trouble of sending them back.

I consider that I am greatly in your debt in any case, because of the unconscionable time I kept this lot of books; and I shall be glad to pay whatever may be due. This "Days of the Pioneers" volume took an immense amount of looking up.

Just before your letter came I had found vols. 3, 4 and 9 of Historic Highways and Reyce's "California", which somehow were overlooked in packing the books that went back in the box by express. I was going to return them to-day but will delay a day or two and see if the other two you spoke of, "Ancient and Modern Greece", vols. 1 and 2 do not come to light. My own books have been in a state of great confusion owing to the fact that I have only just succeeded in having bookshelves put up for about half of them, and there must be at least three or four thousand altogether in two small rooms. I am sorting them out, however, and shall find anything that does not belong to me and return it.

I am just starting on the third volume of the "Children of the Ancient World" series for Little, Brown and Company, which is on the Greece of the so-called heroic period, and I may possibly ask to keep the Greek books a little longer, but I think I shall not need them, as my own reference books and notes cover the subject pretty well. The only books I sent back before this last box were the four volumes of Seymour Dunbar's History of Transportation, for which you sent. They were the best thing on that subject I ever saw, and quite invaluable.

Im regard to early California history, however, the best thing I found, aside from "The Great Salt Lake Trail" was a series of articles by pioneers in the Century, vols. 41-44 or thereabouts. By the way, I did a poem for "Days of the Pioneers" on the Little Cayuse story in the "Salt Lake Trail" book. It seemed to me too picturesque to miss.

By the way, can you, or some one at the library, give me any idea of the probably cost of board somewhere near the State Library? The Library doubtless contains a great deal of material that I should find invaluable in a book I have
in mind to do some time next winter, dealing especially with
Maine colonial history, and it has occurred to me that it might
be a good plan to go there for a month or two and do the
research work at least, instead of getting books down here.
I don't mind having a room and boarding somewhere else, when
there are restaurants in town; in fact I rather like it
when working, as I do not have to accommodate work to meal times.
The only thing I am cranky about is that the room shall be
warm enough to stay in, evenings and Sundays.

In the Stokes "Great Days" series, "Days of the Commanders"
will be out this fall and deal with the period 1775-1815. The
illustrations are something gorgeous, and there are four
very cunning maps of battle-fields. "Days of the Pioneers"
is not due until 1925. I am trying to coax them into letting
me give a whole book to the Civil War and the Reconstruction
and Pioneer period of 1865-90 and the final book to the
Spanish-American War and the World War, so as to make six in all,
but thus far they are rather shy of that, as the series
already is rather long. There is a book about which I have
talked with them, which would deal with the adventures of a
boy and girl in the wilderness north of the New England
settlements, some time in the latter seventeenth century,
with lots of woodcraft and Indian lore in it - a sort of
juvenile historical novel - and it is this book that I thought
of working on next winter in Augusta, perhaps making a trip
to Oldtown also. I don't want to do it until I can take time
to do it right, however, and may not get at it so soon.
What I should need for that would be Indian folk-lore books
dealing with the Abenakis and Eastern Indians generally,
early French-Canadian history and nature books. If I can't
get the material for staging the action in Maine I could
shift it westward and have it in northern New York, for there
is plenty of Iroquois material; but I rather wanted to use
the Maine wilderness. Conan Doyle and Mrs. Catherwood have
been trailing through the other., besides Cooper, of course.

You may find that the World Book Company of Yonkers, New
York, have some worth-while books, especially in the
educational line. "The Ale Man" which I sent you is one of a
series of geographical readers, three more of which are now
arranged for and written. I am enclosing copy of a review whic h
"The Ale Man" got in England, with which I felt quite pleased,
as the reviewer had been an explorer in the Kongo. The book,
by the way, was read and criticised in manuscript by Dr. Lang
of the Natural History Museum in New York and professor Faris
of the University of Iowa, both of whom spent several years in
that region; so that I feel that it must be fairly correct.

Thanking you for your courtesy and apologizing for this
very long letter, I am
Yours very truly,

[Signature]
Dear Miss Lamprey:

I am sending your books by Parcel Post and I enclose postage for their return, it is certainly very considerate and kind for you to agree to do this for us.

In writing to you about the books that had not been returned, it was not that I desired to hurry you about returning them but only to have a tracer on them, so in case you had returned them and they were lost, we could look them up.

Our purpose is to do everything in our power to cooperate with special students and investigators and to give them every assistance possible.

In asking you for your books, I did not intend to solicit them as a gift, if you will send your bill I shall be very glad to remit.

I note what you say about Seymour Dunbar's History of Transportation and Pioneers in the Century, vols. 41-44, suggestions like these we are noting in our catalog and will be of value to other students.

I am reading the articles by pioneers.

I note what you say about your new book dealing with Maine Colonial History. We have an immense amount of material on this
subject and I believe it would pay you to be near the Library for a month or two.

The assistant librarian, Miss Brainerd tells me that you can get very good board for six or seven dollars a week, and that a room will cost from three to four dollars.

Referring to your proposed juvenile historical novel, I can think of no better place than Augusta for your headquarters, while looking up matters of Indian Folk Lore, especially dealing with the Abenakis and Eastern Indians. Father Rale's dictionary is of the Abenaki language and is in the Library.

The review of the ALO MAN is certainly high praise and well merited. I congratulate you and your publisher. I am,

Sincerely yours,

Henry E. Dunnack
Librarian.

Miss Louise Lamprey,
Limerick,
Maine
Mr. Henry E. Dunnack  
Librarian  
Maine State Library  
Augusta  
Maine

Dear Mr. Dunnack:

I am sending back the three Historic Highways books and the one on California, but the volumes on Greece have not come to light. I have my own books pretty well sorted out now, and can't imagine any corner where a book could have been lost, as none of the State Library books have been outside the two rooms where I have been working, and I have had no visitors who could have borrowed them. However, things do turn up sometimes when one has looked apparently everywhere.

I am returning in the same package with the Library books the copies of my own books, autographed. Of course there is no question of payment; I am glad to give them to the Library as a slight return for the great convenience the Library has been to me.

Thank you very much for your kind words and for the information regarding board and room rent in Augusta. It sounds very reasonable.

With all good wishes,

Yours very truly,

[Signature]

Limerick  
Maine  
April 2, 1923
Miss Louise Lamprey
Limerick, Maine

Dear Miss Lamprey:

You have a book, Children of Ancient Greece, that is not in our Maine Author's Collection. Will you please autograph a copy and send it to me for this collection.

Sincerely yours,

Henry E. Dunnack
State Librarian

HED/D
Limerick
Maine
January 14, 1926

Maine State Library
Augusta
Maine

Gentlemen:

Will you please send me whatever books you have that you think helpful, on the subject of modern Russian life, including folk-tales, but not other literature? I have on hand a geographical reader for children of grades four to seven, to deal with that country. It is for the Children of the World Series issued by the World Book Company of Yonkers, which by the way is a very interesting little group of books. The idea is to take two or three children of each country and describe their daily life, bringing in customs, folk-lore, and some geographical and historical data. They have just brought out "Bemol and Kusum", the volume on India, by Rev. Herbert Wyman, who was for seventeen years a missionary in that country, and who used to preach in Limerick. I edited that book for them. I hear that Mr. Wyman is now connected with the Free Baptist Association of this State; when he did the book he was in Conway, N. H.

I got a great deal of the material for the "Children of Russia" volume last winter in New York, from a Russian girl who will appear as the author and will revise and probably add to the manuscript later. I want however, to have reference books from which I can get some things of general geographical value, and check up on my facts. I have "Russian Life in Town and Country", Francis H. E. Palmer, which is very good, and which she went over, marking chapters which I could safely use for the locality described. The story will deal with the life of a little brother and sister whose father owns a large country estate in the north of Russia. They go in winter to St. Petersburg, or Petrograd, to give it its present name, and also take a journey down the Volga, but most of the life described is northern country life, which is in many ways quite different from that of the south. Another book which I have found very interesting is "The Russians and Their Language", Jarintzof, (Mitchell Kennerly Company), which I would recommend to the library as most helpful in understanding Russian fiction. That is all I have here except a few books by Tolstoy and Gorky. If you have any of Chekhov's books I could use those.

Thanking you for your courtesy I am
Yours very truly,

[Signature]

Limerick
Maine
January 14, 1926
Gentlemen:

Will you kindly send me a list of books on architecture, covering the period ending about 1830? I have in mind a book on this subject for children, dealing with the various types of building by means of stories. I have submitted the plan to the Stokes Company, who think favorably of it and contemplate bringing out the book in somewhat the same form as "In the Days of the Guild". Of course the idea is to use only the outstanding types of architecture - Egyptian, Greek, Persian, Roman, Chinese, Italian Renaissance, French, Gothic, Scandinavian, Saracen, Spanish, English Tudor and Adam styles, and so on. I have a good deal of the material, but can use some books showing how the different styles grew out of the life of the people.

I have asked you to send the books on Russia along without waiting for me to select, because I do not imagine there will be a great many; but I can probably select a few books on architecture that will serve the purpose if I know what you have.

I do not know whether I wrote you that the fourth volume in my "Children of the Ancient World" series, Little, Brown and Company, will be out in March, under the title "Children of Ancient Egypt" ("Long Ago in Egypt" for the school edition) I shall take pleasure in sending you a copy. I think the book is unique in one respect; it had a thorough revision in manuscript by Dr. Ludlow 3. Bull, acting curator of the Metropolitan Museum of Art Egyptian collection; and he also went over the drawings and revised them. I do not think any popular book on Egypt, certainly not one for children, has received the approval of a trained Egyptologist before. Dr. Bull furnished me with most of the names for the characters and with the pronunciations for a glossary including all of the Egyptian names and words used. I am quite curious to know whether his assistance will affect the sales of the book or not. I felt rather proud, by the way, of the fact that the Museum library has bought all of my books, which seems to indicate that they think them good reference works.

Very truly yours,

[Signature]
Limerick  
Maine  
August 5, 1927

Miss Marian Cobb Fuller  
Maine State Library  
Augusta  
Maine

Dear Miss Fuller:

(If it is "Mrs." please correct me).

Your kind letter of August 3 is at hand. I think I will read the books you say you are sending before asking for anything more about Borneo, as it is quite possible I may get all I need from them. In addition to these I think I would like to see these:

Robert E. Peabody: The Leg of the Grand Turk  
R. D. Paine: The Old Merchant Marine  
John R. Spears: Story of the American merchant marine  
State Street Trust Company Historical Brochures: Old Shipping Days in Boston  

For this particular book I need data and personal and local color, but not illustrations particularly, so that I do not believe you will need to send any of the books that are mainly illustrations of famous ships. What bits of local color I use will probably be rather hap-hazard and sketchy, but I want them to sound convincing.

I shall be greatly obliged if Mr. Dunnack is willing to allow me some special privileges in the way of keeping books beyond the regular time, provided they are not books that are in great demand, but so far as I can see I shall not need to do much of it with this manuscript, as I think in most cases I can take notes of what I want and send back the books.

The previous books I have done since coming to Limerick have been historical books ordered and arranged for to cover certain periods, and in doing the work at a distance from a library it would have been almost impossible to make notes covering all I might want. The problem was a peculiar one. Take for example such a book as "Days of the Pioneers", which owes much to the help of your library. First I had to accumulate all the information possible about the period 1800-1860 in order to select the characters and incidents that seemed best suited to fiction and most closely related to important events. Then I had to block out the stories, referring occasionally to the historical volumes to make sure that the narrative did not contradict known facts anywhere. Then each story was written, and finally the whole collection was revised and some of the stories rewritten, to correct
anachronisms or inaccuracies and add any details that seemed to increase the interest. In that series the characters in some of the stories reappeared, and I had to be careful not to let one contradict another anywhere. Thus I had to read the books first, then refer to one or another from which material for a specified story was obtained, and finally re-read a good many of the books during the final revision, not knowing until the stories were finally in shape just what I should use out of the enormous amount of material. Another thing that complicates a job like that is the habit a story has of writing itself; every new and then characters seem to take matters into their own hands and do things not planned for by the author; and the queer part of it is that it is always a better story when they do. That makes fiction of this kind a more complex matter than simply writing a biography or historical sketch. In "Children of Ancient Gaul", which is coming out this fall, there was a big cave-boy, Bresse, who simply walked into the book and did as he chose, and mixed himself up in the doings of the other characters in the coolest possible way; and so did a Phoenician trader who is the villain of the story. Half the time I didn't know any more about what they were going to do next than if some one had been reading the story to me.

