

THE following pages require a few words of explanation, and I feel that I cannot do better than quote from the letter which my Father sent to Mr. Harold Begbie just a week after the operation which revealed the fatal character of his illness. The letter runs as follows :

“DEAR MR. BEGBIE—It is a long time now since we met at Quebec, and you will, I know, be sorry to hear that an operation I have just undergone has warned me that it is necessary that I should lose no time in setting my house in order.

“My admiration for such of your writings as I have read, and for the sympathy with which you approach the consideration of public questions,