

**THE FORLORN  
HOPE: A TALE**

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The Forlorn Hope: A Tale by A. L. O. E.

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**A. L. O. E.**

**THE FORLORN  
HOPE: A TALE**



THE FORLORN HOPE.



THE OLD HOLLY TREE.

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# *The Forlorn Hope*

BY

**H. L. O. E.,**

Author of "The Blacksmith of Boniface Lane,"

"Beyond the Black Waters,"

"Driven into Exile,"

&c. &c.



*T NELSON AND SONS*

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# THE FORLORN HOPE.

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## CHAPTER I.

### A RIDE AND A RACE.

It is a glorious morning in October. The sun's orb, newly risen, is canopied by rosy clouds, and his beams lighten up an earth decked out in the gorgeous hues with which Nature, in the land of the West, makes autumn yet more beautiful than spring. Red, brown, green, and gold, the leaves mantle the trees or carpet the ground, glorious in their various stages of decay. Afar in the east the waves of the broad Atlantic are seen shimmering in light. A fresh breeze blowing from the same quarter seems to Gloria Girling, who with two companions is riding up a gentle ascent, to bear a message of greeting from the dear "old country," which she has lately left behind. But there is nothing of an exile's pensive regret to be seen in the blooming countenance of the maiden; Gloria looks like the very