"The Derelict", however, so far as I can see now, can shape its course so as to include anything especially interesting as local color, and not disjoint the plot at all; and there is no historical episode to be included. The article about the head-hunters in the Herald Tribune is by Eugene P. F. Wright, who seems to be very much au courant of these peculiar people. I can't find that he has written any books about them, but I have not the latest edition of "Who's Who" - or he may be an Englishman. If he has done any books I should feel inclined to buy one. I may write him in care of the Tribune and find out.

Some time within two or three years I hope to come to Augusta and work at the Library and meet you, as I have one book in mind which would undoubtedly be done better there. I shall send you copies of "Wonder Tales of Architecture" and "Children of Ancient Gaul", - which I believe is to be the last of the "Children of the Ancient World" series.

Have you ever seen a copy of Archibald Robbins, Hartford, 1818, - title in part "A Journal comprising an account of the loss of the Brig Commerce, of Hartford, (Capt) James Riley, Master, upon the western coast of Africa August 28, 1815", also of the slavery and sufferings of the author and the rest of the crew upon the Desert of Zahara"? It is a small book but interesting. I have the only copy I ever saw. Two of the crew were Portland men. I have been wondering if it is a rare book.

Very truly yours,

[Signature]
Maine Library Bulletin
Augusta
Maine

Gentlemen:

I note attached to the copy of the Maine Library Bulletin just received a slip saying that unless notified before October 1 you will remove my name from the mailing list. I haven't a direct personal interest in the question whether you do or not, in view of the fact that you never mention me or any of my books, either in news or your list of "Maine authors", but rather than that I think you have sometimes - not always - included a book of mine in your list of books out in a given year. If you will look in "Who's Who in America" you will find that there is quite a list of them, and most of them have been written since I came to live in Limerick.

It is true that I was not born in Maine, owing to the accident of my mother having left Phillips, where my father was preaching, to stay with her mother in New Hampshire at the time, but I spent most of my life as a child here, in Parsonsfield, Brunswick and Corinna, and came here and bought a house in 1921, having long ago made up my mind that, as soon as I could get along without being in New York on account of a job, I should make my home and do my work here. I notice one author you include in this list on the strength of a four years' residence. Incidentally, in my "Great Days in American History" series I included as much Maine history as I could in a book of such general character, some of the items not having been used in juvenile historical stories before; and there's a Maine poem as dedication to one of them. Mrs. Boynton, your Limerick correspondent, never does mention anybody except her own crowd, which probably accounts mostly for your having completely ignored me as if I were a last year's summer resident. I really haven't cared much about it, but when I got this slip it did strike me it might be well to ask you what you thought my personal interest in the Bulletin was likely to be.

I have a book coming out some time next year if the sky does not fall, a history of architecture for children, published by the Macmillan Company, entitled ALL THE WAYS OF BUILDING. Of course, even if one has no personal vanity in such matters, it does help a book to have it included in general news of this kind, especially when you include almost everybody that has the remotest title to be called a Maine author. I was considerably gratified when in New York to find all of my books in the library of the Metropolitan Museum of Art, and they're on the American Library Association list, which indicated that they are of some value as reference books - outside Maine.

Very truly yours,

[Signature]

Limerick
Maine
July 25, 1932
August 4, 1932

Miss Louise Lamprey,
Limerick, Maine

My dear Miss Lamprey:-

I greatly regret that you feel that the Bulletin has not taken proper notice of your work and I am glad to have you call our attention to our negligence in the matter. I find in past issues of the Bulletin several references to your work, the longest in January, 1929. We try to keep in touch with the work of all Maine authors but we do miss out on them occasionally, especially when the books are for children because the general reference library has no juvenile department. As you know there are a great many persons born in Maine or resident in Maine who are authors and it is not possible to keep in close touch with all of them unless they send us copies of their books as they are published. We are always very glad indeed to mention in our columns a book about Maine or by a Maine author. It will be a pleasure to mention your forthcoming book, All the Ways of Building when it appears, adding, at the same time, mention of some of your other works, especially Great Days in American History. Perhaps you will tell us the parts that are about Maine, unless you feel that you would like to send us an autographed copy for the Maine Author Collection.

I like and admire such of your books as I know and I take pleasure in recommending them for children's use.

I am glad to have the interesting biographical data contained in your letter. This we shall keep in our reference files where we collect as much information as possible about Maine authors.

Very truly yours,

MAINE STATE LIBRARY

BY MCF
Limerick
Maine
August 10, 1932

Miss Marian Cobb Fuller
Maine State Library
Augusta
Maine

Dear Miss Fuller:

Your kind letter of August 4 came along some days ago. I hope my letter did not sound peevish, but it has rather looked to me as if, so far from "not taking proper notice" of my work, the Bulletin has practically not taken any at all. Some of the people here who get the Bulletin say they have noticed it and wondered about it. It really does seem a trifle queer when an author who has been in the list of Maine people in Who's Who in America for some ten years is conspicuously left out, and you include in your list people who aren't in that volume at all (if that is supposed to have any significance) and who in at least one case, as I remarked, haven't even lived in Maine for more than four years or written any books whatever.

I've really spent more time in Maine than anywhere else, for besides the last eleven years that I have been an all the year round resident and tax-payer, I lived here most of the first eight years of my life; and all of my books but the first four have been written here. It seems to me that I did send you one of my books for the Maine Author collection, autographed, but inasmuch as there are over a dozen of them, to send you a complete set at an average price of $2.00 a book would be rather expensive. If I did not send one, let me know and I'll put you on my list for ALL THE WAYS OF BUILDING (Macmillan's) whenever it comes out.

These books are most of them used, I imagine, by parents and teachers as well as children, because they have been so written as to include a good deal of information not easily accessible elsewhere, especially by people out of reach of big libraries. "Children of Ancient Egypt", for example, really takes in most of what most average people want to know about the Egypt of the time of Tahutmese III, and something of earlier history. That was written in New York, and Dr. Bull of the Egyptian Department of the Metropolitan Museum went over the rough draft, giving me a good deal of help especially in the matter of names that would be historically correct, and then read and criticised the manuscript and even the artist's sketches for the illustration, having also talked with her and given her help about the historical details. Little, Brown and Company remade a couple of the plates that Dr. Bull didn't happen to see, in order to have it absolutely correct archaeologically. I don't think any other books on Egypt in fiction form have come out that just fill the place this one does. In the same series, "Children of Ancient Gaul", which I wrote here in Limerick, caused me some anxiety, because very little has
actually come to light about pre-Roman Gaul. But after I
sent a copy to Dr. Henry Fairfield Osborn with a request that
if he saw anything to criticize as historically inaccurate he'd
do it frankly, and he wrote back that he was going to give the
book to his own grandchildren at Christmas, my mind was
considerably easier. You say your "general reference library
has no juvenile department." Neither has that of the
Metropolitan Museum of Art, but I found all of my books there,
considerably to my astonishment, so they evidently thought
them worth while as serious reference books. Anyhow I'd hoped
you would find some of my work worth while for your
travelling libraries for camps and so on, as most of it
is designed to fit in with children's school work.

It seems to me that one way to avoid overlooking Maine authors
might be for you to make a list of those whose names appear
in "Who's Who", which, by the way, has more Maine names in it,
I believe, than names from any other State of anything like
similar size without a big city like Boston or Chicago.
You evidently didn't do that anyway.

In the "extended notice" from the Bulletin which you say was the
last time you mentioned me, in January, 1929, you mention
as "among the Christmas publications" "Days of the Colonists",
and say I am "the author of two other" books in another field.
At that time I'd written the five books of the "Children of
the Ancient World" series for Little, Brown and Company,
all of the "Great Days in American History" series ("Days of the
Colonists", second of the six, came out in 1922, seven years
before this discovery of yours) "Wonder Tales of Architecture"
(Stokes) in 1927, and "The Treasure Valley", a Crusade story,
sequel to the two "Guild" books, in 1928. Your negligence
has certainly been pretty comprehensive when in order to
mention a book of mine among Christmas publications you go
back to a Stokes catalog several years old and ignore all the
rest of the series, mentioned in every Stokes bulletin where any
of them are.

"Days of the Commanders", written here, has a dedication poem
"To the Neighbors", which is a song of Maine. Maine characters
come into that book and the one on colonial history. In the
last of the series, "Days of the Builders", one of the stories is
about Peary's discovery of the North Pole, and Peary was a Maine
man. Inasmuch as the basic idea of this series was to
relate each story to some definite event in United States
history, and not many of these outstanding events actually
took place in Maine, it was not possible, without upsetting the
balance and giving too much space to New England, to get in
very much fiction obviously Maine, but Maine local color is
scattered along through the series. The aviation story in the
sixth volume begins with a small bay on Maine blueberry
plains, and ends in a camp on the Maine coast, the last story
on the radio, ends. There is a Maine man named Munithen in
some of the Revolutionary stories, and the last two stories of
"Days of the Discoverers" deal partly with early exploration of
the Maine coast by Champlain and John Smith. You can see, of
course, that in a series meant to deal with the history of the
whole United States, including four wars mostly fought elsewhere than in Maine, and numerous important doings by other than Maine people, from New York to San Francisco and from the Great Lakes to Panama, the amount of space actually devoted to Maine history would have to be somewhat limited. However, I judge from the notices you give to other authors that you don't base your estimate wholly on what they write definitely dealing with this one State. As it was, I got a venomous editorial assault from the Columbia, S. C., State, on the alleged ground that, being a New Englander, I had so far as possible ignored all history outside New England, whereas I'd really, as a matter of fact, given more than its share of space to the South and included some Southern history, like Robert E. Lee's crossing the Pedregal and Elizabeth Lucas's founding the indigo trade, which never appeared in juvenile books before and which most Southerners never heard of.

In "Days of the Leaders", which deals with the Civil War and the Spanish War, I submitted the story of Gettysburg and the one about Spottsylvania to my neighbor, Mr. Ed Cobb, a veteran of both battles, and in the latter story got in the charge of Upton's Brigade including the Fifth Maine, against the "Bloody Angle", which was I think one of the most desperately brave charges of the war. There's a tree 22 inches thick in a Washington museum that was literally cut down by the hail of bullets against which those infantrymen came. Mr. Cobb lost an arm there and came home, scarcely twenty-one, to live out the rest of his life as a cripple, but a plucky one. He was a very fine old fellow. A Spanish war veteran here gave me some of the stuff for the Spanish War stories, but most of the material came out of my scrap-books. I was an editorial writer on the Washington Times during that year, and got several incidents either by personal observation or talking with men who were in them. There is a story about Roosevelt and Miss Clara Barton in Cuba in that book that I got from Miss Barton's secretary, which I think was never printed elsewhere. While not every one of the incidents and characters in the books of this series are historic, I think I can safely say that much the greater part of them are, and that everything that has been in the stories could have happened, and is not contradicted by any history. When I could get a historic boy or girl for the character around whom the story is framed, I did, as in the case of Columbus' cabin-boy and the thirteen-year-old Andrew Jackson; when I couldn't, I used a fictitious charcter who might have been there and seen the great event.

I've never been included in the publicity stuff about New Hampshire authors because I don't live there and never did, except three years of school life and three years when I came to Concord to see my father through and settle the estate; but it really has seemed to me that I belong in the Maine list as much as a good many other people you've been discourseing on. And since I've constantly written to your library for reference works on the books I've written here, I didn't exactly leave you in complete ignorance about 'em. -Very truly yours.

Lionel Traylor
August 18, 1932

Miss Louise Lamprey,
Limerick, Maine

Dear Miss Lamprey:

Thank you very much for your extremely interesting letter. How kind you are to take the trouble to write at such length about your work! I always feel somewhat apologetic about writing to an author; it always seems rather like imposing on a person whose business is writing to ask her for a letter. It will be a great pleasure to mention "All the Ways of Building" when it is published and I can make mention of your other books, using some of the very interesting data in your letter. I wish that I had space to quote in full all that you say about your books; I am sure that it would be as interesting to our readers as it is to me. Your letter will be kept in our permanent reference files, in the Maine Author Collection. We have a number of your books in the Collection and I hope that we can add the new one to it. Just at present our book purchase funds are somewhat limited.

I am extremely sorry that the Bulletin has been so negligent about mentioning your books. I am glad to have you call my attention to this negligence for which I trust that you will accept my very sincere apologies.

