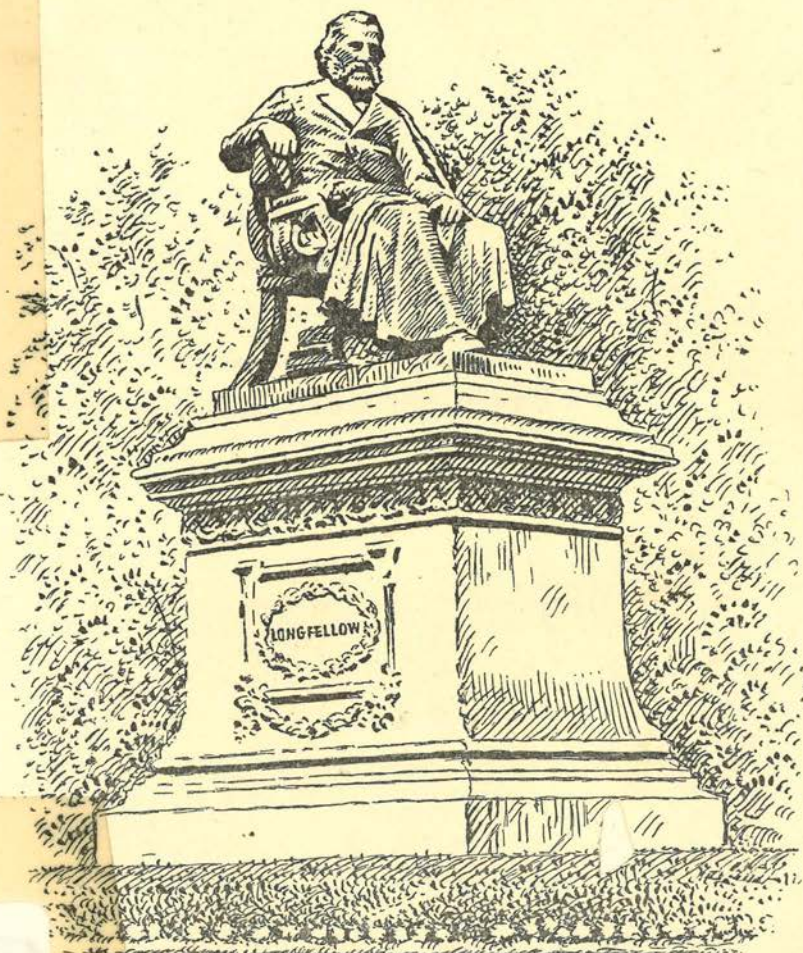


MAINE

*Poets' Corner
of America*



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LIBRARY - GORHAM CAMPUS
UNIVERSITY of MAINE
at PORTLAND - GORHAM

MAINE HAS ALWAYS BEEN A FERTILE
SEEDBED FOR AUTHORS. THE FOLLOWING
PAGES WILL HELP YOU TO VISIT THE
SCENES, HOUSES, AND REGIONS WHICH
THESE AUTHORS HAVE MADE FAMOUS.

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114

MAINE
Poets' Corner
of America

Compiled by
CARL J. WEBER
FORMERLY PROFESSOR OF ENGLISH
COLBY COLLEGE

Published and distributed by
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Did You Know

1. That within a radius of one hundred miles from the State Capitol in Augusta there are more literary landmarks than in any circle of similar size in America?

2. That natives of the State of Maine have won the Pulitzer Prize for Poetry oftener than natives of any other state? (Five awards to Maine: E. A. Robinson, three times; Edna Millay; Robert P. T. Coffin.)

3. That the only American poet ever admitted by the British to Poets' Corner in Westminster Abbey was a native of Maine? (Longfellow.)

4. That America's three greatest sonneteers were all natives of Maine? (Longfellow, Robinson, and Millay.)

5. That the famous bust of Milton described by Hawthorne in *The Marble Faun* was sculptured by a Maine man, and that that bust is now in a Maine college library? (Paul Akers' *Milton*, in the Colby College Library.)

6. That the most famous American contribution to the Arthurian Cycle was written by a Maine poet? (Robinson's *Tristram*.)

7. That the greatest American Indian epic was the work of a Maine man? (Longfellow's *Hiawatha*.)

8. That the first woman to win the Pulitzer Prize for Poetry was a Maine girl? (Edna St. Vincent Millay.)

9. That what has been called "undoubtedly the most popular series of juvenile books ever published in America" was the work of a Maine man? (Jacob Abbott's Rollo books.)

10. That the only historical novels ever to rival successfully those of James Fenimore Cooper were written by a Maine novelist? (Kenneth Roberts' *Arundel*, *Northwest Passage*, etc.)

11. That among American women writers the one often hailed as the greatest prose writer of them all was a native of Maine, and that her masterpiece deals exclusively with Maine? (Sarah Orne Jewett's *The Country of the Pointed Firs*.)

