

XARIFFA'S POEMS

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Xariffa's Poems by M. A. Townsend

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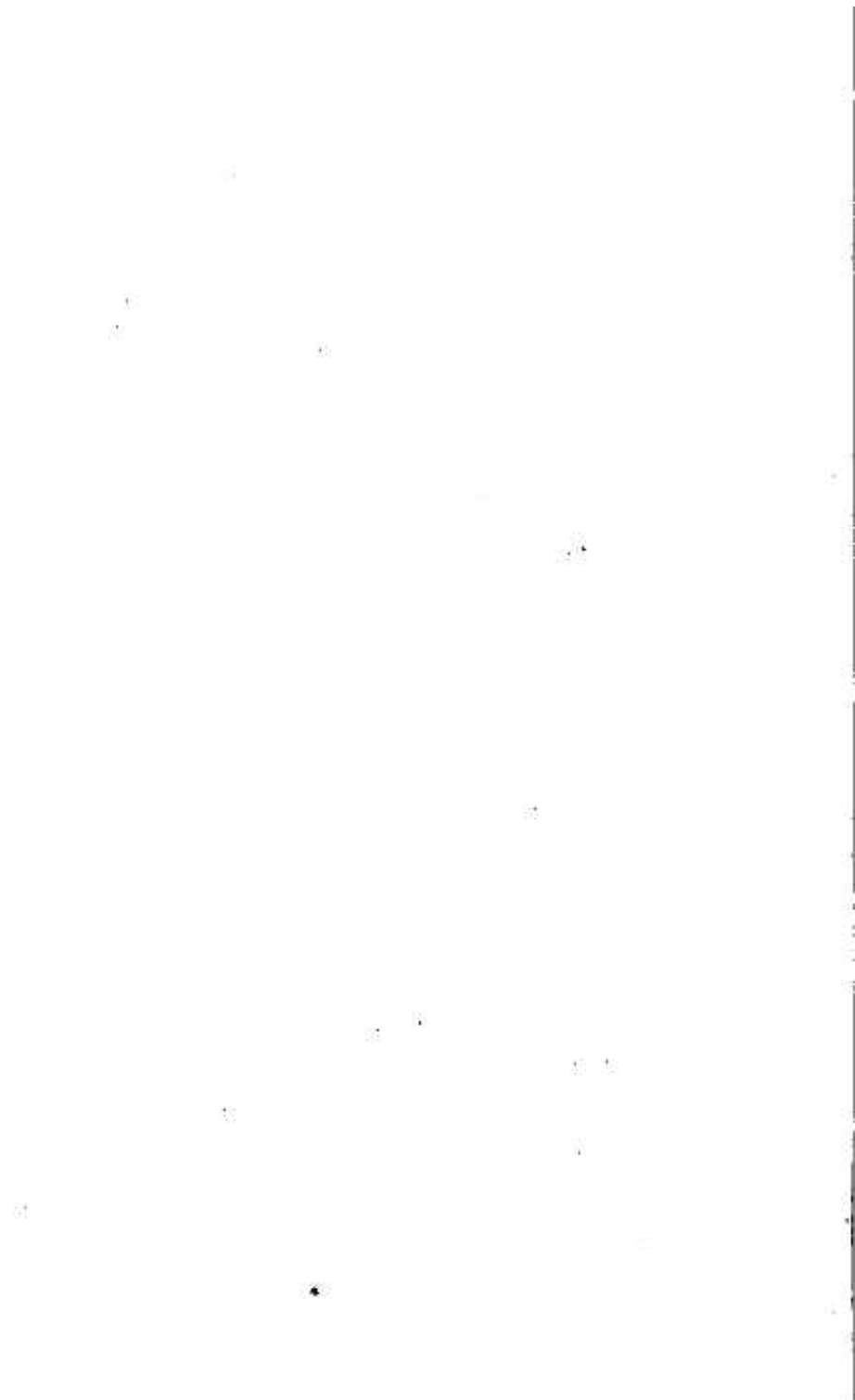
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M. A. TOWNSEND

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TO MY MOTHER.

DEAR Mother! In the still and solemn hours
That come so often in my lifetime now,
Like rocks that rise to intercept the flow
Of tides that sweep too swiftly past their shores,
How tenderly my heart thy name adores!
I see thee on thy pinnacle of years,
Thy feet just trembling on the Future's floors;
Thy locks of strength by Time's relentless shears
All shorn; toward the Yonder World thine eye
Uplifted yearningly. O Mother mine!
As the swift footsteps of the years go by
I cling to thee as to a thing divine,
And feel how dark a path my life would be,
Noblest of mothers, if bereft of thee.

CONTENTS.

	PAGE
To my Mother.....	3
The Backwoodsman's Daughter.....	11
"John".....	17
The Torchlight Procession.....	19
Wife Words.....	21
At the Hall.....	23
How Much do you Love me?.....	25
Epithalamium.....	27
The Sudden Shower.....	30
A Tenant's Petition to a Landlord.....	33
My World.....	38
Katy Did.....	44
Bring me no Captive Pets.....	49
November.....	51
Fidelitas.....	53
Sunrise.....	59
God Bless You!.....	61
Malvina.....	63
The Baby.....	65
To an Old Portfolio.....	66
Somebody.....	68
* A Memory.....	69