Very truly yours,

BY MCP
Limerick Maine
October 5, 1933

Dear Miss Fuller,

Your kind letter of October 3 was read with much pleasure. I am delighted that you like "All the Way Up Building." Several years of study of the subject of architecture went into the making of it. I have had several letters from people who say that they have long been especially interested in architecture and wish I had written just this kind of a book. I should like to make it the first of a
I can do nearly every kind of office work and can be a good
stenographer; can take dictation on the
type writer almost as fast as the
ordinary stenographer can. I'll do it
in shorthand, and I never misspell a word. Also, I'm told stories and
gives talks along the line of my
own work, which is pretty varied,
and shoule like to handle a story-
time in connection with school or
library work if there were a chance.
Illustrating it with pictures, postcards,
and sometimes sketches.

1905

P.S. I'm not home in the evenings.
Work of this kind can be made to
look up with craft-classes and the
school program. But-in this small
place there is no chance to do
anything in that line seepful-what-
I have done with the camp fire girls.
By the way, the dedication poem
you liked is part of their hiking song,
and the three girls to whom it is
inscribed are the president, vice president
and secretary of the local cheerfile. The
'Soon - by - Ia - ha.' It seems rather a pity
not to use my store of information and
reference somethin', if possible.
With all and best, Joan Lambrey
October 13, 1933

Miss Louise Lamprey,
Limerick, Maine.

My dear Miss Lamprey;-

I wish that I could tell you that there are possible positions here where your talents and experience can be employed but I regret that I know of nothing in the way of either a part-time or a full-time job. Possibly the Commissioner of Education, Dr. Bertram Packard, may know of some school position where your specialized knowledge would be welcome. You might write to him.

There might be something in Portland and for work along the line of fine arts you would probably find the Portland Public Library as well equipped as this one, with the added advantage of being open in the evening.

It would be interesting to have you working here and I am sorry that I cannot offer any helpful suggestions. I will let you know if I hear of anything.

How thrilled those little Campfire Girls must have been to have your lovely book dedicated to them.

Very truly yours,

MAINE STATE LIBRARY

MCF
Miss Marion Cobb Fuller  
Maine State Library  
Augusta  
Maine  

Dear Miss Fuller:

Your letter of December 11 came this morning, and the third volume of Sylvester yesterday. I have returned most of the lists under separate cover, but enclose the remainder.

I am greatly obliged for your interest and effective help in this job. I think about everything I want from the historic point of view is in what I have, but I may have to ask for some of these woodcraft and travel books later. It is almost impossible to tell without seeing the books in the case of these, what will be useful, but I have made notes of some titles that look promising. There are some men here in Limerick who have had enough practical experience in hunting to tell me a good deal.

I found a lot of interesting things in The New England Captives book, an account of the captivity of John Lougee, who was probably an ancestor of the Lougees here, for one thing. My people, on both sides, were settled along the northern frontier in those days, - Hampton, Lamprey River, Dunstable, Rumney and further north in New Hampshire.

I have at present a dicker on hand for something on etymology - a subject that has never been handled for children that I know of. I wonder if you have the books on that subject of a man named Weekes, I think his name was Ernest and he was English, that came out some time before or about the time of the World War. I know of two of them. I can get most of what I need on that subject in my own library, but should be glad to know some time at your convenience what you have there. Skeats' Etymological Dictionary, which I have, is a mine; so is "Words and Places", which however, is said not to be infallible. I haven't yet found anybody who will bite at the toy book just now. The best way to do that, undoubtedly, would be to get the stuff in New York, where there are several good toy collections and people who have specialized on the subject, besides the museums.

I have gone through the two Jesuit books and found them interesting partly because of their peculiar point of view. In view of the recent disposition to minimize the part played by Rale and other missionaries in these atrocities and blame the New Englanders, it is interesting to see that Vetromil and Maurault themselves seem to consider the thing a kind of
holy war, writing as late as 1866. The most extraordinary passage in Maurault's book is his final comment on the tribulations of the Johnson family of "Number Four" (Charlestown N. H.) who seem to have gone through about all one family could. He pensively observes (this may interest you if you haven't happened to read the book yourself)

"There was lacking to this unhappy woman a thing which would have been to her a great consolation in her misery. She was not a Catholic. She did not know that divine religion which ever consoles in trouble. It is astonishing that so much suffering and misfortune were not enough to lead to the truth this woman so intelligent and endowed with so many good qualities. Her prejudices against Catholicism were so strong that during the several years which she passed in Canada she had not the desire to study the first principles of that holy and divine religion, although it would have been so easy for her. Probably the horror and the hate she had for the savages contributed to strengthen her prejudice against Catholicism."

Very likely they did. Aside from the fact that her father and the minister Willard, who seems to have been of her family, were both killed in these raids, she had been dragged off into an alien land expecting every hour to be knocked on the head, borne one child on the journey, lost another born in Quebec, had her children taken away from her and sold to Catholics, and been thrown on her own resources in a strange city and spent over a year in a jail infected with small-pox. I don't believe that even the occasional humanity shown to these innocent and suffering people by their captors (for which she never fails to give credit) would be quite enough to impress them with the beauty of a religion that bore that kind of fruit. I have encountered somewhat the same naive disposition to ignore the sufferings of heretics burned alive, exiled and beaten up, on the part of modern Catholics. It sticks out all over Vetromil's book. In the latter, by the way, the good father makes several statements that will not, on investigation, advertise either his learning or his accuracy much. The quaintest is that Leif Ericson brought with him priests who celebrated the first Christian service in New England, one of whom, Eric, later returned to Greenland and as bishop established the first American See., in 1121. As Leif came here about 1,000, the reverend historian seems to be working a little home-made miracle of his own in this return of the missionary priest at least one hundred and twenty years later. Personally I doubt whether Leif did bring any priests. I have the original chronicle and shall look it up. Vetromil's statement about Southern-made ornaments carved of Yankee bones is also a new one on me.

I found something that interested me in a page inserted in the New England Quarterly you sent, about a review of a book about the Kensington Rune Stone written lately by somebody named Holand. It had been reviewed in the March issue and this leaf somehow omitted. Have you the book in the library or can you look up the review and tell me who published it?
I sent along some of the information on that inserted leaf to the Macmillan Company, because when I sent in my manuscript for ALL THE WAYS OF BUILDING somebody in the office challenged my statement that Scandinavians penetrated to the interior of Minnesota in the fourteenth century (page 277) and I had to fall back on having got my story from the Minnesota Historical Society. It appears from this review that additional evidence has been collected in the shape of mediæval weapons and geological proof, which seems to make my case quite safe.

I used the story in the form of fiction, giving the facts as I had them in a note, in DAYS OF THE DISCOVERERS, but from this review I judge that Hol and came to a conclusion somewhat at variance with mine; in fact I took a different tack from anybody else that had written on the matter so far as I know. They all seemed to suppose that the Vikings had reached the place where this stone was found, overland from the Hudson Bay country. Now, that would be, as I see it, contrary to their practically invincible habit of going by water where they could. I took the line that they coasted along south from Greenland until they came to the St. Lawrence and then started up in their galley, which was built so that it could be taken apart and carried across country and then lashed and bolted together again, and that they simply portaged and sailed to the tip of Lake Superior, where as recorded on the Rune Stone, they left their ship and struck inland, partly to explore and partly to fish and lay in stores for the return. If they were friendly with the Ojibways as it would seem they must have been to get so far, they would be all right till they got to the edge of the Sioux country, and it was just there that, while some of them were off fishing, the rest were massacred, and they set up this stone with the record. Nobody knows whether they ever got back to Norway or not, but if they did, they got there in the middle of a civil war, and it would be no time to report explorations of an unknown country. I think it has been taken for granted, first, that they could not have passed Niagara in a galley, and second, that the scenery of the St. Lawrence would have impressed any explorers that the report would have been spread in Europe. But if the galley could be taken apart, as it certainly could, since they often went up one river and down another, they could have carried it just as easily as Indians could carry a canoe of the size we know they took the length of the Great Lakes. And while Cape Trinity and Cape Eternity would impress natives of any other country in Europe, the Skjaeggedalsfoss is higher than Niagara and the cliffs of the Norwegian Fjords would overtop the Saguenay precipice. Bayard Taylor, who went through Canada just after he had been to Norway, says he didn't get anything like the thrill he would if he had not just been among scenery so much loftier. Having ventured an original theory on this event, I was naturally interested to know whether later authorities have veered to anything like the same conclusion. I quizzed a tenant of ours at the time, a truckman used to
heavy moving jobs, as to whether a gang of hard-muscled men could have taken such a galley over land if they could take it apart, and he said that so far as he could see they certainly could. If I can find out who published this book I may write the author and see what he thinks of my theory and whether any known facts contradict it.

Before I get through with "New England Captives" I think I'll make a detailed list of all names of captives mentioned, weeding out duplicates, and see how many of those known to have remained in Canada did join the Catholic Church and become French, how many of these were mere babies or young girls who were helpless in the hands of their captors, and what the proportion is to those who returned. The impression I get is that comparatively few of those who stayed were anything but children when they made their "choice". Even Esther Wheelwright, who became a nun, was only seven when she was captured and seventeen when she joined the Ursulines, and they seem to have hurried up her profession for fear her family might get at her. If I do make such a resume and you would like a typewritten copy to file with the book I'll make an extra carbon and send you one. It might save trouble for somebody else who's interested in getting at the facts. Also, there is no evidence that those who were detained had any way of holding on to their own language and their own religion unless through fellow-captives, and there does seem to be evidence that the policy was to separate families and isolate captives, especially young girls, wherever possible. Another point I should make in such a brochure is that, as shown in other histories, at the time this kidnapping policy started and for a generation or so afterward at least, the King was having a hard time, in spite of all sorts of subsidies, to get people, especially girls, to go to New France and keep up the population, and that mechanics and skilled workers were scarce there because in France most of these were Huguenots, who were not allowed to come to Canada. When New France had 250,000 people against 250,000 in the English colonies, and Boston more trade than all New France put together, it does not look as if Canada under France was such a paradise that kidnapped strangers would stay there and become French unless it was to get away from savage life among the Indians, or, in the case of women, because otherwise they would completely lose touch with their children who were in the power of the French and had lost their husbands and everything they had at home before they were dragged away. In short, the specious argument that these captives really liked French Canada and its religion best strikes me as very fishy when you run it down to the bed-rock facts. Most of the stuff that is put out lately against New England and her colonial traditions when you come to look into it. If you have any correspondents or applicants who want to get information along that line I'll be glad to give them what I have if they will get in touch with me. Many of the arguments used against the "Puritan" are based on slander.
January 5, 1934

Mrs. Marion Cobb Fuller
Maine State Library
Augusta
Maine

Dear Mrs. Fuller:

Thank you very much for your pleasant letter and for the books, including Mrs. Eckstrom's, which came the other day. I shall not need to take out the Abenaki dictionary, although I very much appreciate the chance. I found in the Masta book the special word I was after, which had not turned up anywhere else.

It was a good thing I sent for Moliere in the French, for those English versions are no more translations than sage cheese is Camembert, although they interpret the spirit of the original. I shall enjoy very much reading them as I get time. The scraps I wanted for the first chapter in which they come in I have already found and got in, although I may add others or substitute better ones if I come across them.

I am coming along with the story and having a good deal of fun writing it, although I increasingly doubt its getting into print. For one thing, I fully expect to be told that I have idealized my New Englanders. For some reason or other we alone among all the American racial stocks seem to suppose it some kind of sacred duty to make the worst instead of the best of our ancestors and our own people generally. Mrs. Stowe commented on that more than fifty years ago. If it is modesty it is modesty gone amuck.

I found a shrewd bit of analysis in Belknap which ought to be fished out for wider circulation. Apropos of certain fly-by-night characters who imposed themselves early New Hampshire as zealous ministers of the gospel and developed sins of the flesh, he says that it has been often observed that the exercise of ultra-emotional religious fervor (he calls it "enthusiasm") being the product of the same natural forces as sensuous indulgence, one is likely to slide into the other. Of course his phrasing is more formal than that and briefer, but that's the sense of it. Sinclair Lewis didn't say it any better in three hundred pages of minute characterization of Elmer Gantry. For all the modern jazz chorus, people were tooting their own horns long before most of the Russians knew how to read and write.

I don't know whether you get the Camp Fire monthly, "The Guardian", but in the January issue Limerick gets a paragraph at the top of the page in the "Observation Car". The girls feel quite cocky over it. At our meeting Monday
I told them we would try an Indian game, and set them at "biting patterns" in the way described in that book on Penobscot design, only we did it with sheets of paper instead of birch-bark. A thirteen-year-old who has a manuscript music-book of her own copied two of the Indian songs from the Curtis book into it for the girls to learn if they want to.