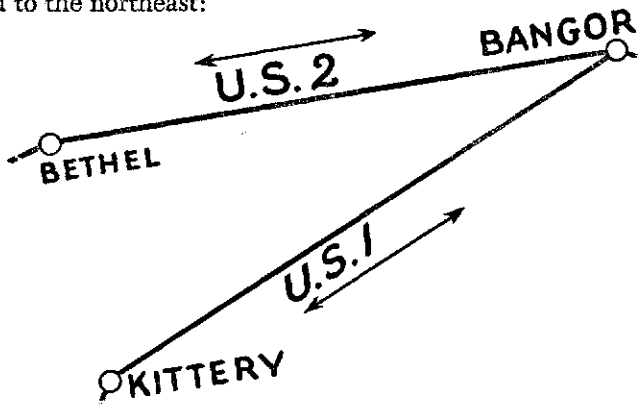
12. That Abraham Lincoln, while in the White House, paid tribute to the history books of a Maine author (Jacob Abbott's *Histories*): "To them I am indebted for about all the historical knowledge I have."

IN WASHINGTON IRVING'S *Sketch Book*, there is a famous chapter on Westminster Abbey in which Irving remarks: "I passed some time in Poets' Corner," where (as he had noticed) "visitors to the Abbey remain longest." He sensed "a kinder and fonder feeling" among those who came to see the "memorials" of literary men. Visitors "linger about these as about the tombs of friends; for, indeed, there is something of companionship between the author and the reader. Well may the world cherish his renown, for it has been purchased, not by deeds of violence but by the dispensation of pleasure. Well may posterity be grateful to his memory."

Similarly, visitors to the State of Maine will find themselves in a Poets' Corner and among old friends, with "memorials" of past companionship on every side. For Maine is the Poets' Corner of America, and visitors will do well to plan to "remain longest" where the literary landmarks are thickest.

In these pages we will try to direct the visitor to some of Maine's most interesting literary scenes. In order to reduce it to the simplest plan possible, this brief guide to literary Maine has been made to follow the routes of two national highways — U.S. 1 and U.S. 2 — with side-excursions from these routes; but a study of the map provided on pages 12 and 13 will enable the visitor to arrange his own itinerary to suit his own interests and convenience.

Imagine, then, a giant letter "V" laid down on the map of Maine, with the letter toppled over to the left so that the point of the "V" is directed to the northeast:



The American Poets' Corner lies, roughly, between the two arms of this "V."

From Kittery North

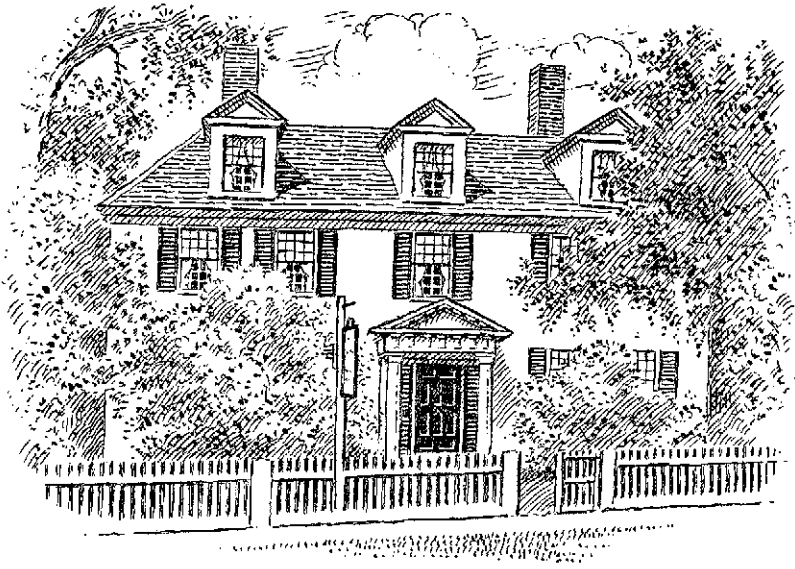
Immediately after crossing the bridge from New Hampshire, the visitor who diverges from the main road and follows State Route 1-A eastward to the coast will come at once to KITTERY and (two and one-half miles farther) to KITTERY POINT. At Kittery lived Lady Pepperell (née Marjory Bray, d. 1789). Read Sarah Orne Jewett's *Lady Ferry*. In the cemetery at Kittery Point there is the grave of Levi Thaxter, husband of Celia Thaxter (d. 1894), the poet. Thaxter's gravestone is distinguished by a poem written by Robert Browning. At Kittery Point William Dean Howells had his summer home (purchased by him in 1902), and many other American authors (including Henry James) came to it to visit him.

Seven or eight miles north lie YORK and YORK HARBOR and YORK BEACH — places which suggested "Deephaven" to Sarah Orne Jewett. Howells stayed at York Harbor in 1901, and in York Whittier met the young girl whom he immortalized in his poem, "Maud Muller."

Leaving York, State Route (hereafter abbreviated S.R.) 91 will take the visitor westward to SOUTH BERWICK, where Sarah Orne Jewett was born in 1849. Her home (open to the public in summer) was built in 1780. In it she wrote many of her tales and sketches. (Read *The White Heron*.) Nearby is the home of Gladys Hasty Carroll, whose *As the Earth Turns* (1933) is well remembered.

