

TO  
DOUGLAS ROBINSON, Esq.,  
AND  
FRANK A. HILTON, Esq.

*My dear Douglas and Frank:*

*I feel sure that this dedication will give you as much pleasure as it does me. It will at least be evidence that I do not forget good days in your company here and there in the world. I take pleasure in linking your names; for you, who have never met, meet thus in the porch of a little house that I have built.*

*You, my dear Douglas, will find herein scenes, times, and things familiar to you; and you, my dear Frank, reflections of hours when we camped by an idle shore, or drew about the fire of winter nights, and told tales worth more than this, for they were of the future, and it is of the past.*

*Always sincerely yours,*

**GILBERT**