I should like to see the history of Coos County, the local history of Lebanon, N. H., and those of Plymouth, Bristol (N. H.) and Haverhill (Mass.) I find that the Hardys, my mother's family, were settled in Groveland, which seems to be part of the Haverhill settlement, as early as 1676. They had a big family gathering there last summer and a cousin sent me a photograph of the old house which he took. I figure on using the Haverhill history somehow. The books you sent gave me all I need on Maine. I do not care for the volumes of the Plymouth and Bristol histories that are genealogical; what I want is the story of the towns.

The way I think the people in my story went is, through northern Vermont above the Green Mountains to the Connecticut, down the Connecticut to somewhere near Lower Waterford, Vermont, across into New Hampshire and down Franconia to Bristol, then to the Blackwater River in Danbury, and south-east to Dunstable, the first frontier town they would strike; from there they could get to the older settlements all right.

I have been over most of this ground myself and feel pretty safe; the supplementary research is only to be sure I have not missed some known fact that contradicts my fiction. I think the climax of slipshodness I have come across in a writer of great reputation was in Chesterton's "The Man Who Was Thursday". He had a man viewing the Dome of St. Paul's against a sunrise sky, from the due east side of the building. But then, he made the remark in all seriousness in the Sunday Herald-Tribune a year or more ago, "It is well known that there are witches". Which is exactly what the author of "The Hammer of Witches" asserted some four or five hundred years since.

You said in one of your letters that there was little call for the Maurault book because it was in French. I wonder if it would be worth while to have a translation made of some of the chapters? If it would, and I could get the price of the typewriting out of it, I would do it for you some time. I think the selections could be made so as to be a resume of most of what is in the book that is characteristic and that is not duplicated in other books not French, and it would be an interesting job. The typewritten pages could be filed in a loose-leaf note-book. I don't think much of the Roberts history of Canada. It seems to be a rewrite of other authors.

Thanking you again,

Louise Lamphere
I wonder if you will be interested in another queer coincidence between my plot and facts I didn't know, which has bobbed up in the Lebanon history? Once in a while I dope out a detail of a plot without knowing positively it could happen, and find it could. In this case I got my people down to the Connecticut below Littleton and started them into New Hampshire by a line that might take them along the Mascoma valley, but I could not figure how to get them down to Franklin via Newfound Lake unless they went through Orange, and I wasn't sure they could. I knew there were some curious pot-holes within driving distance of that region, which I wanted to bring in, but although I have seen them I had forgotten where they were. I doped out the plot, on a chance, making a cave hidden by a cascade not far from those pot-holes. In the Lebanon history it says that formerly a chain of lakes occupied the present valley of the Mascoma and discharged their waters over what is called Orange Summit, and made those pot-holes. A long time ago, the barrier at the other end of the string of lakes was worn through by the action of the water and they drained into the Connecticut Valley. Now there is a river. Two hundred years ago it is quite possible that the topography was as I have described it!

L. Hammond
Mrs. Marion Cobb Fuller
Maine State Library
Augusta
Maine

Dear Mrs. Fuller:

I am mailing back to you to-day all the State Library books I have except the Molière volumes (two) which I should like to renew. I thought perhaps I could do that, as there might not be much call for them. Please let me know about this.

I am enclosing herewith the list on word history you mailed, which somehow got overlooked. I have made a memorandum of books that might be good if I get an order for such a manuscript.

The story is well along, in fact there are only two or three more chapters to do, but I shall have to go over it and copy a good deal of it. I certainly am obliged for your able and sympathetic help. They tell me that "All the Ways of Building" had a review on the air last Saturday, which was nice.

I am enclosing also money order for $1.00, which I think will cover the money I owe the library. There must be some dues for overtime. I should be obliged if you will see if this is all right and let me know. I've been rushing the manuscript so hard that I have let about everything go but writing and getting something to eat.

I don't remember whether I asked for a history of Haverhill, Mass., but if I did, that is the only book I did not get. I should like to see it if you have it.

I may ask you for a list of Maine town histories one of these days, to gather material for some articles on that subject - small towns especially. I wonder if there is a gazetteer of this State? I have an old 1849 Hayward's New Hampshire Gazetteer which is perfectly invaluable. It gives a brief history of each town and is small, not as big as an ordinary arithmetic.

Thanking you again, I am

Yours very truly,

Limerick
Maine
January 10, 1934
Limerick
Maine
April 15, 1934

Mrs. Marion Cobb Fuller
Maine State Library
Augusta
Maine

Dear Mrs. Fuller:

I think you will be glad to know that the story on which you so kindly helped me last winter has been accepted and will probably be on the fall list of the Frederick A. Stokes Company, under the title THE TOMAHAWK TRAIL. The editors decided that the original title "The Trail of the Wilderness Children" wouldn't do because of the word "children" in it, which many youngsters do not like. I prefer this one myself. It is to have four color pictures by Stafford Good, and an endpaper showing the route taken by the three captives. I expect it will raise a ruction among the people who have been trying to prove that the Indian raids were all our own fault, but in the introduction I've quoted some of Maurault's remarks on the subject, and there is nothing in it that I can't give chapter and verse for. I want to thank you again for the extra trouble you must have taken in getting my authorities together. As the story deals with both Maine and New Hampshire and has a lot of camp and wilderness lore in it I think you may want to put it on your list for travelling libraries. I am very much pleased with the selection of Mr. Good as the artist, as the samples of his color work sent me indicate that he can get the real forest atmosphere into it. The endpaper may be the work of a young artist here in Limerick; they've given him the chance to submit drawings, and personally I think he's doing good work.

I got an order in February to do two articles for the new juvenile encyclopedia the Britannica is getting out, on "Architecture" and "Dwellings". I think that is a work the State Library is likely to want. The editor in chief is the same man who edited the last edition of the adult Britannica and he gave me an absolutely free hand on the articles. The same Limerick boy submitted drawings for the one on Dwellings. If these two orders to him go through, maybe you would like to have me send proofs of them when the cuts are made to put into your collection of Maine work. I think this youngster is going to amount to something, and these are the first real orders he has had a chance to show his hand on.

I have had an inquiry lately about a book somebody wanted to locate, "Saco Valley Families". I believe there is a big book about "Homes of the Saco Valley" or some such title, but that is the only one I know of. I told this man I would write you and find out if you know of any Saco genealogy. He thought the author might be some one of the name of Knight but wasn't sure.
Another query I couldn't answer was about a book somebody said he read when a boy, he thought published in 1880-90, "Twenty Years a Hâstler" or "Peddler", and he said the same author, he thought, wrote another called "Twenty Years an Auctioneer". I told him I would write and see if any of your indexes threw any light on that matter. He said he should like to buy those books if he could find them, but without knowing the publisher or author it would be hard to locate them. If he had the exact title and date some second hand book dealer might get them for him.

I have a job on hand now that I am doing on the chance that it will get somewhere, and chiefly to get it out of my system and put into less unwieldy shape a lot of data I have in three file cases. I have called the book tentatively INVASION, and the idea is to show up the absolutely false and malicious character of the Democratic propaganda that has been flooding the country for the last five or six years. In Dr. Wirt's letter to Rand, the paragraph which most interested me was the one in which he said that he was told that we did not realize the scientific perfection of propaganda as developed since the World War. I made up my mind three or four years ago that the stuff that had been circulated had all the earmarks of a systematic barrage, but was not sure exactly where it was heading, though I had my suspicions. I think personally that the communism racket is just a red herring drawn across the trail. In order to get this job done so that it will have a chance I have to put the manuscript into shape by about June 1, but so much of it needs only to be arranged and copied that this will not be such a stunt.

Now I would like to ask you to send me two books I had out three or four years ago but do not have the library numbers of, both relating to the Hartford Convention lie: Lossing's Field Book of the War of 1812, and Dwight's History of the Hartford Convention. I don't suppose you have Pollard's History of the Civil War, the first Southern history of that war, issued before it closed, but if you have I'd like that. I have R.G. Horton's "Youth's History of the Civil War", a mess of lies reprinted three or four years ago from the first edition (1867) which I have. I should like a list of what you have from the Southern side, but the books I have mentioned I'd like to get at your earliest convenience, especially Lossing and Dwight. The point I'm making in the book is that nearly all the stuff put out as history unearthed by "modern research work" is nothing of the kind.

With all good wishes,

[Signature]

Do I owe the library any money? Sent $1.00 for charges last week
April 17, 1934

Miss Louise Lamprey,
Limerick, Maine.

Dear Miss Lamprey;-

Your letter is extremely interesting; it is always a pleasure to hear from you.

I am glad that the Tomahawk Trail is so well on its way to publication. Undoubtedly, it will be a welcome addition to the junior travelling libraries. I will call Miss Libby's attention to it. I wish that it might be one of the Children's Book Club selections. I had not heard of the proposed juvenile Britannica. It must be gratifying to have the opportunity to do the articles on Architecture and Dwellings. I think that you did not mention the name of the Limerick boy who is doing illustrations. We should be glad to know more of his work and if he does the drawings for your articles we shall be very glad to have copies of them for our Maine files.

I think that the Saco book you have in mind is Saco Valley Settlements and Families, by Ridlon, a bulky volume containing much miscellaneous matter (a valuable addition to Maine social history) and a number of family histories. We have a copy which can be lent for one week. Your friend can write to us for it; it is better to have the user of a book the borrower of it and then you don't have the responsibility of the book's return.

The book "Twenty Years a Hustler", or "Peddler", we have not yet found on any list. As you know, all book lists are alphabetical and so if a person is mistaken about the first word of a title it is difficult to locate an item unless one knows the name of the author. There is a bibliography in "Hawkers and Walkers in Early America", which is out at present and perhaps I can locate this book on that list, although of course 1880 can hardly be considered "early".

I have sent you Dwight and Lossing. Also I find that we have Pollard so I am sending that, with two lists of books on the Civil War.

To refer to several of your former letters which came at an especially busy time and so were answered in a somewhat hasty manner; will you some time tell me where to find what Mrs. Stowe said about New England's habit of belittling herself? This is in your letter of January 5th, if you happen to keep copies of your correspondence.
Your suggestion about translating Maurault is extremely interesting. If you really feel that you would like to do it I am sure that Mr. Dunnack will be glad to make some arrangement about the typing fees. Will you write to him, if you decide to translate the book? With the new "Invasion" on hand I suppose that there will not be much chance of your translating at present.

I believe that I answered your inquiry about Maine town histories. We have a typed list of the histories available here but it is a long list and as it has to go first class mail it requires a larger amount of postage, about a dollar, I think, so most persons think it not worthwhile to borrow it.

The person in charge of the circulation department says that you owe fifty-six cents in postage—or did last January, after you sent the dollar which you mention in your present letter.

Are you doing anything about writing a history of tpys? I do want you to write that book.

With all good wishes

(Signed) MCF
Dear Mrs. Fuller:

I note your query in your letter of April 17 regarding Mrs. Stowe's reference to New Englanders belittling New England. You will find it in the book of papers published under the title THE CHIMNEY CORNER and giving the author's name as "Christopher Crowfield", a nom de plume used when she was doing a monthly article for the Atlantic. The date of publication is 1868, so that if you don't happen to have the book you can probably find it in the file of that magazine, volume XVII, or XVIII. The title of the paper is HOW SHALL WE BE AMUSED?, and the reference is on page 189-190 of the MAW collection as published in book form.

If you never came across this series of papers (the other two volumes are "Little Foxes" and "House and Home Papers"), they deal with current events and problems as talked over by Mr. Crowfield, his family and friends, and some of them are very amusing. I've been interested to see how nearly Mrs. Stowe in some of her suggestions hits the most up to date theories of today on the evils of our own post-war period.

To save you a little time I'll copy the reference:

"Yes," continued Bob Stephens, "the fact is that our grim old Puritan fathers set their feet down resolutely on all forms of amusement; they would have stopped the lambs from wagging their tails and shot the birds for singing, if they could have had their way; and in consequence of it, what a barren, cold, flowerless life is our New England existence! "Nothing here but working and going to church," said the German emigrants, and they were about right. A French traveller in the year 1857 says that attending the Thursday evening lectures and church prayer-meetings was the only recreation of the young people in Boston..."

"Well, Robert," said my wife, "though I agree with you as to the actual state of society in this respect" (they were discussing the general lack of wholesome amusement for young people in this country about 1870) "I must enter my protest against your slur on the memory of our Pilgrim fathers."

