

**THE LITTLE ENGLISH  
GIRL; A TALE  
FOR CHILDREN**

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The Little English Girl; A Tale for Children by Anonymous .

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**ANONYMOUS .**

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THE  
LITTLE  
ENGLISH GIRL;  
A Tale  
FOR CHILDREN.

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BY THE AUTHOR OF THE FORTUNATE VISIT,

AND

*Maazeland Fiorintina, a Fairy Tale.*

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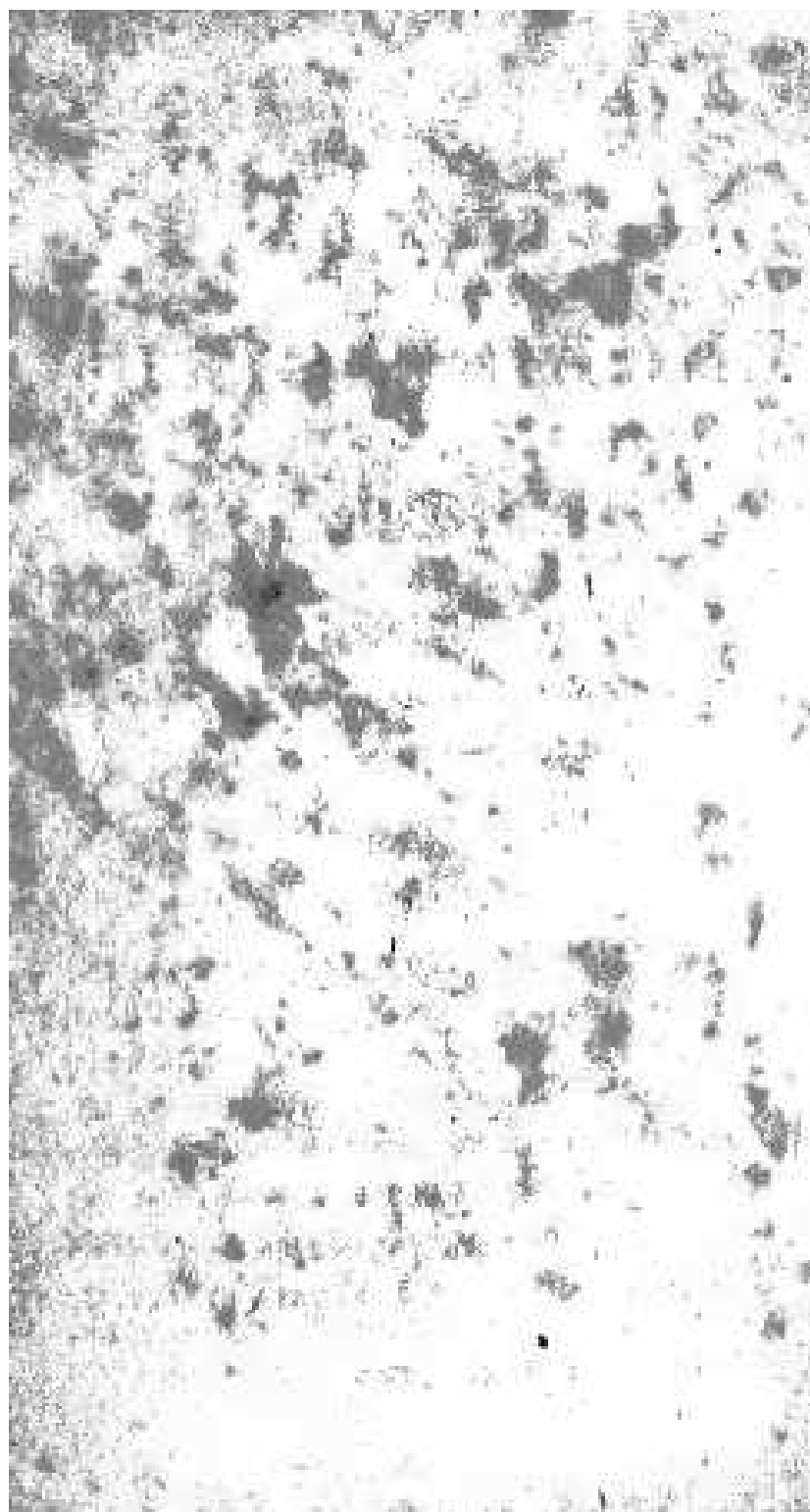
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CHAP. I.  
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MARY AUBURN, the subject of the following story, was the only child of Captain Auburn, an English officer who lost his life in the service of his country. The day which returned him to his mother earth was witness to the birth of Mary and to the death of her mother. But an all-wise Providence, who deprived her of both her parents, watched over her infancy, and protected



her from harm. Nothing, indeed, is more certain than that God will provide for the children of the virtuous with a shepherd's care : he will feed them and lead them through the rugged paths of life. The parents of our Little English Girl, lived and died like christians; they laboured to humble their minds and to teach themselves perfect resignation to the will of heaven : they were particularly just in all their dealings, and so far as their circumstances allowed, were humane and charitable ; by friendship and affection they were followed to their graves, and their worth will, I think, be long remembered by all who had the pleasure of knowing them.

Among the friends of Captain and Mrs. Auburn, was an amiable gentleman of the name of Arnold, who as soon as the eyes of Mrs. Auburn were closed in death, received the orphan Mary to his own habitation. The business that had occasioned Mr. Arnold to visit a foreign country was at this time concluded, and being ready to sail for Europe, he was resolved to make

the infant Mary the companion of his voyage; he therefore hired a nurse to take charge of her, and in a few days after embarked for his native shore. As soon as Mr. Arnold, with his protegee, arrived in England, he procured a small but elegant house about nine miles from London, and to this retreat the little orphan was conveyed by her nurse. This poor woman was a native of England, who had accompanied an English family abroad: the yellow fever raged at that time in the island where their property lay, they were obliged to repair to it, and were all shortly cut off by the dreadful disease. The death of this family was a very great affliction to the nurse of little Mary, but she was reserved for a much greater; and while she was lamenting over the graves of her departed protectors, she was informed that her husband had lost his life at the battle of Alexandria: her situation was now truly melancholy. She had lost her friends, her husband, and was now without money in a strange country. But the poor woman had a pious

mind, and in daily prayer recommended herself to heaven,—heaven did send her help ; she made her situation known to some humane characters, and was assisted by them ; she now left the island of—— and repaired to —— ; here she was fortunate enough to learn that a middle aged gentleman of the name of Arnold was in search of a prudent woman to take care of an infant ; the person who gave her this intelligence furnished her with Mr. Arnold's direction, and she immediately set off for his house—she saw Mr. Arnold—offered her service, and was engaged to take charge of the little orphan. She had now great cause to give thanks to Providence, for she not only found herself comfortably provided for, but in a few months an inhabitant of England, her native home. Mr. Arnold was very well pleased to find himself again on English ground : he too, was born in Britain, and preferred it to any other part of the creation.