

privately dedicated "to one whose classic verse is rich in suggestion caught from the picturesque Evangeline land, to Theodore Harding Rand, D.C.L., of McMaster University, Toronto." There are many comparatively unexplored mines in our own romantic Canadian annals, and the story of the expulsion, wanderings, and return of the Acadians is surely one of the richest of these. Our Canadian poets have caught the inspiration of the Evangeline land, and in the pages of Roberts, Carman, and Rand are to be found exquisite pictures of its bewitching scenery. But Longfellow's successful use of the Acadian story in *Evangeline*, while proving its striking possibilities, has made it difficult for other poets to work the same vein. The novel-writer has the advantage of the poet in this respect, and Roberts has, as we know, made use of Acadian romance in "*The Forge in the Forest*." Now comes Miss Saunders with her story, and if for no other reason than that in it she shows the resources that await the touch of the master-hand, "*Rose à Charlitte*" is a welcome addition to Canadian literature.

But, apart from this, "*Rose à Charlitte*" has distinct merits of its own. Its main interest lies, we think, in the charming picture it gives of the Acadians of to-day. Their everyday life, their simplicity of nature, not unmixed with shrewdness, their gaiety of spirit, and generous, hospitable disposition, their devotion to their religion, and pride of race, in spite of the tendency to become English, these, and many other features of Acadian life stand out vividly on the canvas. But while depicting these in the course of her story, Miss Saunders lays most stress, perhaps, on their passionate remembrance of the cruelties inflicted on their ancestors, and on their burning sense of the injustice they deem still done them by modern opinion on the causes of that great tragedy. Acadian opinion on this subject (as indicated in such works as Richards' "*Acadia: Missing Links in a Lost Chapter of History*," and Herbin's "*Grand Pre: a Sketch of the Acadian Occupation*"), is inclined to acquit the English Government of blame, and to lay upon Governor Laurence, of Massachusetts, the responsibility for the expulsion and its attendant cruelties. This view is presented in "*Rose à Charlitte*," and one character in it, Agapit Le Noir, is the incarnation of the Acadian feeling and spirit. It is pleasing to observe that unequivocal loyalty to England and England's Queen is a distinguishing feature of Acadian sentiment.

From the purely artistic standpoint the clear-cut characterization is the best thing in the book. *Rose à Charlitte*, the heroine, Narcisse, her child, Agapit, the "fiery Frenchman," and Bidiane are