"Yes," said Theophilus "the New Englanders are the only people, I believe, who take delight in vilifying their ancestors. Every young hopeful in our day makes a target of his grandfather's gravestone, and fires away, with great self-applause. People in general seem to like to show that they are well-born, and come of good stock; but the young New Englanders, many of them, appear to take pleasure in insisting that they come of a race of narrow-minded, persecuting bigots.

"It is true that our Puritan fathers saw not everything. They made a state where there were no amusements, but where
people could go to bed and leave their house doors wide open all night, without a shadow of fear or danger, as was for years the custom in all our country villages." (I could do it right now in Limerick, and have, in the twelve years I have been here. When I was in the Kentucky mountains, settled by people of much the type of our ancestors, Scotch and English Dissenters, people did it there, and they were in the nineties about as strict on dancing and card playing as New England in 1870-89 ever was) "The fact is that the simple early New England life, before we began to import foreigners, realised a state of society in whose possibility Europe would scarcely believe. If our fathers had few amusements, they needed few. Life was too really and solidly comfortable and happy to need much amusement."

I don't know what Boston may have been like in 1837 except from books, because my people were never Bostonians, but I have heard my grandmother, who was born in 1815, tell about life in New Hampshire villages in her young days, and I have seen the report of the daughter of Thomas Jefferson, who travelled by chaise across country from Lake Champlain to Massachusetts about that time, and there is nothing particularly barren or cheerless about the life up country according to them. What is more, look at "Little Women", describing Miss Alcott's girlhood, "Hitherto" and other books dealing with Mrs. A. D. T. Whitney's girlhood in Newton and Boston, about the time this French observer made that extraordinary remark. The fact is that New England got its reputation for asceticism from the abuse of the Puritans and Dissenters and Scotch and English Presbyterians of the seventeenth and eighteenth centuries by their political enemies. Our ancestors have been dubbed narrow and joyless because, to put it plainly, they declined to join in popular amusements that no respectable father would take his children to now. Can you imagine getting any fun out of bull-baiting, bear-baiting, or hanging a gander by the feet from a tree and letting successive riders try to pull its head off for the prize of a bottle of whiskey (a popular sport of the Southern Appalachians as late as 1890) or a cock-fight, a rat-hunt, or a dog-fight? In Thomas a Kempis's day the best element of the Catholic Church protested strongly against the keeping of Christmas and other holidays by having a general spree, and took just about the ground of the Puritans of the seventeenth century, that a holy day was a holy day and intended to be kept by religious service. And there is nothing in the most extreme Puritan asceticism that touches some of the records of Catholicism for either senseless or mischievous unpleasantness. I came across in a French Catholic book awhile ago the story of a saint (modern) who displayed her indifference to the comfort of the body by washing a leper and drinking the water! Agnes Repplier tells of sermons she heard that scared her worse than any revival discourse ever scared me, and of a practice in her convent of encouraging the little girls to deny themselves anything they especially liked in order to "make an act" pleasing to God. ("In Our Convent Days!") The fact is that New England people are from mistaken modesty altogether too much given to accept strictures from other people on insufficient grounds, and it is time to realize what effect that has.

Very truly yours
Dear Mr. Dunnack:

Mrs. Marion Cobb Fuller writes me that you may perhaps be interested in a suggestion I made that I would translate at least some chapters of Maurault's "Histoire des Abenakis" so that you could file the typewritten English version along with the book for the benefit of patrons of the library who would like the information but don't read French. I should be willing to do the job if you wanted it enough to pay for the typing at ordinary rates for such work. I suppose you can get a price on those from any public stenographer. I should do it on paper similar to this I am writing on, and with a margin similar to this, to allow of its being put into an ordinary loose-leaf note-book unless you wished to have the manuscript regularly bound in book form.

I doubt very much whether you would have any use for a great part of the volume, because some of it would have no general interest for most readers, and some chapters can be found in practically the same form in other histories you have on your lending list, in English. In such a case I should simply put in a page saying that the same material is to be found in such and such a book. But there are several chapters and parts of chapters which really are, I think, worth translating, either for their straight historical value or their point of view. The style is scholarly and often charming and much of the material picturesque.

In translating, also, I should suggest putting a note at the end of the chapter or the bottom of the page in at least one or two cases where the historian is not accurate. For example he calls Massasoit chief of the Narragansetts and says he was driven to revolt by the injustice of the English, whereas his treaty with the Plymouth colonists, which was unbroken by him or his Wampanoags for over half a century, was all that saved the tribe from being gobbled up by their hereditary enemies, the Narragansetts under Canonicut. Also I'd be inclined to refer the reader to the account of the same incident in Parkman or Fiske, in a few cases, where I suspect Maurault is holding a brief for his own Order instead of the truth. This would aid any reader who was really after historical information to find it easily.

In order to do a job like this I'd probably have to keep the book out considerably longer than your rules allow, because the work would be sandwiched in between other writing, and it would take several weeks even if I gave it my whole time, because proper translating is not to be done too hurriedly. But I should really enjoy doing it if you like to make the arrangement.

Very truly yours,

Louis Emery
Dear Mrs. Fuller:

Following the plan of a publishing office where I used to work, I am making separate letters covering the separate matters on which I am writing in reply to your letter of the 17th, some of which you may want to file in different places.

I am writing the Britannica people to send me some extra proofs of my article with illustrations on DWELLINGS which I will mail some of my librarian friends on the chance that they may like to put them on view, and when I get them you will have your copy. Judging by the format of the pages it is going to be a very attractive junior encyclopaedia. The editor is Mr. Hooper, who edited the last edition of the adult Britannica. For the article on ARCHITECTURE I think they are going to use the pictures they have. The drawings of our young artist here have been accepted and paid for and we all feel very much pleased. His name is Arthur Townsend Lougee, and he is only twenty and never had any instruction at all until he went to Phillips Andover at fifteen, when a well known artist (Mr. James) who was doing a portrait of the president, took an interest in him and invited him to paint with him. Before he had been at school two months his mother noticed that he was writing home on some very nobby paper, and when she and his father visited the school they saw banners and pillows and things around his room, which they discovered the other boys had paid him in exchange for drawings he made for them. He has a collection of sketches of celebrated people who were at the school lecturing or giving some entertainment; he would draw them and get them to autograph the sketch. In his last year there Dr. Fuess was his housemaster, and at a vacation camp connected with the school he was put as tentmate with Bob North. One of the boys there was a son of Stanley Baldwin and gave Arthur Town, as we call him here, an invitation to visit his home in England. He was an awfully attractive youngster when he used to come here and ask for fairy tales at the age of ten, with his rabbit in his arm, but he didn't show this talent for drawing until he was twelve, when it appeared in a penchant for doing cartoons. I hope his endpaper goes through; it has been finished and sent in, but that particular publishing house is one I never feel quite sure about; sometimes they like things that I think they will, and sometimes they don't. You will get a proof of that also in time; Stokes plans to get out some extra proofs for library posters. I really feel that for him to get a $50 job out of the Britannica without owing it to any favor (I don't know the people myself) for his first real attempt at illustration, is something of a stunt. He is one of three or four kids here who seem to have unusual talent, and in two cases possibly genius, in different lines.
I think THE TOMAHAWK TRAIL should have a special appeal to Maine readers because it deals with Maine history and colonial life in the last chapters.

I have written Stokes' editor about two other notions for books, on which I should be glad to have your opinion also as to the demand there is likely to be for them. She approves an idea I have for a juvenile dealing with the Elizabethan period in London mainly, though some of it probably will happen elsewhere - to be called tentatively THE THREE CRANES. It centers more or less around a tavern down by the wharves, with that for a sign, but the cranes really are a punning reference to cargo cranes used in loading and unloading ships. I want to get in some political material, and deal with the departure of the Hanseatic League from London and the Queen's general policy with her merchant captains; also the lyrical and artistic life of the time. Nicholas Lanier, ancestor of Sidney Lanier, would make an attractive character; he was a musician of great talent. Like this last book it is likely to rub the pro-Catholic or rather anti-Protestant-Dissenter people the wrong way, but after all, as the Saturday Evening Post inquired awhile ago, who made America? Anyway, you can't do a book about that period and be on the fence about the two fighting forces in religion. Most people don't seem to have the faintest idea what Elizabeth was up against. It would have been a tough situation for a king, but it was fifty times worse for her.

The other notion is a series of booklets on crafts and craft plays, which without altering the plates could be published in book form as a permanent reference book for teachers, while those who only wanted something on one of the subjects might get the pamphlets separately at perhaps fifty cents each. The idea would be to give simple directions for basketry, wood carving, embroidery, etc., just enough to enable any intelligent woman to teach children to do the work, and wind up the chapter with a one-act play that could be done by the class, using their own work for stage properties and costumes, to show what they had done or make part of an entertainment. I should frame up the play so that it could be done by a class of six or eight, or by having groups follow the principal characters as leaders, used as a school pageant or expanded into a whole play if as is often done in camps, the youngsters wanted to make their own drama. In that case they could use my sketch as a nucleus, the best actors taking the printed parts, and write the rest of their show around it. These chapters would be illustrated with diagrams and line drawings, and I could have photographs taken in costume, one for each play. I think a book like that might have a permanent value for camps, schools and homes, and save a lot of bother for overworked teachers, or people who would like to get up something picturesque but have not much imagination or ingenuity. I could include directions for making bird and animal costumes, Indian suits, armor, and so on, most of which the children could do themselves. The play itself, dealing with historical detail, would be educational.
Thanks for the information about the Saco Valley book. I guess the one this man inquired about probably was some small *genealogical* privately printed volume. If you come across the data on the other book I shall be greatly obliged.

The package of books came all right and I am delving in them. Pollard deals mostly with matters I don't know about, such as the Confederate troops in battle, and may very well be dependable on that subject, but where he touches on what I do know about he's slipshod or worse. He makes seven "extracts" from Hinton Rowan Helper's "Impending Crisis", two of which aren't in the book, and others are so quoted as to give an idea of their meaning quite unlike the fact. When I return the book I will send you a typewritten memorandum on that. If you haven't Helper's book in the library I suggest that you secure a copy; it's good stuff.

Did you have Charles Willis Thompson's "The Fiery Epoch" (Bobbs Merrill) on your book list for recent purchase? It is a survey of the period between 1830 and the Civil War. It contains one instance of what seems to be twisted history. He says that Elijah Lovejoy was mobbed and killed because of the filthy nature of his paper, and that he slandered the Catholics. He claims to have Beveridge as authority. Mr. Thompson is a Catholic, and I'm not sure whether he is playing the same game as the propagandists I have been watching, or not. After I get through with this INVASION thing I may ask you for some books and look up that matter. I find in this lot of books, in reading up on the Hartford Convention, that he is not just straight on that, although he denies in a general way the charge of treason (I gave him that material). He says there were two secessionists in the Convention, Timothy Pickering and John Lowell, and so far as I can see neither of them was a member. Pickering in fact was a member of Congress that year, and I should think he must have been in Washington.

I am enclosing money order for $1.00 to cover the balance on the enclosed card of 56 cents and what will be due on these books and maybe a few others before I get through.

I will make notes of a few books on the list you enclosed and return it. I'm not really using much on the Civil War, but am running down the false history that started in that connection and is some of it still used as campaign propaganda. It might not be a bad plan in sending out those lists to indicate which are Confederate. The title often gives no indication of the point of view, and if, as in my case, a person wants to get at the opposition argument, there is no way of being sure which books it is in, from the list.

As to the translation of Maurault I'm enclosing a note to Mr. Dunnack which please hand over to him when you have read it.

I have not yet found a publisher who warms to the idea of
a history of toys, but haven't tried very hard, because to
do it properly would require so much research work, and
it really would be better to get some of the material in New
York, from museum people and collectors, if I ever get a
chance to spend some time there again.

The March 1934 issue of The Horn Book (do you get that?) was
decidedly a Maine number without meaning to be. It had two
articles with very flattering comments on my books, one about
the architecture book and the other about the use of the two
"Guild" books in craft school work. The leader was a charming
article by Anne Carroll Moore about Kenneth Graham. She was a
Limerick girl. It is an unusually good number and I think
might be worth while for you to send for unless you have it.
It is published at 270 Boylston Street, Boston.

I wonder if you know that you sent me a rather sensational
bit of evidence for the first chapter of INVASION* along with
these books? They were wrapped in an old copy of Le Messager,
a French language tri-weekly paper of Lewiston, Maine, and
my eye lit on these headlines - in the issue of February 10,
1933:

ROOSEVELT SERA DICTATEUR
COMME MUSSOLINI

Why, exactly, should a French paper publish practically the
whole program of the rather sensational radical policy of
this administration, nearly a month before Roosevelt's
inauguration? So far as I have been able to see this practical
dictatorship came on the country like a thunderclap. Do
you remember seeing anything about his having asked for power
to revise the government from top to bottom, at that time of
day?

