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*James De Mille*

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## **A Strange Manuscript Found in a Copper Cylinder (Centre for Editing Early Canadian Texts)**

**James De Mille : A Strange Manuscript Found in a Copper Cylinder (Centre for Editing Early Canadian Texts)** before purchasing it in order to gauge whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised A Strange Manuscript Found in a Copper Cylinder (Centre for Editing Early Canadian Texts):

1 of 2 people found the following review helpful. Good read!By Gary SandersGreat lost land/civilization novel. Clever plot. author's other novels are also well done and with reading. almost all of them in the public domaine and available free.0 of 1 people found the following review helpful. Two StarsBy Geonomeakthe key descriptive word would be Tedious0 of 2 people found the following review helpful. Little disappointingBy Annette I. MordeI pride myself on being able to read books and articles in various types of English, being it old English, Queen's English, British English or our every day American English, but this book is unbelievably hard to read. Being stubborn, I will give it another try though.

This book was originally published prior to 1923, and represents a reproduction of an important historical work, maintaining the same format as the original work. While some publishers have opted to apply OCR (optical character recognition) technology to the process, we believe this leads to sub-optimal results (frequent typographical errors, strange characters and confusing formatting) and does not adequately preserve the historical character of the original artifact. We believe this work is culturally important in its original archival form. While we strive to adequately clean

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Daniel Burgoyne's Broadview edition of *A Strange Manuscript Found in a Copper Cylinder* is a refreshing, re-energised insight into an old classic. It is both scholarly and accessible, bringing important scholarship, key graphics, and of course the work itself, into fresh perspective. What I especially value is the way the volume will appeal to both general readers and critics, and the way that more recent scholarship on the novel has been updated and synthesized to produce new understandings of this unusual Canadian phenomenon. Gerry Turcotte, President, St. Marys University College, Calgary, Alberta

From the Back Cover Drifting on a sailing boat off the Canary Islands, four British gentlemen take turns reading a manuscript that they find inside a copper cylinder discovered floating in the Atlantic Ocean. The manuscript recounts Adam Mores' adventures after being lost at sea during an Antarctic voyage in 1844 and his life with the Kosekin, a lost civilization living at the South Pole. The values of the Kosekin are opposed to the civilized norm—they love death, abjection, and poverty. Their society may be well suited to their particular evolution, but it is profoundly disconcerting to the narrator, and it is radically contentious to the Victorian gentlemen who read and debate Mores' account. This Broadview edition of James De Milles' classic recreates the format of the posthumous 1888 *Harpers Weekly* serial, including 18 original illustrations by Gilbert Gaul. The appendices allow the novel to be seen in terms of other satirical and scientific romance, Antarctic exploration, and contemporary geology. The introduction and notes tap into recent scholarship to bring to life De Milles' genre innovations and his use of Orientalist and colonialist discourses.

About the Author JAMES DE MILLE was born in Saint John, NB, in 1833, and educated at Acadia College, Wolfville, NS, and Brown University, Providence, Rhode Island. He taught classics at Acadia College, and rhetoric and history at Dalhousie College in Halifax. He had a successful career as a prolific and popular novelist. He died in 1880, and his best known novel, "A Strange Manuscript Found in a Copper Cylinder," was first published posthumously in 1888.