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September 2015

Adalena F. Dyer Correspondence

Adalena Frances Dyer

Henry Ernest Dunnack 1867-1938

Maine State Library

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DYER, Adalena F.

Born at Cape Elizabeth, March 27, 1857

February 25, 1928

Adalena F. Dyer
913 Sawyer Street
South Portland, Maine

Dear Miss Dyer:

We are preparing a brief bibliography in regard to books of poetry by Maine Authors.

We have your little book "Songs by the Wayside."

Will you please send us a brief biographical sketch by return mail, that we may use it for our next Library Bulletin.

Very truly yours,

HED
ME

Henry E. Dunnack,
State Librarian.

South Portland, Feb. 27, 1928

Henry E. Lunnack,

Dear Sir:

I am sending the enclosed sketch hoping you may find it satisfactory. You are at liberty, of course, to make any changes in it which you think best.

Sincerely yours,

MAINE STATE LIBRARY
RECEIVED

(Miss) Adalena F. Lyster

FEB 29 1928

AUGUSTA, MAINE

Adalena F. Lyster

Miss Adalena F. Lyster who for several years wrote under the pen-name Saturnia was born in Cape Elizabeth, now South Portland, March 27, 1857. She has always lived on the Lyster homestead which has been in the family for eight generations; ever since it was ~~inhabited~~ occupied by white men.

She is the daughter of Greeley H. and Mary Quinby Lyster; and is a direct descendant on her father's side of Mr. William Lyster of Cape Cod and Edward Small, one of Portland's first settlers. And in her mo-

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Four Topics, The Pilgrim, Little
Folks, Boston Transcript, etc.

The poem for which she has
received the most praise is "Walt
Whitman" which brought her many
complimentary letters from his
well-known admirers; and she
cherishes among her most prized
treasures a manuscript of his
given to her by his ~~advisor~~^{friend} and
executor, Dr. Johnston of New York.

Miss Lyster, in addition to her
literary work, is a sincere lover of
nature; and has collected an herbarium
of nearly five hundred specimens.
All, with a very few exceptions, gath-
ered from the fields and groves of
Maine.

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their line, of George Cleaves and Thomas Brackett, also Portland pioneers.

She began her literary career as soon as she was graduated from high school by contributing both prose and verse to the Portland Transcript; and was editor of the Coast Watch, a suburban weekly, for twenty years, her services ending with the cessation of these papers.

Her verse ^{has} also found a home in the columns of Good Housekeeping, The Independent, St. Nicholas, The Congregationalist, Farm and Home, Youth's Companion, Primary Plans, Farm Journal, New York Times,

February 29, 1928

Miss Adalena F. Dyer
South Portland, Maine
My dear Miss Dyer;-

Thank you very much your prompt response to our request for information about yourself. We are keeping your letter in our Maine Author file, after making notes from it for the brief Who's Who which we are arranging for the next issue of the Bulletin.

I read your "Songs by the Wayside" with interest and pleasure, It seems to be a notably excellent collection of verse.

Mr. Dunnack will write you later.
He is out of town at present.

Reference Department