I sat down and translated the article, apparently news from
a Washington correspondent, at least as much of it as I found;
the page was torn across half way down. I was so intrigued
by this find that I sent a copy of the translation to Senator
Hale and one or two other people, asking them what about
it. Roosevelt has lately said, through Carter Field of the
Boston Herald, that he was quite frank about all his policies
but people simply hadn't noticed what he said. It does seem
to me that I should have noticed that story. I am going
to use it on the first page of my INVASION manuscript, in
some such way as in the carbon of the rough draft of that
page following this. You can pass my query along to anybody
you think would be interested. This French paper has of
course no Press Gallery correspondent, but I should guess
gets its news of this kind through Frank Hall, who has a
seat there and represents the N. C. W. C News Service
(National Catholic Welfare Council News Service). As an old
newspaper hack I should have said, at a venture, that the
items in this article would be A. P. news in February.

With many thanks and good wishes,

Louise Lowther
QUITE early in the Roosevelt administration it became obvious that the unprecedented acts and radical measures which were startling a bewildered American people could not all have been evolved since March 4, 1933. Clearly they were in line with plans worked out before election, before the nomination, perhaps before the dust of Smith campaign had fairly settled. There was a cut and dried, even a predigested efficiency about them.

Whether the average American had any idea what was going to happen or not, there is evidence that some people knew, in such a bit of Washington correspondence as this from Le Messager, a French tri-weekly paper of Lewiston, Maine, in its issue of February 10, 1933. Here is the opening paragraph, headlines and all, translated into English:

ROOSEVELT WILL BE A DICTATOR

The Democratic Leaders will give Him for Two Years Almost Absolute Power

LIKE MUSSOLINI

Washington, 13 - The Democratic leaders of the House propose that absolute power to revise the entire mechanism of the Government from top to bottom, going even so far as to cut the compensation of the veterans, be conferred upon President-elect Roosevelt.

The leaders have revealed that Mr. Roosevelt has himself demanded this authority, and that he has said to them that he was willing to take the responsibility for reducing the expenses of the Government for the purpose of balancing the budget, even if that should cost him his reelection in 1936.
Mrs. Marion Cobb Fuller  
Maine State Library  
Augusta  
Maine  

Dear Mrs. Fuller:

Your interesting letter of April 23 is at hand. I've had a letter from my publisher approving the idea of the Elizabethan book, and some time this summer I shall probably be sending you a request for some books on that, but I know pretty well what I want, this time. I have also had a note from the Britannica editor saying that he will send me proofs of my articles along in August, and when he does I will send you one, with Arthur Lougee's drawings.

If you look at the carbon of your letter you'll see that you said "the series of booklets on arts and crafts is something not available," but the rest of the sentence looks as if the "not" wasn't intended to be there. I suppose you have heard of the "Wicked Bible" valuable to collectors because by a typographical error the "not" was left out of the seventh commandment.

I have not forgotten that I have a list of books on the Civil War, and will return it in a day or two after making notes.

The thing I want to get just now is something about Alexander Hamilton and his financial policy that will meet the slam in Alexander Woolcott's column in the last McCall's, in which he charges that Hamilton when he arranged to redeem the Continental currency in which the soldiers had been paid, let some Boston financiers and members of Congress into it beforehand so that they could "lay the foundation of their fortunes" by buying up the notes beforehand. I'm enclosing a letter I wrote him inquiring for his authority. I don't expect to get a reply, because my experience is that writers who so distinctly show the animus do not reply to the politest inquiry about their authority. I think he's simply repeating old anti-Federalist slanders like the one that Hamilton favored "a monarchy bottomed on corruption." I'm really more interested in finding out where the story originally came out than getting a pro-Hamilton version, but I shall be obliged if you will send me a list of the best you have, either on Hamilton himself, Washington's administration, or the redemption of the currency. I have Bancroft, and I have Irving's big Life of Washington. If you don't have McCall's at the library you can pick up a copy at some news-stand.

With many thanks for past and future favors

[Signature]
This is not shop, and I'm putting it on separate sheet for convenience to your files. The reason I asked you about the "Messager" report was that I'm asking various people whether they heard anything like it before inauguration, and if not, do we have to read foreign language papers to find out what our Government intends to do? Nobody, thus far, has said that they did hear or see any such thing in American newspapers in February.

The priest here has told people that "their" sources of information were far in advance of ours, and that he knew all about the bank crash through New York correspondence, some time ahead, I think in January; anyway early enough for Catholics here to be warned to draw out their money - which they did, and took it to Canada. You see how this advance report of the intentions of the Roosevelt Administration dovetails with that.

Nearly all of the campaign propaganda I have been following has the peculiarly ugly, sneering tone noticeable in criticisms of Protestantism by Catholics, and this style of campaign stuff has really come in, although it is using a good deal of old material, since Raskob started as chairman in the Al Smith campaign of 1928. The situation is it seems to me a very curious one, unprecedented in my recollection, in many ways. Oddly enough, when working on Regn's History of the Catholic Church in the United States, I had occasion to talk with Cardinal Hayes, then Chancellor, and although I was at the time rather prejudiced in favor of Catholicism than otherwise, he strongly impressed me as a kind of human glacier. The slams on New England, and subsequently the Catholics, started about the time he took office, and so did what may be called the militant Catholic policy which was quite unnoticeable before about 1927. I also met Father Prout, whose name bobbed up in a news item the other day.

I wonder if you've seen Antonia White's "Frost in May", Viking Press? I've just been reading it. It is the most interesting study of the methods of a convent school I've ever seen, but it tallies pretty well in most ways with Agnes Repplier's "In Our Convent Days", although that is written with real affection for her old school. If either one of 'em dealt with New England boarding-school, however, reviewers (especially Catholic) would lambaste the book on the score of the bleak, hard discipline of "Puritan" asceticism. This Frost in May thing is wonderfully written and I note that it is favorably noticed by The Catholic News. Personally I think we are at present up against the stiffest religious conflict in the history of this country, certainly the most serious since Archbishop Hughes' day. You know I think all that Communism racket is just a decoy; the real issue is quite something else. It looks to me as if the real plan were what Father Coughlin called "a corporate State" established by a new party; anyhow it is something that Church approves and is promoting.
Dear Mrs. Fuller:

The parcel of books on the Hamilton matter came and I am having a very good time with them. Thank you cordially for the trouble you took in running down the reference.

I am enclosing two carbons apropos of this which may interest you, one way or another. The one on the yellow paper I'd like to have back; the carbon of my letter to The Sun you needn't bother to return, as I have the letter in print (May 10, 12, on the back of the editorial page).

I thought it might amuse you to see what a wallop Woolcott got from a personal acquaintance on his review, also to get a side light on McConaughey's book, which I haven't seen, but which is evidently one of those generally anti-everything we ever believed in books. I think it probably surprised him. The writer, Charles Willis Thompson, does know a lot about American history, and as you can see, he packs a lively pen.

I got the color sketches for THE 'TOMAHAWK TRAIL the other day, and it looks as if it would be a very attractive book. I think I wrote you they decided to call it that, instead of The Trail of the Wilderness Children.

Please accept my thanks for introducing me to Oliver's book on Hamilton. I should like to own it some time; it is an admirable contrast to Bowers' rather slipshod sposhiness. There is no use talking, the real English historian at his best has it all over most of ours, though at our best I think we can match him. But Oliver's view is unusually good, and his style is delightful. Of course my notion is anyway that you never get at the real inwardness of a great character unless through a sympathetic study. The Jeffersonolaters aroused my distrust chiefly because they can't seem to write about their idol without vilifying somebody else. Also, most of 'em are careless about facts as well as style, and practically always in detail. Bowers has a man (page 396) drawing a revolver thirty years before there was any such thing. Also, Bowers is altogether too fond of calling names, for an historian. Might as well quote as serious argument the old small-boy yelps "Democrats eat dead rats", and "Republicans eat old tin cans", as to reproduce what he does - and he does it all on one side, at that. A joint discussion between Bowers and Oliver would be entertaining if either one could be got to do it. I find one especial bit of information in these that I wanted, about J. T. Callender, a scurrilous penny-a-liner who wrote on both sides, but the Bowers type of "historian" quotes him usually only on one.

Very truly yours,
May 9, 1934

Editor Book Review Department
The Jun
280 Broadway
New York

Dear Sir:

I have just been perusing Mr. Thompson's interesting review of "The Secession Movement in Virginia" by Henry T. Shanks, in your issue of May 8. What he says about perverted history put out "with a deceptive air of impartiality" for propaganda purposes within the last eight years or more, is absolutely true. I could give at least a dozen instances of it besides Dumond's book; in fact the thing has been so common lately that a fairly good article could be made along those lines. Most of this false history, like the Hartford Convention story, is not even based on fact, but is revived partisan propaganda. Some of it dates back to the time when the anti-Federalist Aurora declared that "if ever a nation was debauched by a man, this nation has been debauched by Washington." I imagine that a yarn quoted by Alexander Woolcott in the last McCall's, about Hamilton arranging for the redemption of the Continental currency in which the soldiers were paid, and privately letting some of the financiers in on it so that they could buy up the currency, belongs to that era. Woolcott's use of it to slam New England is a peculiarity characteristic of a good deal of this alleged history. He says that in this way the foundations of many Boston fortunes were laid.

The fishy element in the story is that inasmuch as the pay of a private in 1812 was only $6 a month it is hard to see how a transaction like that would involve enough money to found anybody's fortune. The nucleus of the tale probably is that, when the Revolutionary soldiers were discharged and came home - most of 'em had to walk - still unpaid, whoever happened to be the rich man of the neighborhood probably did in innumerable instances redeem their currency for them when they got it, and took his chance on ever getting the value of it himself. I suppose you know enough about human nature to know that there undoubtedly were old soldiers all over the country who easily believed, when the currency was redeemed, that they had been tricked. Even that would be more foundation than the Hartford Convention story had when Hayne spread it in his speech.

In mentioning that incident, however, Mr. Thompson says, as he did in his book "The Fiery Epoch", that Pickering and Lowell were fiery secessionists but could not "impress the Hartford Convention". So far as I can see they never had the chance, because neither one was a member, and only the actual delegates and the secretary, Dwight, were inside the hall at any time when the Convention met. Considering the
kind of experiences with England in Pickering's early life which must more or less have shaped his opinions, I can't see why he, at any rate, should have been inclined to favor that country in the war of 1812. Moreover he was at the time, I believe, a member of Congress, and the Convention met in the middle of December. Anyhow, here is the list of the delegates who did meet at Hartford, on the authority of Dwight's history of the convention, 1833, and Lossing's Field Book of the War of 1812, which reproduces the signatures:

George Cabot, president
Nathan Dane
William Prescott, son of Colonel Prescott of Bunker Hill fame
Harrison Gray Otis
Timothy Bigelow
Joshua Thomas
Joseph Lyman
George Bliss
Daniel Waldo
Stephen Sumner Wilde
Hodijah Bayles, ex-officer Continental Army
Stephen Longfellow, father of the poet
Chauncey Goodrich
John Treadwell
James Hillhouse
Zephaniah Swift
Nathaniel Smith
Calvin Goddard
Roger Hinot Sherman
Daniel Lyman, ex-major, Continental Army
Samuel Ward, captain in Continental Army at eighteen
Benjamin Hazard
Edward Manton
Benjamin West
Mills Oolcott
William Hall, jr.

If you can see any pickering of Lowel on that list, where? The Hartford Convention slander has been dug up in the last eight years and amplified. Robert Chambers, in his serial in "Liberty" delicately entitled "The Rake and the Hussy", had Andrew Jackson striding up and down his quarters in the summer of 1814 swearing the air blue about the "treason of the Hartford Convention" four months before it met and at least two months before it was decided upon! In his official proclamation on the Nullification matter, it may be added, Jackson denied this slander about as definitely as he could. He said that under "far greater provocation" the New England States "did not even contemplate secession".

Seems as if he ought to know. And by the way, did you know that in September, 1812, the first year of the war, a secret convention was held in New York to try to elect somebody against Madison and the anti-Federalists of his party by coalescing the Democrats who did not favor war and the New York Federalists? You never hear anything about that at all.

With apologies for so long a letter to a much-occupied man,

L. Lambkin
June 18, 1934

Miss Louise Lamprey,
Limerick, Maine.