S.R. 4 and 9 lead north from SOUTH BERWICK back to U.S. 1; thence north to KENNEBUNK, birthplace of Kenneth Roberts (author of *Northwest Passage* and other historical novels). He was born in "the Storer House," the first building on Storer Street, just off of U.S. Route 1.

Five miles east from U.S. 1 is KENNEBUNKPORT, where the summer homes of Kenneth Roberts, Margaret Deland, and Booth Tarkington may be seen. Tarkington's ship, the "Regina" (used by him as a studio), used to be tied up near the River Club on Ocean Avenue. — Return to U.S. 1.



*The Home of Sarah Orne Jewett
at South Berwick*

About seven or eight miles south of Portland, there is a tourist camp called "Danish Village" — easily seen from the road, to the right. It faithfully reproduces part of the village of Odense in Denmark, where (in 1805) Hans Christian Andersen was born. The Raadhus (town hall) and Andersen's house are worth driving in to see.

Proceeding north on U.S. 1: turn right onto S.R. 207 for a visit to PROUT'S NECK, where Winslow Homer, the artist, had his studio. Nearby, at the east end of Garrison Cove, is the site of Whittier's poem "Mogg Megone"; a marker indicates the spot. — Return to U.S. 1 and continue north to PORTLAND.

PORTLAND: here Longfellow was born in 1807, in his aunt's three-story frame house at Fore and Hancock Streets. Thirty-two years later, John K. Paine (the composer) was born in this same house. The nearby wharves will recall to the visitor's mind Kenneth Roberts's *The Lively Lady* (see page eighteen) as well as Longfellow's lines about "the beautiful town that is seated by the sea." Longfellow's home (open to the public) stands at 487 Congress Street; it was the first building erected of brick in Portland. The theater in which Elizabeth Arnold (mother of Edgar Allan Poe) once sang in Portland is no longer standing. The impressive Longfellow Statue, erected in 1888, the work

of Franklin Simmons, stands at the junction of Congress, State, and Pine Streets. John Neal (1793-1876), prolific writer in verse and in prose, lived at 173 State Street; and at the corner of Danforth and State Streets lived Fanny Dunlap, who became the wife of James Russell Lowell. At Cumberland Avenue and Brown Street Cyrus H. K. Curtis was born. At 24 Franklin Street is the birthplace of Fanny Fern (pen name of Sara Willis, born in 1811) and of her author-brother, Nathaniel Parker Willis (born in 1807). Their father founded the famous *Youth's Companion*. At 103 High Street stands the Sweat Museum: see Gilbert Stuart's portrait of General Wingate, Douglas Volk's portrait of Abraham Lincoln, paintings by Winslow Homer and John Singer Sargent, and Paul Akers' marble figure "the Dead Pearl-Diver," known to readers of Hawthorne's *Marble Faun*.

Two side-trips from PORTLAND:

1. Follow S.R. 25 for six miles to Westbrook (formerly known as Saccarrappa) where Paul Akers was born in 1825. (For his bust of Milton, see page eighteen, and for his sculpture of the Dead Pearl-Diver, see above.) Four miles beyond Westbrook is Gorham, where there is a State Teachers College, formerly known as Gorham Seminary. Kate Douglas Wiggin (1859-1923), author of *Rebecca of Sunnybrook Farm*, was at one time a student here.

To visit her home, "Quillcote" (erected in 1805), turn left (south) at GORHAM onto S.R. 4, follow it for about seven miles to intersection of S.R. 4-A, then follow S.R. 4-A to little village of Salmon Falls, cross Saco River and turn immediately right. The old Quillcote barn here was transformed into an assembly hall, the interior of which was decorated with drawings illustrating Mrs. Wiggin's books. (Read *The Birds' Christmas Carol*.) Half a mile north of Quillcote, at Emery Corner (where S.R. 4-A and S.R. 112 intersect), stands the Tory Hill Meeting House. This fine Colonial church and its neighborhood provided Mrs. Wiggin with the locale for her story "The Old Peabody Pew," a dramatization of which is presented here annually in August. In the churchyard, marked by an imposing Celtic cross, is the grave of Mrs. Wiggin, and of her sister, Nora Smith (died in 1934). — Return to GORHAM.

Continuing on S.R. 25: seven miles beyond GORHAM is STANDISH; turn right there to SEBAGO LAKE. About the boat trip through Sebago Lake, and via Songo River, into Long Lake, to NAPLES, Longfellow wrote his poem, "Songo River." — Return to Portland.



*Kate Douglas Wiggin's Home
at Bar Mills*

2. Follow U.S. 302 for twenty-two miles to RAYMOND, on the N. E. shore of Sebago Lake. Three miles beyond Raymond is SOUTH CASCO, where (to the left) stands the large, square, two-story "Manning House," built in 1810 by Richard Manning, uncle of Nathaniel Hawthorne. Here Hawthorne visited as a boy. On the other side of the road, a fifth of a mile farther on, is the Hawthorne House (erected in 1812), to which Hawthorne came as a 12-year-old boy, when his widowed mother brought her family to Maine. Hawthorne later told friends that his Raymond years were the happiest of his entire life. — Return to Portland.

