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MY LADY ROTHA. BY STANLEY J. WEYMAN.

IN TWO VOLUMES.

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MY LADY ROTHA.

A ROMANCE.

BY

STANLEY J. WEYMAN,

AUTHOR OF

"THE HOUSE OF THE WOLF," "A GENTLEMAN OF FRANCE,"

ETC. ETC.

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MY LADY ROTH A.

CHAPTER I.

IN A GREEN VALLEY.

HE was as good as his word. Before the sun had been up an hour next day six of the mutineers, chosen by lot from a hundred of the more guilty, dangled from a great tree which overhung the brook, and were already forgotten—so short are soldiers' memories—in the hurry and bustle of a new undertaking. The slope of the ridge which divided us from the neighbouring valley was soon dotted with parties of men making their way up it, through bracken and furze which reached nearly to the waist, while the horse under Count Waska rode slowly off to make the circuit of the hill and enter the next valley by an easier road.

My lady chose to climb the hill on foot, in the track of the pikemen, though the heavy dew, which the sun had not yet drunk up, soon drenched her skirts, and she might, had she willed it, have been carried to the