

Another Canadian book sent by Mr. Chapman is the *Forge in the Forest*, an Acadian Romance, by Charles G. D. Roberts, the poet. It has 311 octavo pages, is published by William Briggs of Toronto, and, in paper cover, sells for fifty cents. Its fuller title is the *Forge in the Forest*, being the narrative of the Acadian Ranger, Jean de Mer, Seigneur de Briart; and how he crossed the Black Abbé; and of his adventures in a strange fellowship. This is a very good and well told story, worthy of Conan Doyle, or Stanley Weyman, a romance of the days when England and France were in arms against each other in Nova Scotia. Grand Pré was in English hands, and there dwelt a young widow, Mrs. Mizpah Hanford, with her little son Philip, and his younger sister Prudence. There also dwelt Marc, the grown up son of Jean de Mer, and he fell in love with Prudence of the auburn hair, and, at the same time, crossed La Garne, a wicked priest who had much power over the Micmacs, and who was known as the Black Abbé. The story begins with the return of the Seigneur to his forest forge after three years' absence, and his meeting with his son. By a trick, the black Abbé and his Micmacs make father and son prisoners and threaten them with death. A faithful tenant frees them, and they make their way to the French quarters, whither the Abbé vainly pursues them. But the main part of the narrative is that which tells of the abduction of little Philip by the Abbé's Micmacs, and of the canoe adventures of Jean de Mer and Mizpah, the latter attired as a woodsman, in search of him. This is full of wonderful adventures and hairbreadth escapes, in which Grul, the madman and enemy of the Abbé, plays a part. The whole thing ends by Jean marrying Mizpah, and attaining earthly bliss, the recovered Philip being quite satisfied with his new father. This is decidedly the best Canadian story of its kind I have read.

Wilson Barrett is a well known actor, and he has written a thoroughly religious romance. It is called the *Sign of the Cross*; it consists of 291 pages, and is published in Methuen's Colonial Library, being sent to the Journal by Mr. Chapman.