

**TEMPERED STEEL
OR,
TRIED IN THE FIRE**

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Tempered Steel or, Tried in the Fire by E. N. Hoare

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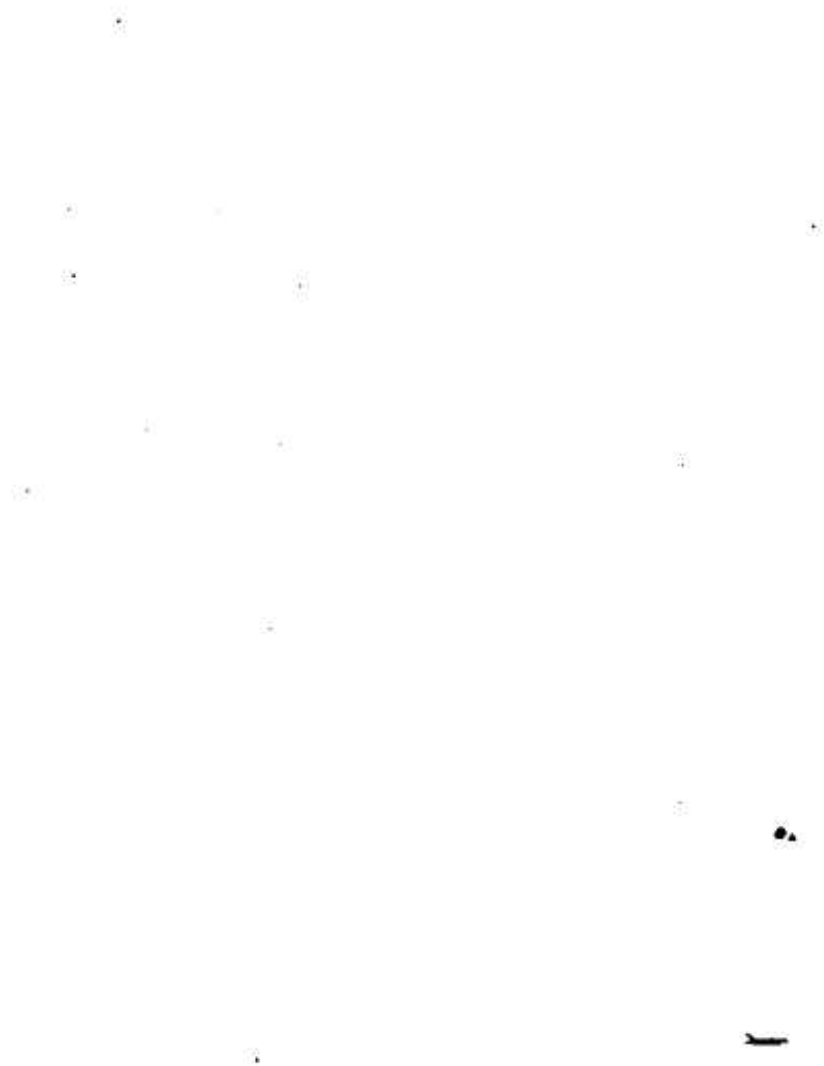
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E. N. HOARE

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MR. RIDLEY'S SECRET.

Page 135.

TEMPERED STEEL;

OR,

Tried in the Fire.

BY

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"TWO VOYAGES," ETC.

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TEMPERED STEEL.

CHAPTER I.

“THREE CHEERS!”

“HREE cheers for Mr. and Mrs. Cremer,—hip, hip, hurrah!”

The first hurrah went off pretty well, thanks to the vigour with which Ned Ridley, the proposer, started it. But Ned thought that, having set a good example, he had done enough; and so he left cheer number two to its fate. It was a sad collapse. A few small boys *said*, rather than shouted, “Hurrah!” Three or four very good little girls waved their handkerchiefs. The parson, the Rev. Thomas Hassard, beat with his stick on the table before him; then there was a silence, *broken by a titter*; then followed a *succession*