WE ARE SEVEN. HALF-HOURS ON THE STAGE GRAVE AND GAY

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We are seven. Half-hours on the stage grave and gay by Hamilton Aïdé

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HAMILTON AÏDÉ

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The Fee for each Performance of each of these Plays is One Guines, payable to Samuel. French, Limited, 89 Strand, London.

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HALF-HOURS ON THE STAGE GRAVE AND GAY

By HAMILTON AIDE

JOHN MURRAY, ALBEMARLE STREET, W.
1902

THE HALF-HOURS SPEAK.

READERS and Listeners, we are seven. We hope you will not call us "The Seven Sleepers." One of us would arouse your sympathy—your tears, if possible. One offers the palliation for a lie; and one, showing how wide-awake a woman was, will keep you so, we trust, as effectually as it did when played by Mrs Kendal.

None of us, on the stage or off it, will detain you more than half an hour. But this, we admit, is a poor plea for dulness. We remember Sidney Smith's reply to the curate, who hoped that divine had not found his sermon tedious, "for he had made it very short."

"Sir, your sermon was short, but it was tedious."

Four of these seven plays have already appeared in The Nineteenth Century, The Fortnightly Review, and The Anglo-Saxon Review. My thanks are due to the Editors for permission to reprint them. "A Gleam in the Darkness" was translated for Madame Sarah Bernhardt, and has been played by her in London and Paris; "A Lesson in Acting" by Mrs Kendal and Mr Gilbert Hare; "All or Nothing" by Madame Modjeska and Mr J. Forbes Robertson. The last-mentioned play, as also "Two Strings to a Beau," has been played on several occasions in public by amateurs,