# FOXGLOVE MANOR: A NOVEL IN THREE VOLUMES, VOL. I

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Foxglove Manor: a novel in three volumes, Vol. I by Robert Buchanan

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### **ROBERT BUCHANAN**

# FOXGLOVE MANOR: A NOVEL IN THREE VOLUMES, VOL. I



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## FOXGLOVE MANOR

A Mobel

## ROBERT BUCHANAN

AUTHOR OF

" GOD AND THE MAN," "THE SNADOW OF THE SWORD,"
"THE NEW ABELIARD," ETC.

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IN THREE VOLUMES VOL. L

London
CHATTO AND WINDUS, PICCADILLY

1884

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### PREFATORY NOTE.

The following attempt at a tragedy in fiction (a tragedy, however, without a tragic ending) must not be construed into an attack on the English priest-hood generally. I have simply pictured, in the Rev. Charles Santley, a type of man which exists, and of which I have had personal experience. Fortunately, such men are uncommon; still more fortunately, the clergymen of the English Establishment are for the most part sane and healthy men, too unimaginative for morbid deviations.

ROBERT BUCHANAN.

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### FOXGLOVE MANOR.

### CHAPTER L

ST. CUTHBERT'S.

As the sweet, clear voices of the surpliced choristers rose in the closing verse of the hymn, and the vicar, in his white robe and violet hood, ascended the pulpit steps, old Gabriel Ware, sexton and doorkeeper of St. Cuthbert's, limped across the pavement and slipped into the porch, as his custom was at sermon-time on Sunday afternoons.

He waited till the singing had ceased and the congregation had settled in

VOL. I.