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Editor's Talk

A FEW weeks ago, when the newspapers were full of stories about the recovery of the famous "Mona Lisa," stolen from the Louvre in Paris two years ago and recovered in Florence just before Christmas, none of the editors knew that we had already decided upon a new serial story for the "Canadian Courier," containing all the romance of the "Mona Lisa" and much more adventure. "Behind the Picture," by McDonnell Bodkin, beginning next week, has a remarkable resemblance in its germinal outlines to the "Mona Lisa." The stolen picture in this case, however, is a Velasquez, not a Leonardo da Vinci. About this stolen canvas the author has woven a plot brimful of adventure, episode and dramatic, sometimes melodramatic, situations. This should be by far the most generally popular serial we have ever published.

The author, McDonnell Bodkin, is an Irish judge. He has been a newspaper man and a parliamentarian, and has been mixed up with a great variety of people and events. He was on intimate terms with Gladstone and Parnell, and is a personal friend of Justin McCarthy, William O'Brien, John Dillon and T. P. O'Connor. He has interviewed the Pope at the Vatican and Roosevelt at Washington. He knows intimately most of the great actors of the present generation. And from this remarkable acquaintance he has produced several books, most notable of which are "Paul Beck," "Lord Edward Fitzgerald" and the serial, "Behind the Picture."



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