

the background of the two authors, and their early life and work in Portland. Others relate to the Original Downing Letters; the History of the Genuine and Spurious Downing Letters; the move from Portland to New York; Seba Smith as an Editor in New York; 'Way Down East and Other Books by Jack Downing; Mrs. Smith's work as an author and on the lecture platform; and Literary Friends and Activities of the Smiths in Later Years. The bibliography includes a few general authorities; lists of the Downing letters published in newspapers, distinguishing as far possible those written by Mr. Smith, by his chief rival, Charles Augustus Davis, and other spurious letters; lists of printed collections of Downing letters, similarly distinguished; bibliographies of the other books by the two Smiths, and also of their contributions to four prominent magazines.

Most of Mr. Smith's writings, which beside the Downing letters, consisted of poems, sketches and tales, appeared originally in periodicals, both in those edited by himself and in the leading weekly and monthly magazines. Many of them were not reprinted in the collections listed above. Miss Wyman gives a list in her "Two American Pioneers," of his contributions to "The Ladies' Companion," "Godey's Lady's Book," "The Southern Literary Messenger," and "Graham's Magazine," and also mentions his writing for "The Knickerbocker," the "New-York Mirror," Greeley's "The New-Yorker," Park Benjamin's "The New World," Colman's "Miscellany," and "Brother Jonathan." A series of tales, "The Ups and Downs of Lot Wyman," appeared in "The Ladies' Companion," from October, 1842 to April, 1843, vols. 17-18, and another series of articles relating to "The Religion and Superstition of the North American Indians," in "The Literary Emporium," vols. 3-4, 1846, pp. 87-90, 97-100, 129-133, 170-174, 230-233, 289-293, the latter showing a study of authorities such as Harriot, Charlevoix, Lewis and Clarke, Schoolcraft, Jarvis, and Jedidiah Morse. Selections by Smith were included in many gift book collections similar to his own "Dew-Drops of the Nineteenth Century."

Miss Wyman describes in her book Mr. Smith's editorial connection with a number of periodicals, including newspapers, weeklies and monthly magazines. He started his editorial career in Portland, Me., as assistant editor of the "Eastern Argus," his share of which he sold in 1826, and in 1829 he established the "Daily Courier," and the "Family Reader," which he afterward combined and carried on until 1837. Following the success of his Downing letters, he started the "Downing Gazette" in 1834, continuing it until 1835, and possibly till 1836. After moving to New York late in 1839, he was at different times editor of two short-lived periodicals, a "Young People's Magazine," and "Bunker Hill," and also of "The Rover" entered above. He also edited "Brother Jonathan" for a few months, and in 1844 was one of the editors of the daily, "The New York Citizen and American Republican," later called "The New York American Republican." In 1853 he was editing "The Budget." In 1854 he wrote "I have to do all the editing and furnish all the matter for the *United States Magazine* and *United States Journal*." Until 1858 he had at intervals editorial responsibility for the "United States Magazine" and its successors, "Emerson's United States Magazine," and "Emerson's Magazine and Putnam's Monthly." After the failure of these, Mr. Smith established in January, 1859, as apparently his last editorial venture, "The Great Republic Monthly," published by his son's firm, Oaksmith & Co., which lasted no longer than a year. In the spring of 1860, Mr. Smith moved to Patchogue, L. I., where he had bought a house, and remained there until his death in 1868.

There is no longer doubt that Seba Smith was the original Jack Downing, his name being signed to the preface of "My Thirty Years Out of the Senate," 1859, which contained a reprint of the first letters that came out in the Portland "Daily Courier" in 1830. For nearly four years, until November 1833, Mr. Smith continued these letters in his two Portland newspapers, many of them being copied by papers in other parts of the country. The question of the true author's name did not arise until early in 1833, when the "American Advocate" of Hallowell, Maine, in announcing that Jonathan Dow had been chosen Mayor of Portland, added that he