# LIGHTSOME, AND THE LITTLE GOLDEN LADY

Published @ 2017 Trieste Publishing Pty Ltd

ISBN 9780649354955

Lightsome, and the little golden lady by C. H. Bennett

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## C. H. BENNETT

# LIGHTSOME, AND THE LITTLE GOLDEN LADY





SKIMBAL AND THE CRAB.

# LIGHTSOME,

AND

### THE LITTLE GOLDEN LADY.

C BY

C. H. BENNETT.



WITH TWENTY-FOUR ILLUSTRATIONS BY THE AUTHOR.

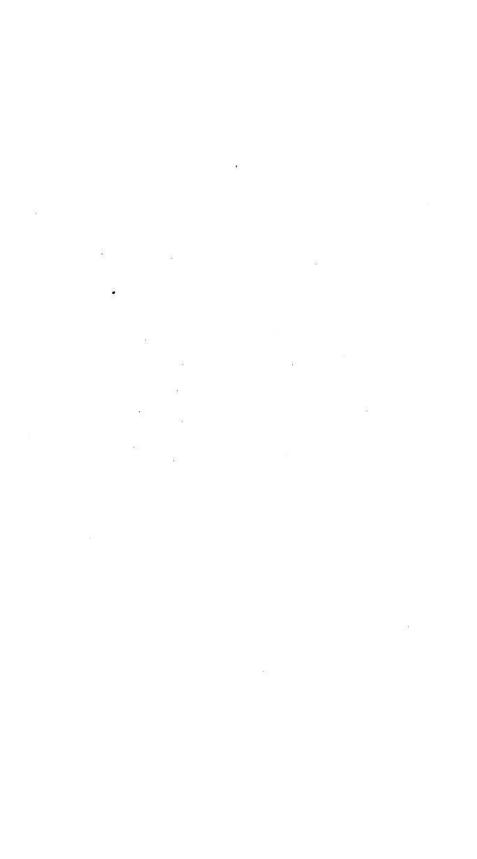
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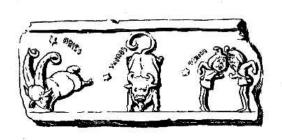
GRIFFITH AND FARRAN,

SUCCESSORS TO NEWBRRY AND HARRIS,
CORNER OF ST. PAUL'S CHURCHYARD.

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### PREFACE.

Now this story tells of things that happened in a place high up in the sky, and far behind the clouds.

In the daytime, when the glitter of the great palace of the golden city shines down so brightly, we can make out nothing else; but in a clear night, when we are looking up for the man in the moon—which, indeed, is only Skimbal asleep at his post—then there are little twinkling things about the sky, which people who do not know any better

have got into the habit of calling Stars; but the wise men who lived when this world was younger, and when wisdom was found laying about at the side of the road, seemed to have known better, for they called them by better names, and a certain

Doctor who did not live so very long ago wrote

down a list of some of these twinklers, - all those, indeed, about whom we are going to talk. So when you look up at the sky next time, on a

clear night, try to remember,

And next the Crab the Lion shines, The Virgin and the Scales,

"The Ram, the Bull, the heavenly Twins,

The Scorpion, Archer, and Sea-Goat, The Man that holds the Watering Pot,

The Fish with glittering tails."

Not that this 'learned Doctor was quite so wise as he might have been, or he would have known that it was the little Fishes' legs that glittered, not their tails; then we know it was the boy that holds the watering pails. It is absurd to suppose they want any watering pots where everything grows without eitner water or trouble,

As for the Sea-Goat, that can only mean that old Nipchese had been a cabin-boy in the days of his youth.

The Archer is all right, and the Scorpion, and also the Scales; but what he has called the Virgin, is indeed the little Golden Lady.

The Lion and the Crab are correct, and also the Ram and the Bull.

But the Doctor could only have thought of calling those two bad brothers, Skimbal and Skambel, "heavenly Twins," because he saw them so high up in the sky that he could not tell the difference.

