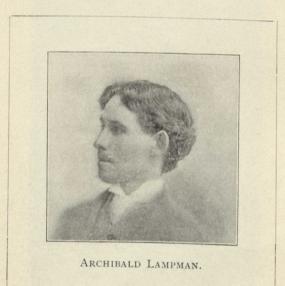
ACTA VICTORIANA.

peculations of this man and his minions, are very clearly set forth. The historic background is very well veiled by the interest aroused by the characters themselves. The same can scarcely be said of *The Bastonnais*, by John Lesperance. This is a story of Montgomery's expedition against Quebec in 1775-76, and shows that the fidelity of the French to the cause of England was the reason of the repulse of the Americans.

Before passing on to the third period mention must be made of a very prolific author from Nova Scotia, James Demille. Altogether he



wrote some forty works in prose, twenty-nine of which were published and most of which were in the style of Jules' Verne, Rider Haggard and others of that ilk. In the *Dodge Club* he opened the vein of *The Tramp Abroad*, and in *Helena's Household* there is a foreshadowing of *Ben Hur*. Besides his many clever but carelessly written prose works, he left an unfinished poem of some length, *Behind the Veil*, which is based on Jean Paul's prose vision of Immortality. It has been edited by Prof. MacMechan in a very sumptuous edition.

By the inauguration of the Dominion, in 1867, was fulfilled the prophecy of Haliburton, that one day the Canadian Provinces

106