

Our Guinea Prize.

We have pleasure in announcing that our Guinea Prize for November has been won by Miss Hope Dibben, Matron, Cottage Hospital, Lynton, North Devon.

KEY TO PRIZE PUZZLES.

- No. 1. Neave's Food.
N (h)eaves food.
No. 2. Borwick's Baking Powder.
Boar wicks backing powder.
No. 3. Hall's Distemper.
Hauls DISTEMPER.
No. 4. Garrould's Cloaks.
G arrow £ s d (l) ox.

The following competitors have solved the puzzles correctly:—

Miss H. Sherlock, Leicester; Miss E. N. Watson, Birkenhead; Miss T. O'Brien, Waterford; Nurse Eliza, Middlesbro'; Miss A. Moss, London; Miss E. H. Swan, Perth; Miss K. Eckersley, Middlesbro'; Miss Wood, Tunbridge Wells; Miss C. Tomkins, London; Miss F. J. Bennett, Edinburgh; Miss V. Ottley, Brighton; Miss M. Goodrich, Sutton Coldfield; Miss M. C. Watson, Penzance; Miss N. Longley, York; Miss S. Cooper, Glasgow; Miss A. Dawe, London; Miss A. F. Muller, Boxmoor; Mrs. Turner, Ambleside; Mrs. Welton Dale, Tunbridge Wells; Miss T. Smith, London; Miss C. Mackenzie, Dundee; Miss F. Bailey, Gloucester; Miss Burghes, Southampton; Miss C. Warren, London; Miss W. J. Grant, Southampton; Miss A. S. Tovey, Ringwood; Miss Fancourt, Cork; Miss E. S. Sills, Gravesend; Miss M. Whitworth, Maidstone; Miss M. Jones, Cardiff; Miss T. Wilson, London; Miss Hawker, Twickenham; