

**A BROTHER TO
DRAGONS, AND OTHER
OLD-TIME TALES**

Published @ 2017 Trieste Publishing Pty Ltd

ISBN 9780649091904

A brother to dragons, and other old-time tales by Amélie Rives

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AMÉLIE RIVES

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AND

OTHER OLD-TIME TALES

By AMÉLIE RIVES

NEW YORK
HARPER & BROTHERS, FRANKLIN SQUARE
1888

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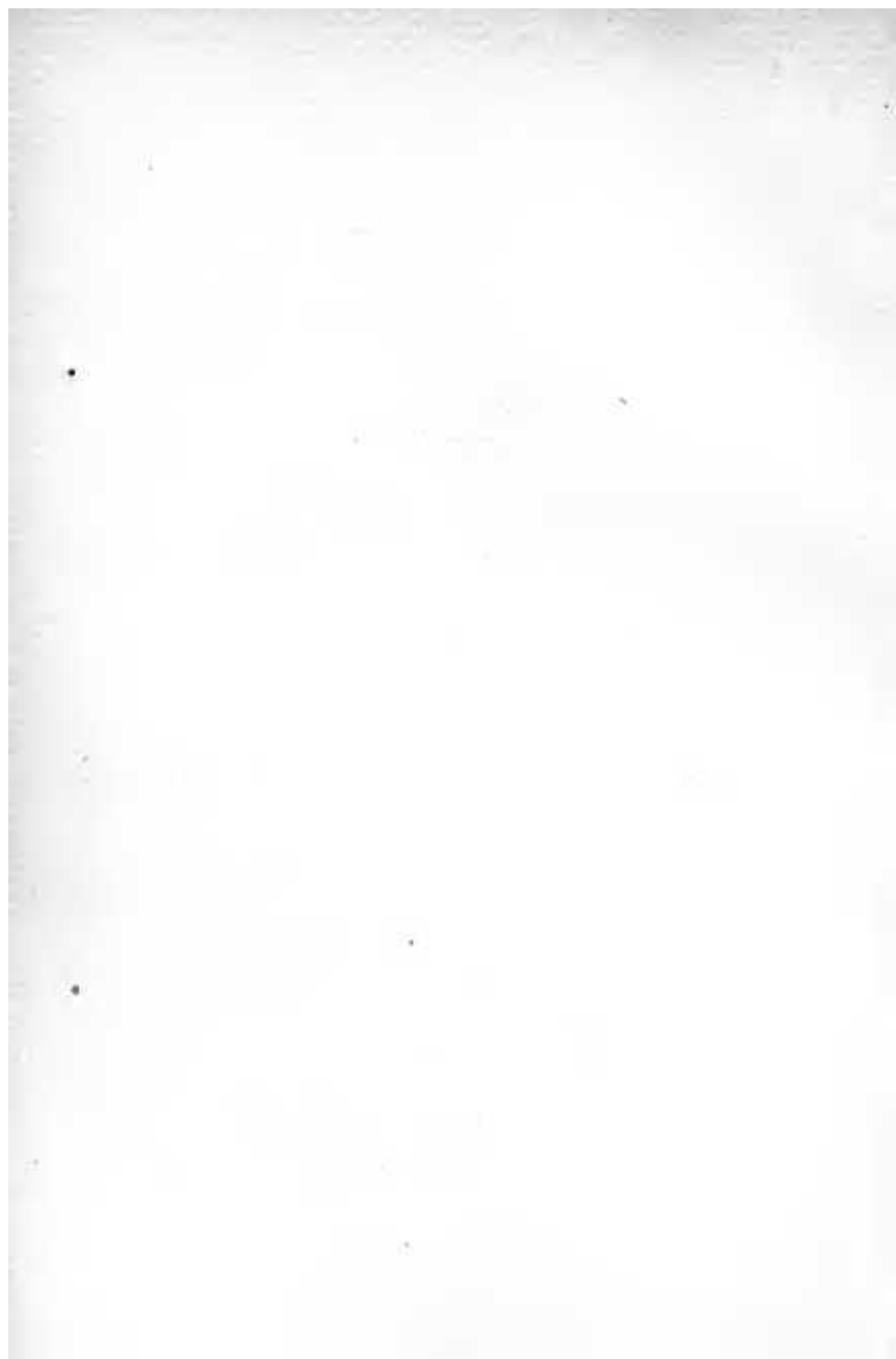
Dedicated
WITH GRATEFUL REMEMBRANCE
TO
THOMAS BAILEY ALDRICH
MY FIRST EDITOR

M272103

PREFACE.

OF the tales published in this volume, "A Brother to Dragons" appeared in the *Atlantic Monthly* for March, 1886; "The Farrier Lass o' Piping Pebworth" in *Lippincott's Magazine* for July, 1887; and "Nurse Crumpet tells the Story" in *Harper's Magazine* for September, 1887.

AMÉLIE RIVES.



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A BROTHER TO DRAGONS.

I.

IN the year of grace, 1586, on the last day of the month of May, to all who may chance to read this narrative, these:

I will first be at the pains of stating that had it not been for Marian I had never indited these or any other papers, true or false. Secondly, that the facts herein set down be true facts; none the less true that they are strange. I will furthermore explain that Marian is the Christian name of my lawful wife, and that our surname is Butter.

My wife had nursed the Lady Margaret from the moment of her birth; and here I must make another digression. The Lady