Introduction

laughter, I hope, is there side by side with many stories which will prove an inspiration and encouragement, both to the critical readers in my own calling and to the general reader who cannot fail to acquire increased admiration with increased knowledge of the Fourth Estate.

Many distinguished journalists have taken considerable trouble to amplify my personal recollections and verify my facts, so that the record which I have set down in these pages may be accurate as well as adequate. Their courtesy in this respect, the interest which they have been good enough to take, and the encouragement they have given me by their kind references to my work have strengthened my opinion of the comradeship which is bred in the Street of Ink, and have made my labour of love doubly delightful.

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