

plot worthy of the name, no particular moral. It contains language, profane, indecent, and irreligious, such as no self-respecting woman or decent man would dare or care to read aloud, and might blush even to read in secret. It may reflect certain phases of Irish and English society ; so does the Newgate calendar. Most of Sarah Grand's objectionable language is gratuitous, and does not help the story, if story it can be called, in any way. Her attitude in regard to religion is inconsistent, as one compares the Christianity of Aunt Victoria with that of Arthur Brock ; but it is a hostile attitude in any case, and by no means redemptive of the book. Its whole effect on a normal mind is pity allied to contempt for the meanness, the hypocrisy, and selfish aimlessness of nearly all its characters, which at times swells into disgust and loathing. If that is what people read books for, Madame Sarah Grand is a literary success. Pity that she is a woman, whom one might possibly meet. Books that pretend to teach purity by drawing pictures of vice are not few, and they are among the most deadly of the devil's weapons upon the imagination of the young. But even those who shamelessly advertise them do not call them literature. Many a man and woman has been hurried by temptation and passion into an overt act of immorality followed by lifelong regret and penalty, who would not degrade the mind by thinking nor the lips by uttering what is impure. We know the judgment of the world on this subject, but we ought also to know the mind of Christ.

Messrs. Drysdale's third book is entitled "Spanish John," by William McLennan, illustrated by F. de Myrbach, published by the Harpers, of New York, and the Copp, Clark Co., of Toronto. Its pages are 271 in number, and its illustrations 19, and it is prettily bound in red, black and gold. The author of this book is well known in Montreal. Its full title is "Spanish John, being a Memoir, now first published in complete form, of the Early Life and Adventures of Colonel John McDonell, known as 'Spanish John,' when a Lieutenant in the Company of St. James of the Regiment Irlandia, in the service