From PORTLAND, continue north on U.S. 1 to BRUNSWICK, home of Bowdoin College (founded in 1794). At 25 Federal Street stands the Emmons House, which was for many years the home of H. W. Longfellow, Bowdoin's first professor of modern languages. Here he wrote his novel *Outre Mer*. Hawthorne resided at 76 Federal Street during a part of his student days at Bowdoin. At 63 Federal Street lived Harriet Beecher Stowe while writing *Uncle Tom's Cabin*. The house (open to the public) was built in 1806. Dr. Calvin E. Stowe, Harriet's husband, was pastor of the First Parish Congregational Church at the junction of Harpswell, Maine, and Bath Streets. From the pulpit of this church Longfellow read his poem "Morituri" in 1875,

at the fiftieth anniversary of his graduation from Bowdoin. The poet, essayist, and novelist, Robert P. T. Coffin, lived at 44 Harpswell Street. In 1935 he was awarded a Gold Medal as National Honor Poet, and in 1936 he received the Pulitzer Prize for poetry.

Four Side-trips from BRUNSWICK:

1. Follow U.S. 201 north, twenty-five miles to Gardiner, home of Laura E. Richards (author of *Captain January*) and of Edwin Arlington Robinson (three times winner of the Pulitzer Prize for Poetry; author of *Tristram*, 1927; of "Richard Cory," etc.). See the Robinson memorial stone on the town Green (erected in 1936). Gardiner is the "Tilbury Town" of Robinson's poems. — Five miles farther, on U.S. 201, is HALLOWELL, birthplace of Jacob Abbott (1803-1879), creator of "Little Rollo" and author of over two hundred once-popular books. — Three miles farther is AUGUSTA, the State Capital. The State House (erected 1829-1832), designed by Charles Bulfinch, contains the State Library (over two hundred thousand books). Augusta was originally a trading post of the Plymouth Colony of Massachusetts, and one of its first agents at Augusta was John Alden, immortalized by Longfellow in *The Courtship of Miles Standish*. Miles Standish also made frequent trips to Augusta (then called Cushnock by the Indians). Benedict Arnold's ill-fated expedition against Quebec gathered at Augusta in 1775. (Read Kenneth Roberts's *Arundel*.) Nathaniel Hawthorne spent a month at Augusta in the summer of 1837. — Return to Brunswick.

2. Follow S.R. 196 for seven or eight miles to Lisbon Falls, home of John Gould, author of *The Fastest Hound Dog in the State of Maine* (1953), and other humorous books. — Return to Brunswick.

3. Follow S.R. 123 south from Brunswick: at nine miles is Harpswell Center. The Congregational Church (on the left) was built in 1843 for Elijah Kellogg (1813-1901), author of well-known books for boys — the "Elm Island Series" about the Maine coast and the "Whispering Pines Series" about Bowdoin College. — Return to Brunswick.

4. Follow S.R. 24 south from Brunswick. At five or six miles the road crosses a narrow channel into East Harpswell, the scene of Robert P. T. Coffin's autobiographical *Lost Paradise*. Less than a mile farther, a road diverges to the left, leading to Cundy's Harbor. To the right from this road is "Little Ponds" (12 miles from Brunswick), home of the late Harold T. Pulsifer (died in 1948), poet and former editor of *The Outlook*. — Continuing on S.R. 24: the road leads to Orr's Island,



