

parlance is called a Terror. There was nothing too mischievous or daring for him. He carried consternation wherever he went. Condemned to death, on land and water, in at least three countries and three seas, by hanging, drowning, shooting and blowing up, he survived all his executions, and lived to an honoured old age. How he came to learn Gaelic, saved a family from fire, a child from falling over a cliff, and his last master from burglars, after putting him in the way of his fortune, may be learned by those who care to invest the sum of one-dollar with Messrs. Drysdale & Co.

The second of Messrs. Drysdale's books that I have had the courage and perseverance to read is "The Beth Book, being a study from the life of Elizabeth Caldwell Maclure, a Woman of Genius," by Sarah Grand, author of "The Heavenly Twins." It has 573 8vo. pages, is bound in neat cloth, and is published by George N. Morang, of Toronto, at a dollar and a-half. For those who like this sort of thing, this is the sort of thing they'd like, as Artemus Ward first said. It is not unnatural, because human society has a great many unlovely sights, and because there do occur, at rare intervals, girls who are in youth precocious yet sensitive, and beautiful in person as well as beautiful in mind. Such was Beth in childhood, a talking monkey of the most brutally outspoken kind. Her father, a tippling coast-guard captain with a failing for female society other than that of his weak character of a wife, her snobbish spendthrift of a brother, her proper but very dull elder sister, her mother's brother and other relatives in England, and at last, her husband, are a wretched lot, and seem to have been invented as foils to set off the superlative genius of Beth. There are some amusing anecdotes of Beth's youthful escapades, and, when she reaches the stage of Barrie's imaginative boy, she acts almost as tiresomely like him. A child of impulse, she yet happily escapes moral contamination, and, grown up to womanhood, stands out for purity, and against vivisection, achieves success as an author, and reaches the pinnacle of greatness as an orator. There is no beauty in the book, no