Dear Miss Lamprey:

In glancing through some of your letters in our Maine Author Collection files I note that you asked to have the copies of your correspondence with Woolcott returned so I hasten to send them to you, with apologies for having kept them so long.

I hope that I might see you at the Garden Show at Scarborough. I was there several days with the library's exhibit of garden books. One of our staff talked with someone who told her about your remarkable work with the Campfire girls.

I have seen many favorable comments on "All the Ways of Building", and I am always glad to have the book praised. Aren't you pleased to have written it?

Thank you for sending us the letters.

Very truly yours,

signed

W.C.F.
Dear Mrs. Fuller:

Your kind letter of June 18 is at hand. Thank you for sending back the Woolcott letters; I don't expect to have to use them again, but you never know. By the way, I wrote Mr. Dunnack about that suggestion of mind for translating Maurault's book, but never got any answer. If he doesn't care to take it up, perhaps he would let me know through you. I am not sure just what my plans will be this summer; it depends on what I hear from some people I've been corresponding with on the Invasion idea. Toward the end of the summer I hope to start in on reading up for the Elizabethan book and the Hanseatic League.

I owe the library an apology for a book I thought I had returned but hadn't. I am sorry to have caused them so much bother. I thought it went back when the previous order did.

I should have been glad to meet you, and shall be if you are ever this way, but I haven't been anywhere for an age. Not only have I been scarce of money, but this last year, owing to the antics of these pirates in Washington, it has been worse than ever, because various things I have been usually able to have done, nobody is doing because they can get a living off the town, or, occasionally, higher pay from the Government than odd jobs are worth to anybody. It seems to me we might about as well make that man in the White House a Czar and done with it. However, I have some hopes that under the present Chairman the Republicans will be able to pull themselves together and put a monkey wrench into the works this summer. He can do it if anybody can. The thing that disgusts me is the absolute unblushing dishonesty of the whole business. If last year's campaign had been conducted on any such basis as a dictatorship, a bank moratorium and debasement of the dollar, no sane person can suppose that Roosevelt would be where he is now; but it wasn't. If he ever met anybody with a square argument he'd have the deuce of a time proving that he isn't just as much of a crook as the clique behind him; but that is just what he won't do. The housing bill is the most plausible, crafty and mean-spirited swindle yet. The people it will hit are the decent, thrifty, hard working ones who won't gamble with their own money or other people's, and want to keep their own homes. I shall be surprised if before the year is out there is not a proposition for a Department of Education with full power to rewrite school histories and compel the use in our schools of the lying version to which much of this propaganda points. Roosevelt is none too good for it, and his backers have been hoping for a chance to do it for at least five years. The particularly exasperating feature of it is that so many New Englanders are simpletons as to let this ravaging of everything decent in our civilization go by default. I never saw a big change yet impending that I did not want to see it come out, but if these people get what they want I hope I shall be dead before they get it all.

With all good wishes,

Limerick
Maine
June 20, 1934
Limerick
Maine
June 22, 1934

Mrs. Marion Cobb Fuller
Maine State Library
Augusta
Maine

Dear Mrs. Fuller:

Will you kindly send me a list of the books you have on the period of English history between the accession of Elizabeth and the death of James I.? I'm beginning to read up on my next book. As I see it now it will deal with London along toward the end of the sixteenth century before the Hanseatic League was thrown out in 1598, and I'd like to find out what there is on that organization. The economic side of Elizabeth's reign has never been much brought out, and as in some of my other books I'm figuring on the story dealing with the ordinary people instead of the Court. The interest of it for Americans may be especially that this was the period just before the settlement of this country, and the people in the story will be the kind that the colonists were. There was a Nicholas Lanier somewhere about that time, who was the ancestor of Sidney Lanier and was a musician; and if I can get enough information about him and his family I'd thought of using one of them for the hero. I believe they were Huguenots. I have "Shakespeare and His Forerunners" by Sidney Lanier, which is a valuable reference book on the period, "The England of Shakespeare", and some other books, but the plot and time will depend a good deal on what I find on the period.

Some years ago I had out a volume of Hilaire Belloc's new History of England, which is an elaborate work in many volumes written of course from the Catholic point of view. I have his "Historic Thames". At the time I saw the book the last volume out was not quite late enough to take in this period. If he has written other volumes since I'd like to see them, also something on old London taverns if you have that. I'm hoping by starting early to read up on this (which has not always been possible) to avoid having so many books out at one time. The Belloc history and the tavern book will do to start on. I usually try to get hold of history written frankly from the opposition point of view in order to avoid using anything the opposition itself has any ground for saying is false; but I found in the course of about twenty years' research in library work that so far as Southern histories go, the main trouble is that they're slipshod and unreliable and leave generally so many gaps on the information that to get a full view one has to check up by some historian like Fiske, who gets in both sides I don't think the Hanseatic League has ever been used in fiction and I have an idea it was important to London in its time and that its expulsion was still more so.

With all good wishes,

[Signature]

Limerick
Maine
June 22, 1934
This is my home. It is probably over 100 years old, and is known here as "the Woodside House."
THE ALO MAN
By L. Lamprey and Mara L. Pratt Chadwick
World Book Company, Yonkers, N. Y.

Review in Journal of the African Society,
October, 1921. (London, England)

This is the third of a series of books
designed as geographical readers suitable
for children between the ages of 7 and 12.
It far more than fulfils its promise. The
ordinary routine of the day's work in a
Congo village is described, and in the
evening the Alo Man tells stories, such as
that of the Leopard and the Dog, the Hyrax
and the Elephant, which are already dimly and
in a very different form familiar to
children through the medium of Harris's
Uncle Remus. The book has far more than
geographical interest. The description of
native life and native folk-lore is not
only exceedingly vivid, but extraordinarily
accurate, and though the book is intended
and is suitable for children, the serious
student of African ethnology would not
waste his time if he read it.

(This review was written by Lieutenant
Ralph Durand, author of "Spacious Days"
and various adventure stories, who has
travelled with native porters through
the interior of Africa.)
BOOKS WRITTEN BY LOUISE LAMPREY

CHILDREN OF THE ANCIENT WORLD SERIES:

Children of Ancient Britain (also published as Long Ago People; How They Lived before History Began)  Little  1921
Children of Ancient Rome (#Childhood of Rome)  Little  1922
Children of Ancient Greece (#Childhood of Greece)  Little  1924
Children of Ancient Egypt (also published as Long Ago in Egypt)  Little  1926
Children of Ancient Gaul (Long Ago in Gaul)  Little  1927

* School editions

GREAT DAYS IN AMERICAN HISTORY SERIES:

Days of the Discoverers  Stokes  1921
Days of the Colonists  "  1922
Days of the Commanders  "  1923
Days of the Pioneers  "  1924
Days of the Leaders  "  1925
Days of the Builders  "  1926

In the Days of the Guild  Stokes  1918
Masters of the Guild  "  1920

Alo Man  World Book  1921
(Written in collaboration with M. S. P. Chadwick (Francesca Marshall, pseud.) Children of the World Series)

Wonder Tales of Architecture  Stokes  1927
Natilia and Nikolsi, Children of Russia  World Book  1928
(In collaboration with Varia Klenova)

Treasure Valley

All the Ways of Building
"The Tomahawk Trail" is a story of woodcraft, adventure and Indian lore and combines the peculiar charms of all three in full measure. This, perhaps, is what makes it stand out from the many other stories of Indian sagas. It is of exceptional interest to Maine readers because its hero is a Maine boy and its author a Maine Woman—Louise Lamprey, whose home is in Limerick.

The book is supposedly written for youth, but there is no age limit to its interest. The author has achieved absorbing narrative and sustained interest without harassing the reader by bloody details and horrors. She has preserved the passions and cruelties inflicted on the pioneers, which is a well-recognized part of Indian history in New England.

Enoch Hazelton had a part in three Indian raids. In the first he was taken captive and dragged from his home in southern Maine to Canada with other prisoners. Of the second and third he was merely a witness. This strange freak of fate he arrived at the half-fortified trading-post of Herve Saurel in the wilderness, along the St. Lawrence, where he hoped to get advice and assistance in his escape. Enoch's master, just in time to see, himself hidden from view, the dauntless trader and Enoch brought down by savages, under a French officer.

Later it was his lot to witness from his place of concealment, a ruthless attack on the Oswena encampment of Indians by warriors of an enemy tribe. The horror of pioneer ancestry have listened many times to such tales as Miss Lamprey relates, but she brings it close up. It is not history but real life, for the years drop away; Maine is again a wilderness, marked by small settlements, and only Indian trails traverse the stretches of forest, mountain and lake of the valley of New Hampshire and Vermont.

Miss Lamprey is well versed in the traits and customs of the various tribes of Indians that inhabited New England and New York State. She has a large stock of Indian legends on which to draw and a knowledge of woodcraft which makes her narrative of the expeditions of Enoch and his companions to exist with safety and little actual suffering in their long journey thru the wilderness, entirely credible. Boys fond of camping in the wilds and of adventure may read this book of Enoch, even while feeling the suspense and ever-lurking danger of his position.

Interest in Enoch's adventures is much increased by his two companions who are, strange to say, he finds himself strangely linked after the savages have fled from the smoking ruins of the Saurel trading-post. Saurel had a daughter, which makes her narrative of the massacre. Boys fond of camping in the wilds and of adventure may read this book of Enoch, even while feeling the suspense and ever-lurking danger of his position.

Readers smile over the stratagem of the big feast by means of which the Pemigewassets escaped their unwelcome visitors who would force them to make an alliance against the English. This is a true episode of history, as also was the attack on the Oswena encampment. Enoch and his companions enjoyed the protection of their Indian friends until they reached a settlement near Nashua, N. H., where Enoch, to his great joy, was reunited with his old friend, David, who had helped him to endure his captivity in Canada, and by whom he had been encouraged to make his break for freedom.

From then on, the way was easy, so far as Indians were concerned; but there were other enemies, worst of all the French trader, Le Borgne, and his associates, who had plotted the death of Saurel and who desired to get his young daughter and the money left her by her father, in their power. The end of this story contains a genuine surprise with a hint of an old and a new romance. While the chief characters are fictitious most of the events are real, and such historic personages as Peter Schuyler of Albany, Capt. Tyng, Father Rale and Capt. Hilton appear, very real and alive. The story is laid near the time of the French and Indian war, the year that Deerfield was sacked. It is difficult to give an idea of the clear, straightforward but vital style of Miss Lamprey's narrative. This book, like her "Great Days in American History" series, is marked by accuracy and fidelity to historical detail.

The book is illustrated by a two-page picture map of the Tomahawk Trail, as it was engraved on the old powder horn, which guided Enoch and his friends thru their wanderings, and by four pictures in color, of which Stafford Good is the artist. Frederick Stokes Co. of New York are the publishers.
Limerick
Maine

December 14, 1933

Mrs. Marion Cobb Fuller
Maine State Library
Augusta
Maine

Dear Mrs. Fuller:

Your letter of December 12 crossed mine,
and I will answer it at once to avoid your answer also
crossing mine, (if possible)

Thank you for your pleasant words about my verses. Editors
seem to differ about having a poem to each chapter; the
Macmillans decided they didn't want any but the dedication
poem. I think I told you that that was written for the
Camp Fire Girls here. I left out the chorus in order to
comply with the publishers' decision that they did not want
to identify the book with any one organization. If you
need care for it I'll send you the whole thing some day. I
hope to have the air, which is also original so far as I know,
written down some day. If you should ever come to Limerick
the girls will doubtless be glad to sing it for you.

The idea of this book I am working on dates back ten years
or more and at the time I first blocked it out Mr. Stokes
liked it and probably would have taken it if I could have got
time to write it. I'm not so sure about that now. Besides
the general unfavorable conditions, it is going to be
practically impossible to do such a story without bumping
against the religious issue. That may kill it at once. The
line the Catholic Church is taking is at present just about
the same as that of Maurault and Vattimo - that New England
was harried partly by way of righteous retribution for
Iroquois raids on Canada (with which our people had nothing
to do) and partly as a justifiable means of bringing the
heretics into the Catholic Church. This movement seems to have
originated or become obvious within the last five years,
I never have believed in making fiction a vehicle for
propaganda, but neither do I believe in twisting facts to dodge somebody's else prejudices.

As to "The Derelict" I dropped that partly because I had
so much else on hand, though I still think the notion is
a good one; but I should have to drop the title, because
that time somebody else wrote an adventure story and used it
-a good story, too, but entirely unlike my plot.