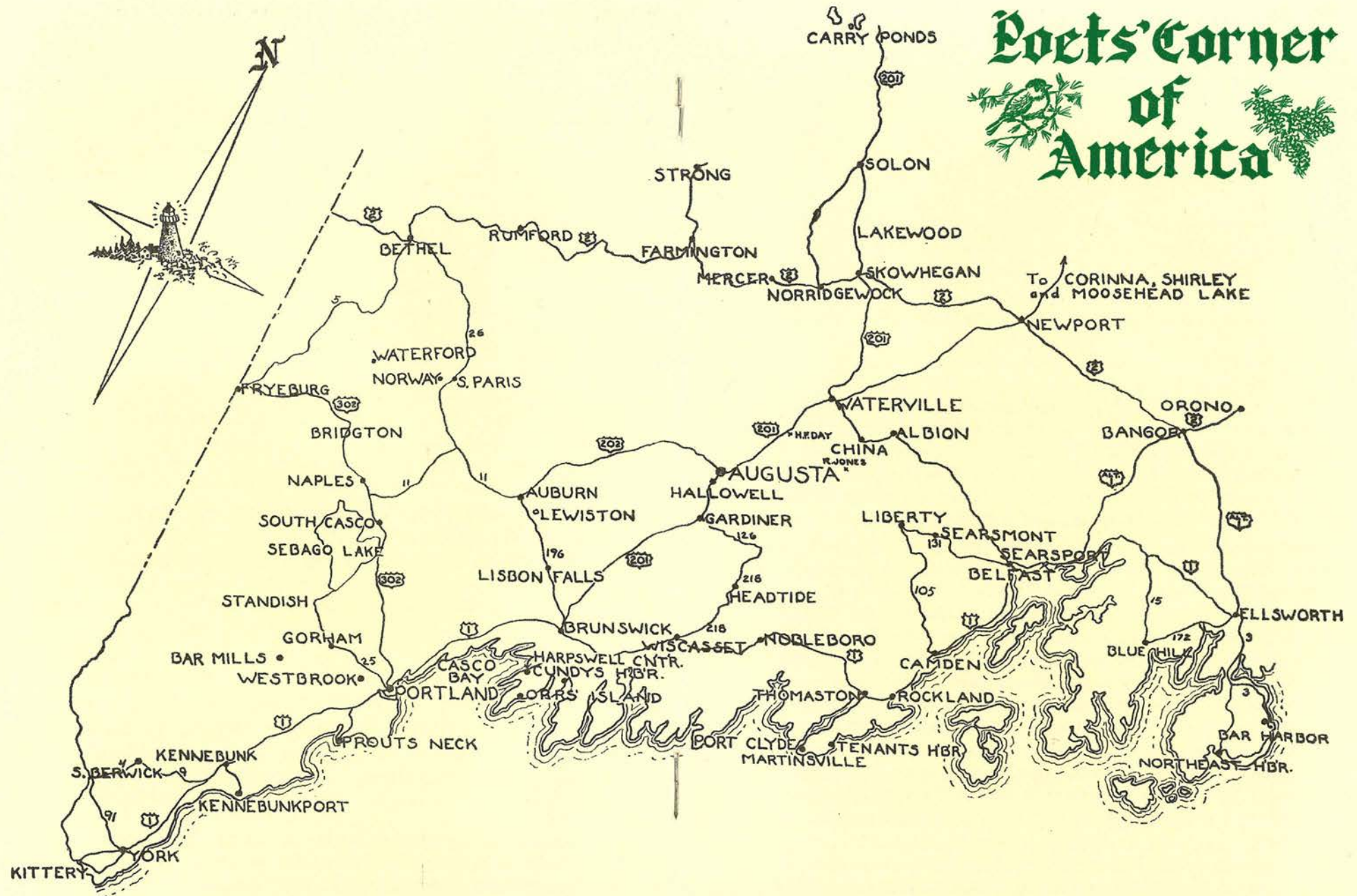
*The Elijah Kellogg Church
at Harpswell Center*

the scene of Harriet Beecher Stowe's story, *The Pearl of Orr's Island*. It was this novel that inspired Sarah Orne Jewett to become a writer. Mrs. Stowe's former home stands on a hill near the ferry-landing. — Bailey Island lies south of Orr's. Here was the summer home of Clara Louise Burnham, author of a number of stories about this region. The bay to the west of these islands is CASCO BAY, where (in 1869) the schooner "Helen Eliza" was driven ashore in a gale and wrecked. This tragedy led Longfellow to write his famous poem, "The Wreck of the Hesperus." — Return to Brunswick.

Continuing on U.S. 1: from BRUNSWICK it is nine miles to BATH. Here the house at the corner of North and Front Streets (No. 3, North Street) is the former home of Emma Eames (1865-1952), the opera singer, and of her husband, Emilio De Gogorza, the baritone.

Cross the Kennebec River by the Carlton Bridge (built in 1927). To the right, just south of the bridge, are the Bath Iron Works, where the battleship *Georgia*, cruisers, destroyers, and other ships have been

Poets' Corner of America



MAP SHOWING the EASIEST APPROACHES to MAINE'S LITERARY LANDMARKS

built. Regarding these shipyards (and other matters), read Kenneth Roberts's *Don't Say That About Maine!* (Colby College Press, 1951).

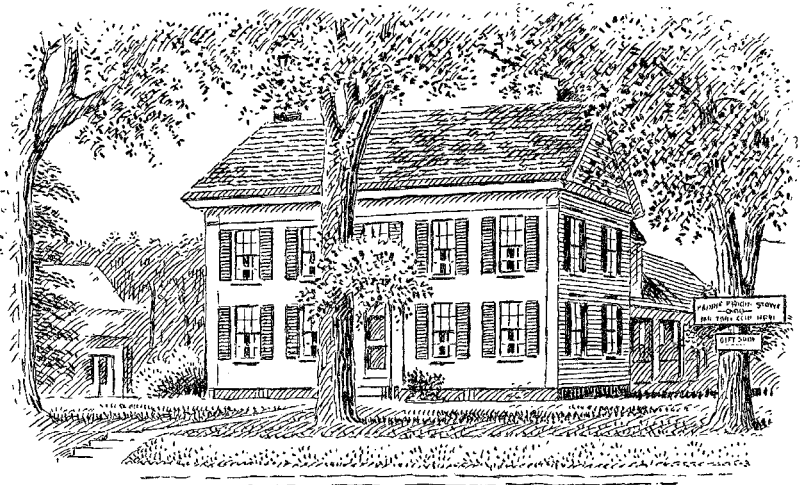
Ten miles beyond the bridge lies WISCASSET. At Wiscasset, diverge left, onto S.R. 218, ten miles, for a visit to HEAD TIDE, the tiny village where Edwin Arlington Robinson was born in 1869. A bronze tablet marks the house (on north side of the road).—Return to WISCASSET.

