

**THE POEMS OF
FREDERICK LOCKER**

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The Poems of Frederick Locker by Frederick Locker

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FREDERICK LOCKER

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POEMS OF FREDERICK
LOCKER.

THE OLD CRADLE.

AND this was your Cradle? Why,
surely, my Jenny,
Such cosy dimensions go clearly to
show
You were an exceedingly small picka-
ninny
Some nineteen or twenty short sum-
mers ago.

Your baby-days flow'd in a much-trou-
bled channel;
I see you, as then, in your impotent
strife,

8 FORMS OF FREDERICK LOCKER.

A tight little bundle of wailing and fannel,
Perplex'd with the newly-found fardel
of Life.

To hint at an infantile frailty's a scandal;
Let by-gones be by-gones, for somebody knows
It was bliss such a Baby to dance and to dandle,—
Your cheeks were so dimpled, so rosy
your toes.

Ay, here is your Cradle; and Hope, a
bright spirit,
With Love now is watching beside it,
I know.
They guard the wee nest it was yours to
inherit
Some nineteen or twenty short sum-
mers ago.

It is Hope gilds the future, Love wel-
comes it smiling;