

**THE BABES IN THE  
BASKET: OR, DAPH  
AND HER CHARGE**

Published @ 2017 Trieste Publishing Pty Ltd

ISBN 9780649235520

The Babes in the basket: or, Daph and her charge by C. E. Bowen

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**C. E. BOWEN**

**THE BABES IN THE  
BASKET: OR, DAPH  
AND HER CHARGE**





THE LITTLE EXILES.

Franklin

THE  
BABES IN THE BASKET;

OR,  
Daph and her Charge.

BY THE AUTHOR OF  
"TIMID LUCY," "HEART AND HAND," ETC.

Sarah Wools Baker  
her most famous book  
translated into a great  
number of languages

NEW YORK:  
ANSON D. F. RANDOLPH,  
683 BROADWAY.

1859.  
She found it in Swedish  
when she came to Sweden

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Entered according to Act of Congress, in the year 1858, by

ANSON D. F. RANDOLPH,

In the Clerk's Office of the District Court of the United States, for  
the Southern District of New York.

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EDWARD O. JENKINS,  
Printer & Stereotyper,  
No. 26 FRANKFORT STREET.

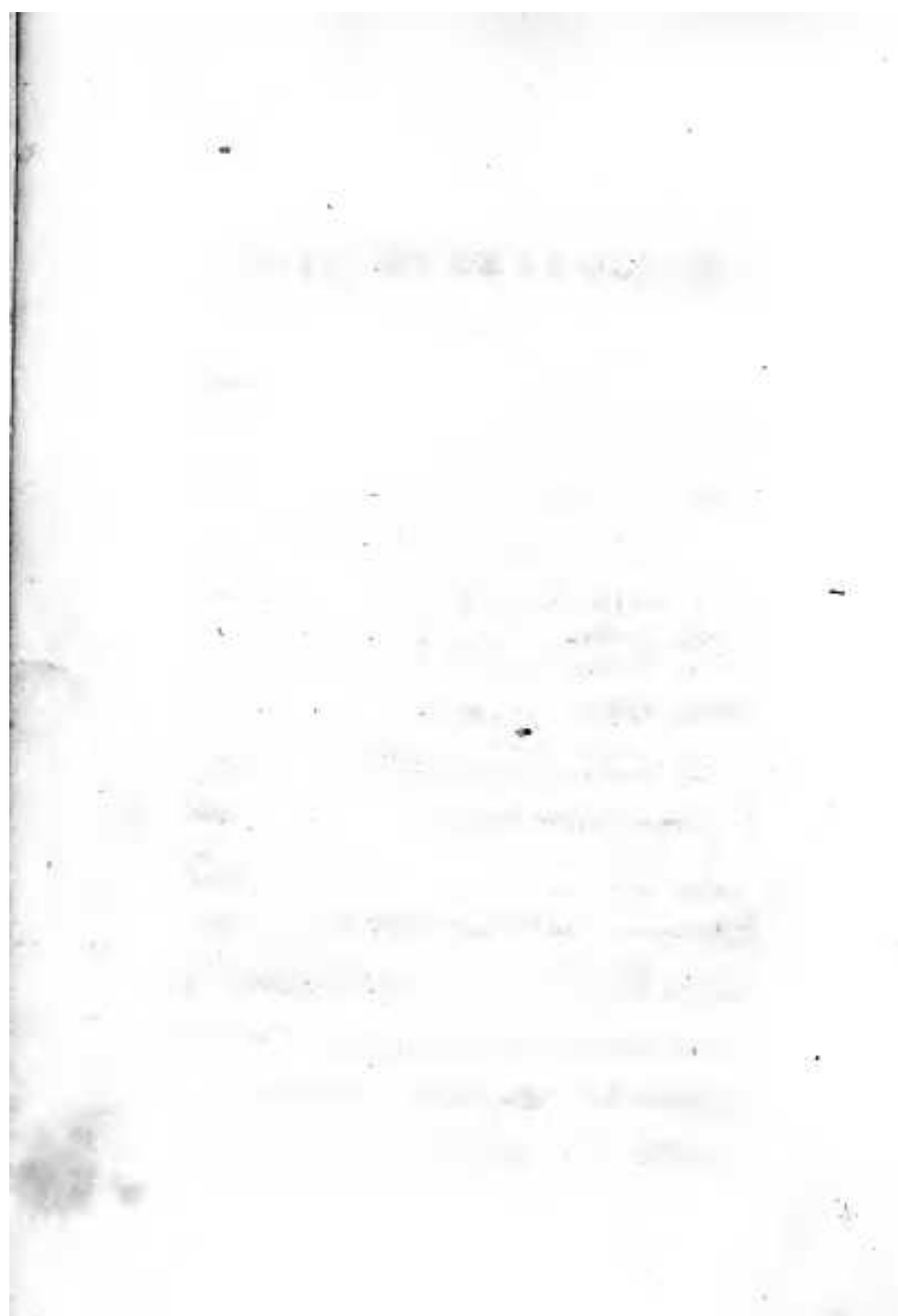
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THE  
**Babes in the Basket;**  
OR,  
DAPH AND HER CHARGE.

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I.

**The Moonlight Visitor.**

THE evening air stole gently into a quiet room in a southern island, more than sixty years ago.

There were no casements in the wide windows; the heavy shutters were thrown back, and the moonlight poured, in long, unbroken streams, across the polished, un-carpeted floor.

Within the large pleasant room, two

children were sleeping in their curtained beds, like birds in pretty cages.

Suddenly there was a cautious tread in the hall, and then a strange figure stood silently in the moonlight. Without candle, or taper, might have been plainly seen the short, strongly-built woman, whose black face and gay turban formed a striking contrast to the fair children in their loose, white night-dresses.

Who was that dark intruder, and what was her secret errand, in that quiet room?

It was Daph, black Daph, and when you have heard more about her, you can better judge whether she came as a friend, or an enemy, to the sleeping children of her master.