Proceeding east on U.S. 1: it is twelve miles to Nobleboro, where a side road leads to Chimney Farm, the home (not public) of Henry Beston (1888-), author of *The Outermost House*, etc., and of his wife, Elizabeth Coatsworth (1893-), author of *Maine Ways* (1947), *South Shore Town* (1948), and others. Her story *The Cat Who Went to Heaven* (1930) was awarded the Newberry Medal for the best children's story.

Eighteen miles beyond NOBLEBORO is THOMASTON, a mile beyond which is "Montpelier"—a recent reproduction of the home built in 1793 by General Henry Knox (George Washington's Secretary of War). Knox became proprietor of a large part of the Waldo Patent (originally named for General Samuel Waldo, and comprising hundreds of thousands of acres in this part of Maine). Nathaniel Hawthorne made fictional use of this family and this estate in *The House of the Seven Gables*, where Colonel Pyncheon's possessions "comprised the greater part of what is now known as Waldo County in the State of Maine." Hawthorne visited the Knox mansion on August 12, 1837.

Side-trip from "Montpelier":—follow S.R. 131 south. Five miles from the Knox mansion is the village of St. George, on the eastern bank of the St. George's River. One of the nearby islands is named Whitehead Island and on it was born (in 1884) the contemporary poet, Wilbert Snow. His books of verse (e.g., *Down East*, *Inner Harbor*, and *Maine Coast*) obviously find their inspiration in this section of the Maine coast. The manuscript of his poem "Maine Coast Village" may be seen in the Colby College Library (see page eighteen). Five miles farther on is Tenant's Harbor, and from there it is two miles to MARTINSVILLE, where Sarah Orne Jewett lived while working on her *Country of the Pointed Firs*. She wrote this famous book in the school house (on the site of the present school-building, on the west side of the road), which she rented as a summer studio. — Return to U.S. 1 at "Montpelier."

Continue east on U.S. 1 to ROCKLAND (four miles from Thomaston), where (in 1892) the poet Edna St. Vincent Millay (1892-1950)



*Harriet Beecher Stowe Home
at Brunswick*

was born. The house (at 200 Broadway) is marked with a tablet. Near ROCKLAND Thomas Bailey Aldrich had a summer home, S.R. 17, south, situated on Hart's Neck at Tenants Harbor, about a mile and a half off of State Route 131.

Eight miles farther, on U.S. 1, is CAMDEN. Here Edna Millay lived from 1900 to 1912, graduating from the Camden High School, and here she wrote her first-published poem "Renescence," which she recited in "Whitehall," the summer hotel where she worked. In the summer of 1953 the room in which she had read her poem to the summer guests was dedicated as a memorial to her. This Millay Room is open to the public.

From CAMDEN north on U.S. 1, it is eighteen miles to BELFAST, with beautiful views of the Penobscot to the east—the bay and river up which the British fleet chased an American fleet sent out from Boston in August 1779. (Few history books whisper the fact that this American expeditionary force was completely wiped out.)

From BELFAST, a side-trip westward takes one into the Ben Ames Williams country: follow S.R. 3, eleven miles to North Searsmont (near which is the home of the late novelist, author of *Strange Woman*, *Time of Peace*), and sixteen miles to LIBERTY, the "Fraternity" of the Williams stories. The visitor can return to BELFAST via SEARSMONT and S.R. 131.

From BELFAST north via U.S. 1: six miles to SEARSPORT, three-tenths of a mile beyond the center of which stands the home of Lincoln Colcord, writer of sea stories.

BANGOR lies nearly thirty miles farther north, on U.S. 1-A. Henry David Thoreau visited BANGOR three times — in 1846, 1853, and 1857 — each time on his way to Moosehead Lake. (Read his *Maine Woods*.) Oscar Wilde stayed at the Bangor House in 1882. At 166 Union Street stands a brick house (erected in 1833-36) occupied at various times by Owen Davis, the playwright, and by Gene Sawyer, author of the "Nick Carter" books. Bangor is the scene of Ben Ames Williams' *Strange Woman*.

Two side-trips from BANGOR:

1. Eight miles north on U.S. 2 lies ORONO, home of the University of Maine, founded in 1862 as a State College of Agriculture, and changed to the University of Maine in 1899. — Return to BANGOR.