The list of my books in Who's Who in America is correct,
only since the last edition ALL THE WAYS OF BUILDING has been
added. In the case of the five books I did for Little,
Brown and Company called the Children of the Ancient World
Series, they published a trade edition under the title of
CHILDREN OF ANCIENT BRITAIN, ROME, GREECE, EGYPT AND GAUL and a cheaper edition for the use of schools, with the same text and pictures, but no jacket and rather cheaper binding, under the titles LONG AGO PEOPLE, CHILDHOOD OF ROME, CHILDHOOD OF GREECE, LONG AGO IN EGYPT, and LONG AGO IN GAUL. I mention this because, in case you want to get some of the books of this series for travelling libraries for camps, the cheaper edition will save you a little money and be exactly as good. I wrote XXX books for the World Book Company of Yonkers, two of which did not come out under my name and one did, in what they call their Children of the World Series, another series that would be good for camp use. The idea of that series is to describe the daily life of two or three children in a given country, so that the book can be used as a geographical reader. The two books that have my name as author are THE AL^ MAN, Congo folk-lore, in which I am co-author with Mara Chadwick, and NATALIA AND NIKOLAI, which I wrote with a Russian girl whose name appears as Varia Klenova. Then I put through an arrangement for one on India called BENGAL AND KUZUM, which I wrote from material supplied by Rev. Herbert Wyman, a missionary of seventeen years' experience, and I wrote the story and put into shape material furnished by Roger Babson for the book that came out under his name as A CENTRAL AMERICAN JOURNEY, so far as I know the only juvenile that ever dealt with export and import trade problems.

As to the history page, that is my page called FATHER KNICKERBOCKER'S MEMORIES in the trade magazine of the Consolidated Gas Company of New York, "Gas Logic", which was started in the advertising office where I was working at the time. I wrote the whole magazine the first two years, all but the advertising, editorial, and answers to questions about the use of gas appliances. For several years I did the cooking page and occasional articles, and I started this New York history page over twenty years ago, when almost no periodical in New York was running New York history at all. The papers started copying our page and now they use a good deal of New York history. You can get the magazine by writing to the Consolidated Gas Company's office, 4 Irving Place, New York, enclosing 24 cents in stamps for a year's subscription, to cover the postage. I am enclosing one of my articles. I really think it would be worth while for your library to have this magazine, as it has a lot of interesting general information, historical and otherwise. I think they would send you the back numbers for six months or a year if you wanted them. I've been hoping that some day I might find a publisher who would want a book on New York history along this line, so that I could use some of the mass of material I've kept in my files of the magazine.

With all good wishes,

[Signature]
Miss Louise Lamprey
Limerick
Maine

Dear Miss Lamprey:

We have recently acquired a copy of THE TOMAHAWK TRAIL, which we are of course delighted to add to our collection.

We are sending it to you, hoping that you will be kind enough to autograph it for us, as you have your other books.

We enclose return label and four cents postage.

Very truly yours,

Maine State Library

Im

Secretary
December 17, 1934

Miss Louise Lamprey
Limerick
Maine

Dear Miss Lamprey:

THE TOMAHAWK TRAIL, which you have so kindly inscribed for us, reached the Library this morning. It is with great pleasure that we add another to your books on our shelves. Thank you for autographing the copy.

Very truly yours,

Maine State Library

hm Secretary
December 7, 1934

Miss Louise Lamprey
Limerick
Maine

Dear Miss Lamprey:

THE TOMAHAWK TRAIL reached us this morning, but alas, without your autograph, without which your book will be rather lonesome in our author collection.

May I return the book for this autograph.

Very truly yours,

HED/m
State Librarian

Enc:
label & 4¢ postage.
Miss Louise Lamprey  
Limerick  
Maine  

Dear Miss Lamprey:

Thank you for the beautiful print of Sugarloaf Mountain. We are placing this in our Maine Author Collection copy of THE TOMAHAWK TRAIL.

We are today sending the History to you for autographing, and appreciate your kindness in cooperating with us.

Upon checking over the Collection recently, we discovered, much to our disappointment, that we do not have all the books you have written. We are enclosing a list of those we lack. Can you make any suggestions, or would you care to present this collection with copies of any? We are, as you know, extremely anxious that all your books be included in the Maine Author Collection, and we will be deeply grateful for any assistance which you can give us.

Very truly yours

MAINE STATE LIBRARY
BY

hm  
SECRETARY
January 1, 1937

Miss Louise Lamprey
Limerick
Maine

Dear Miss Lamprey:

We have noticed that the copy of HISTORY OF LIMERICK, which we are including in the Maine Author Collection, is not autographed. May we have your permission to send the little history to you for this purpose?

It is admirably constructed, brief, concise, listing the important events and dates, and we are very glad to be able to place it with your other work in the collection.

We will very much appreciate your assistance in this matter, and of course we realize that you are aware of the interest and value which an autograph lends to any book. We are very grateful for your interest in the library and the Maine Author Collection, and take this opportunity to extend to you the best wishes of the New Year.

Very truly yours

MAINE STATE LIBRARY
BY

hm

SECRETARY
Maine State Library
Augusta
Maine

Dear Miss McLeod:

Your letter of January 4, 1936 is at hand, and I am returning herewith the Limerick history, autographed, as you request.

I don't quite understand why the library should not have ALL THE WAYS OF BUILDING, because my recollection is that I sent a copy and got a very appreciative letter about it. As to presenting any or all of the books on the list to the Library, I suppose you are aware that beyond the limited number of complimentary copies allowed, usually six to ten, which were used up long ago, the author has to pay for every copy, although a discount is allowed, somewhat less, I think, than most publishers give public libraries. I get requests pretty frequently from libraries I never heard of, asking for complimentary copies of my books, enough in fact to more than consume the royalties on some of them at the present sales conditions. The publishers tell me that the sales on books intended for supplementary school reading, as most of nine are, ordinarily a very small line, have dropped anywhere from 60 to 80 per cent in the last three years. For a man who talks so much about social security, the present Executive certainly has done more to keep every kind of business in a state of insecurity than anybody else I ever heard of. If I sent you copies of all of the books on the list you enclosed it would cost me something over $25.00, and the royalty this year on one of them was twenty cents, normally it would be $45 to $120.

There are reports that national education is to be controlled by an Executive bureau, in which case I imagine that an honest historian will have about as much chance of having a book accepted as the proverbial snowflake in Hades. - judging from the kind of stuff put out as history in Michelson's publicity service.

You can get the four volumes of the Great Days series of the Charles Clark remainder bookstore in New York, if you want to, for $1.50 each, and "Children of Ancient Gaul" for 50 cents. Most of that series is now out of print. Maybe the World Book Company, which published "Natalia and Nikolai," would send a free copy to the library if asked, though the house has changed hands, and that may be out of print too. William Morrow Inc. published "The Treasure Valley" (New York) and I think it might be a good book to put in the travelling library for camps, as it was written for children at camp.
In response to their eager desire to know more about Richard the Lion Hearted, after I had told them "Ivanhoe" and "The Talisman". The illustrations are a bit unusual, being done by a French color process, the first time it was used in this country for juvenile publications.

I have been told that eight or nine years is about the most a book can be expected to keep on selling unless it is an exceptional best seller, so that the fact that the Children of the Ancient World series did go on selling for ten or more years in the case of the earliest volumes looks as if it was worth while. The architecture book seems to be standing up pretty well so far.

I have had an idea that the reason, or one reason, that the Great Days series was the first of my books to get into the remainder sales (and so far the only ones with one exception) may have been that toward the last of it there was a wave of smear-New-England-historians from about 1927 on, in which the line was to claim that all previous writers on American history have been prejudiced, until the recent blossoming of the South in that line. I know that this series was venomously attacked in a South Carolina daily, in a column editorial, as ignoring the South and making out that New England was the whole thing in American history. It was asserted, for example, that in the first volume the settlements of Ribault and Laudonniere were not mentioned and so far as it told the story the South was never discovered at all, and that in "Days of the Commanders" Northern generals got all the credit. (In that volume there were thirteen stories about Washington, two about Jackson, and not more than one about any Northern general). I found later that the writer of this editorial, which they sent me to be sure I should see it, had never seen even the outsides of the books. The assault was justified by a claim that a powerful organization had lately been formed in New England to belittle the South and exalt New England's part in American history, although those so convinced could not give an atom of proof, nor could they explain what good such a campaign would do New England or anybody in or from New England. That's the kind of thing that apparently has been going on for the last eight or ten years, together with the circulation of more cock-eyed history that I ever saw before, presented usually as having been "suppressed" or "ignored." It is a queer situation.

Verr truly yours,

[Handwritten signature]
January 15, 1937

Miss Louise Lamprey
Limerick
Maine

Dear Miss Lamprey:

We fully appreciate the situation regarding the gift copies of your books for the Maine Author Collection and certainly, under the circumstances cannot ask you to present us with them. We would very much appreciate it, however, if you would secure these books for us, making out the bill, which we will pay, gladly. We feel that in many instances you, as the author, would be able to secure some of the titles which would simply bring us the report "out of print"; therefore, in order to assure the complete list we are asking if you will do this for us. We will assume the postage and carrying charges, of course, together with the actual cost of purchase of books.

We do have ALL THE WAYS OF BUILDING, but because it was a book particularly needed in our architecture section we placed it there for regular use and loan, rather than keeping it intact with the Maine Author Collection books. We should wish a copy of that included with the other books, even though we already have this other copy.

Cordially yours

MAINE STATE LIBRARY

(TCS)
July 15, 1941

Miss Louise L. Lamprey
Limerick
Maine

Dear Miss Lamprey:

Five of your excellent books, destined for the Maine Author Collection, have not been inscribed for this purpose. The books are DAYS OF THE BUILDERS, DAYS OF THE COMMANDERS, DAYS OF THE LEADERS, DAYS OF THE PIONEERS, and ALL THE WAYS OF BUILDING.

Would it be convenient for us to send these to you now for your inscription?

Some day we hope that it will be possible to have all your books in the collection; meanwhile, we are always glad when we can add a few, and we trust that you will be kind enough to be willing to inscribe each of the volumes here listed for the exhibit.

Our best wishes for a summer which we hope has begun pleasantly and will so continue.

Very truly yours

MAINE STATE LIBRARY
BY

hmj
Encl--1

SECRETARY
Limerick
Maine
July 25, 1941

Attention Hilda McLeod Jacob

Miss Jacob:

Your letter of July 15 ought to have been answered before, but I have been a bit crowded with work. I shall of course be glad to autograph the five books you mention for the Maine Authors' Collection.

Would it simplify matters if instead of your sending the books for me to autograph and return, I sent you five separate autographs, perhaps brief quotations appropriate to the different books, which you could paste into the copies you have? If you would prefer to send the books instead, I will autograph them on the fly-leaf, but I have done the thing before when asked for autographed copies and some people seem to like it.

Also, would you rather have simply the name without any quotation? I have some scraps of verse not published in any of them which would fit. For example, the Camp Fire hiking song I wrote for the local Camp is not all in ALL THE WAYS OF BUILDING, though I used part of it and the book is dedicated to the three girls who were leaders. The publishers decided against using the chorus because they did not want to tie the book up with any one organization, but maybe it would add to the interest of any one looking up the book in your collection to find a note explaining who the three girls are and giving the chorus. I will follow your preference in these matters.

The Limerick Camp fire name was "Soan-ge-ta-ha", strong of heart, (see "Hiawatha") This was the chorus:

"Soan-ge-ta-ha, so the pine trees sing,
Soan-ge-ta-ha, let our watchword ring,
To our purpose true, through the old year and the new,
   We're the Camp Fire Girls of Limerick, Maine!"

The book due to come out this summer or fall, BUILDING AN EMPIRE, ought to be a good one to loan to camps, either young people's 9r C C C boys. I have received an advance copy but am not sure when it will be on the market. It deals with the evolution of the British Empire and is not exactly a juvenile, being suited to adult reading.

With all good wishes,
July 30, 1941

Miss Louise L. Lamprey  
Limerick  
Maine

Dear Miss Lamprey:

Your thoughtful suggestion about sending inscriptions for inclusion in the books we mentioned is an ideal one. The autograph would bring distinction in these books, but a quotation would delight us. Do, please, write the quotations!

Your mention of the Camp Fire activities and song is interesting. At least one member of our staff recalls her Camp Fire Girl days with pleasure; and we think the note explaining the three girls, and giving the chorus of your song, would be especially fitting.

BUILDING AN EMPIRE is certain to be another excellent book, and we shall anticipate its publication, which we hope will be in the early fall.

Very truly yours

MAINE STATE LIBRARY

BY

hmj

Encl--1

"Inscriptions not received."