

ist and the novelist who makes the delineation of character his special field, there is also no lack of opportunity in the contrast and mingling of two races so different in character and mode of thought, and yet one in loyalty and mutual respect. Nor are definite types wanting: the picturesque habitant of Quebec and his brother, the simple-minded Acadian of the Lower Provinces; the sturdy and self-reliant farmer of Ontario; the breezy and unsophisticated son of the great Northwest; the free-and-easy miner and lumberman of the Pacific Slope; the trapper of the North; the coast fisherman; the Prince Edward Islander, who believes that the whole Dominion circles around his little island, and the degenerate aborigine,—these are all component parts of our mixed population.

It is true that from time to time in the past a solitary figure has arisen and made a half-hearted attempt to arouse the dormant interest of his countrymen. The late James De Mille, for many years Professor of English Literature at Dalhousie College, Halifax, published about forty novels and tales, chiefly through "Harper's." At the time, they were all popular in the United States; but very few of them had any lasting value. The best were "Helena's Household," "The Martyr of the Catacombs"; "The Dodge Club"; "Cord and Creese"; "The B. O. W. C. Papers"; and a posthumous novel, entitled "A Strange Manuscript Found in a Copper Cylinder." At a still earlier period De Gaspé published his historical novel, "Les Anciens Canadiens"; Mrs. Leprohon, "Antoinette de Mirecourt," and a number of other stories; Miss A. M. Machar and Mrs. Traill (the latter a member of the famous Strickland family) wrote tales of the pioneer days and the War of 1812; and William Kirby published his "Golden Dog," a historical romance of the days of the French occupation. Nearly all of these were published in the United States, and were only known there. Canadians had not yet thrown off the stern and eminently practical spirit of the pioneer, fresh from the battle with nature for a home; and they could not stoop to anything so trivial as the reading of novels, especially those of home production.

A few years ago Gilbert Parker's name became known through the publication of some clever sketches of life in the wild Northwest—"Pierre and His People" and "An Adventurer of the North." These were followed by several novels, based on the early romantic period of Canadian history, the best of which was "The Seats of the Mighty," which has since been dramatized. Sara Jeannette Duncan (Mrs. Cotes), Robert Barr, Grant Allen, and Miss Lily Dougall have