# DOWN THE BAYOU, THE CAPTAIN'S STORY, AND OTHER POEMS

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Down the bayou, The captain's story, and other poems by Mary Ashley Townsend

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## MARY ASHLEY TOWNSEND

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Mary ashley Joursens

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TO

## OLIVER WENDELL HOLMES.

To thee, whose home is in a nation's heart,

This book of songs that I have dared to sing,

With tender love and reverence I bring,

As one a flower might proffer and depart

Whence Praise, Affection, Honor, Truth, and Art

Have proudly lavished many a greater thing,

Due him who acts, with noble rendering,

In life's great drama, his allotted part.

Would what I bring were many times more rare,

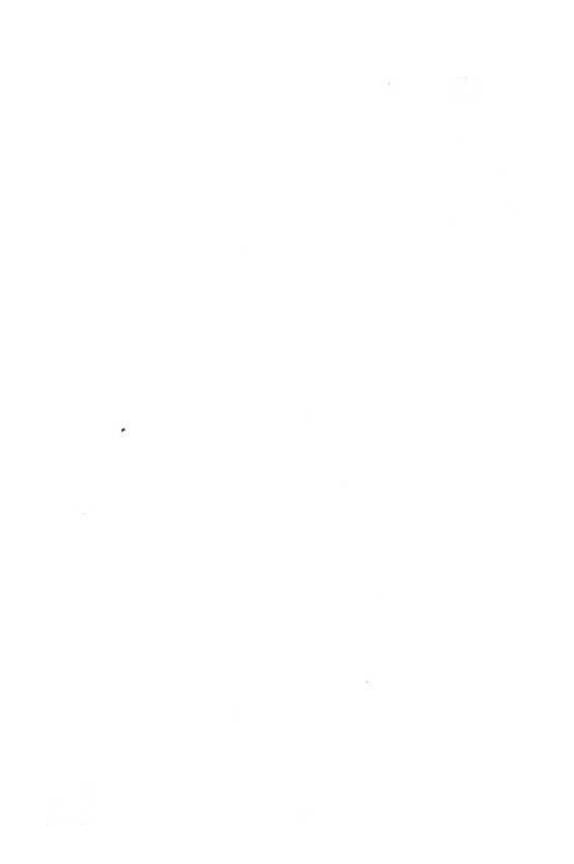
More worthy of thy genius and thy fame,

Thy sweet, brave nature—thy attempered wit;

The clustering honors it is thine to wear,

And worthier far of thy illustrious name,

Which doth illume the page whereon 'tis writ!



Borton Feb. 14 1874

Dece Mr. Townsend,

Junile to zen as a married lady, Jahring as if none but a mother cula here do pretty and tenderly expressed the Jemes of materialy as you have done in the Captain Story. Thegan reading the from with The Jahry That I shoulde have another Membles date to discharge of a kniel to take Jan het les much accustones nanuly, to speak huelly of what I could not souceuty praire, and to Thank a writer for having given one a profite tack in reading what it was

little better Them a waster of Time to write. - as I ecade, haven, I become, interestile, excitise, abratio, orecome with The emotions The Stry water. I daw faults her and them, but I could not the for them, any more them I could have howbase myself for clips and Street that were swept along with me in a clean and Capiel Theaw. and when I had Smithed the from I Law to myself that I could hardly henealer any take which had to completely carried me away by its hagic interest. The madent are in thundelves worthy of having