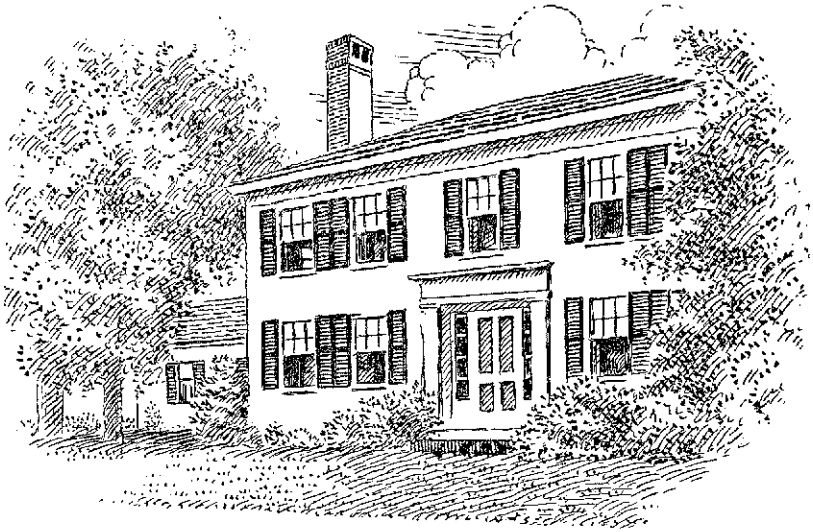
2. On U.S. 1-A, southeastward, it is twenty-seven miles to ELLSWORTH. Visit the Black Mansion there. (Colonel Black's father-in-law was Colonel Cobb, George Washington's aide-de-camp.) Follow S.R. 172 fourteen miles to BLUE HILL, home of Jonathan Fisher. (Read Mary Ellen Chase's *A Goodly Heritage*.) Miss Chase was born at BLUE HILL in 1887. (Read her *Mary Peters*.) — Return to ELLSWORTH, there turn south onto U.S. 1 for one mile; take right fork and follow S.R. 3 for twenty miles to BAR HARBOR. Visit Acadia National Park; drive to top of Mount Cadillac, for a panorama of exceptional grandeur. — Twelve miles beyond BAR HARBOR is NORTHEAST HARBOR. Visible from the waterfront are three small islands, the smallest of which is called SUTTON ISLAND. Here stands the summer home of Rachel Field (1894-1942), author of *Time Out of Mind*, *All This and Heaven Too*, and other books. The return to ELLSWORTH and to BANGOR can be made via S.R. 198 and U.S. 1-A, i.e., without retracing the route through Bar Harbor.

This ends the U.S. 1 part of our Literary Tour.

FROM BANGOR WEST ON U.S. 2

Leave BANGOR on U.S. 2, westbound; twenty eight miles to NEWPORT.

At NEWPORT turn right (north) for an interesting and rewarding side-trip. It is six or seven miles on S.R. 11 to Corinna, where (in 1866) one Gilbert Patten was born. (Under the pen-name of Bert L. Standish



*The Birthplace of Edwin Arlington Robinson
at Head Tide*

he wrote the famous "Frank Merriwell Series" of books for boys.) Farther north, about forty miles beyond CORINNA, is the village of SHIRLEY MILLS. Here, in a house no longer standing, Bill Nye, the humorist, was born (Edgar Wilson Nye, 1850-1896). Ten miles farther, on S.R. 15, following Thoreau's route of a century ago, is MOOSEHEAD LAKE, largest and grandest lake in the State. It was visited by Thoreau (three times), by Lowell, Whittier, and other authors. Whittier wrote his poem "*To a Pine Tree*" after a visit to Moosehead. — Return to NEWPORT.

Continue on U.S. 2 for twenty-five miles, to SKOWHEGAN, where Artemus Ward (penname of Charles Farrar Browne, 1834-1867) once worked in a printing office. Benedict Arnold's "army" camped here in September, 1775.

Two side-trips from SKOWHEGAN:—

I. Northward, via U.S. 201: five miles to LAKEWOOD, America's oldest Summer Theatre. Here, on the shore of Lake Wesserunsett, "Life With Father" had its first presentation. Ten miles farther on, following U.S. 201, is SOLON, eighteen miles beyond which, on the Arnold Trail, is a boulder beyond Wyman Dam, with a tablet indicating the place where Benedict Arnold left the Kennebec River and turned west on his ill-fated expedition to Quebec in October, 1775.

(QUEBEC is one hundred forty-eight miles farther north, on U.S. 201. Read Kenneth Roberts's *Arundel* to enrich your tour.) — Return to SKOWHEGAN.

