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HER TITLE OF HONOUR BY HOLME LEE.

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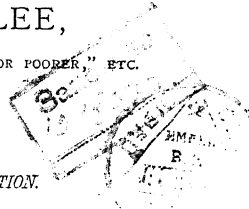
HER TITLE OF
HONOUR

BY

HOLME LEE,

AUTHOR OF "FOR RICHER, FOR POORER," ETC.

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HER TITLE OF HONOUR.

PROLOGUE.

IN CROXTON CLOSE.

THE August evening sun was still shining on the broad lawns of Croxton Close, though the narrow, high-piled street outside the gate was all in dusky twilight shadow. It looked so cool and beautiful through the gloomy arch, so quiet and inviting after the heat and turmoil of the day! The tall ranks of elms in the outer enclosure were full of leaf, and the reposeful old houses glittered with fiery sunset reflections in the bright diamond-paned lattices of their peaked gables, and the projecting bays and oriels of their lower storeys. About their porches and the quaint nooks and angles of their walls the powdery clematis and fragrant jessamine hung in wreaths and bowers of white and green; and the chamber windows had every one a box or balcony of flowers: garlands of deep blue lobelia, of orange nasturtium, masses of yellow calceolaria, of scarlet, white, and pink geranium, with abundance of modest mignonette