2. Southward, via U.S. 201: it is twenty miles to WATERVILLE, home of Colby College. Here S. F. Smith (1805-1895) author of "My Country, 'tis of Thee," and the hymn "The Morning Light is Breaking," taught modern languages (1834-1841), and here Elijah Parish Lovejoy, the Alton martyr to the freedom of the press, was a student (1822-1826). The road south from SKOWHEGAN passes the railroad station in WATERVILLE, and on the opposite side of the highway, just at the station, is the old campus of Colby College. R. W. Emerson spoke twice at this college, in 1841 and in 1863, and James Russell Lowell visited Waterville in August 1853, and described this campus. In 1947 Colby moved to a new campus on Mayflower Hill, two miles west of the Waterville postoffice. (Turn right at the postoffice.) In the new Library of the college (the building with the tall spire and clock-tower) may be seen the autograph manuscript of Smith's *America*, the manuscript of Kenneth Roberts' *Lively Lady*, and various MSS. by many other Maine authors, including (among those mentioned in this Guide) Longfellow, Robinson, Millay, Coffin, Mary Ellen Chase, Ben Ames Williams, Jacob Abbott, Rufus Jones, and Wilbert Snow. Visitors will find these MSS. on exhibition in the Robinson Treasure Room of the College Library. (No admission fee; free printed guide to the Colby exhibition available.) Here too may be seen Paul Akers's bust of Milton, known to readers of Hawthorne's *Marble Faun*, and Gilbert Stuart's well-known portrait of George Washington.

Three short side-trips from WATERVILLE:—

1. From WATERVILLE it is about eleven miles south, on U.S. 201, to the birthplace of Holman F. Day (1865-1935), author of *Up in Maine*, *Pine Tree Ballads*, *King Spruce*, etc. His home is on the east side of the road.

2. From WATERVILLE it is about twelve miles east (via S.R. 137 to CHINA and thence via U.S. 202 southbound to South China) to the home of Rufus Jones (1863-1948), author of dozens of books on ethics and Quaker history. Rufus Jones was a noted professor at Haverford College; the manuscript of his autobiography *A Small-Town Boy* (1941) may be seen in the library of Colby College. Return to Waterville.

3. From WATERVILLE (via S.R. 137 east to China and U.S. 202 northbound toward ALBION) it is about ten miles to the site of the Lovejoy homestead, on the southern shore of LOVEJOY POND. Here was born Elijah Parish Lovejoy (1802-1837), the antislavery leader who was martyred at Alton, Illinois, while defending his right to a free press. — Return to WATERVILLE; return to SKOWHEGAN.

Continuing west on U.S. 2 from SKOWHEGAN: it is five miles to NORRIDGEWOCK, where (a mile out of town, on U.S. 201, the road to the right, crossing the Kennebec River), may be seen, on the left, the Sophie May House — red brick; white columns — erected in 1845, the home of the Clarke sisters, both of them well-known 19th-century writers of stories. (Rebecca Clarke wrote under the pen-name of "Sophie May" and Sarah Clarke wrote as "Penn Shirley.")

Beyond NORRIDGEWOCK, on U.S. 2, it is thirteen miles to MERCER, a small village where Frank A. Munsey (1854-1925), the publisher and journalist, was born. Beyond MERCER it is sixteen miles to FARMINGTON, where Jacob Abbott (creator of "Little Rollo" and author of more than two hundred books) had his home. (It stands on the right of the street, at the bend of the road as one leaves town by U.S. 2.)

A short side-trip from FARMINGTON:

Two miles out of FARMINGTON, north on S.R. 4 and off a short distance to the right from that road, is the birthplace of Lillian Nordica (1859-1914), the opera singer. Eight miles beyond her house, and also on the right of S.R. 4, is the home of Elizabeth Akers Allen (1832-1911), author of the much-quoted "Rock Me to Sleep." (She married Paul Akers, the sculptor.) — Return to FARMINGTON.

From FARMINGTON, it is thirty-one miles west via U.S. 2 to RUMFORD, where there is one of the largest mills in the United States for the manufacture of book paper — the Oxford Paper Company. From RUMFORD, on U.S. 2, it is twenty-five miles to BETHEL (home of Gould Academy, established in 1836).

Two side-trips from BETHEL:

1. East and south via S.R. 26 to SOUTH PARIS and NORWAY. In a newspaper office in NORWAY, the humorist Artemus Ward learned the printer's trade. Opposite the newspaper office is the former home (now a filling-station) of Sylvanus Cobb, author of *The Gun-*

maker of Moscow. Other authors who have lived in NORWAY are Don Seitz, editor of the *New York World*, and Hugh Pendexter (born in 1875), the historical novelist. — About twelve miles from NORWAY, westward via S.R. 118 and S.R. 37, lies the village of WATERFORD. The third house beyond the postoffice is the former home of Artemus Ward (1834-1867), whose real name was Charles Farrar Browne. He was born here and is buried here. — Return to NORWAY; return to BETHEL.

2. From BETHEL, south via S.R. 5 to FRYEBURG, home of Fryeburg Academy (founded in 1791). Daniel Webster taught here in 1802 and reported that “nothing here is unpleasant” even though he was paid only twenty dollars a month. FRYEBURG is the birthplace of James R. Osgood, the Boston publisher, and is the scene of *The Village*, a 2,000-line poem by Enoch Lincoln, the third Governor of Maine. He wrote this poem while practicing law in Fryeburg. It was the first book of poetry published in Maine.

The visitor can now either return to BETHEL and then follow U.S. 2 west out of the State, or can proceed west on U.S. 302 from FRYEBURG. Either route brings one into the White Mountains of New Hampshire. (Read Hawthorne’s *The Great Stone Face*.)



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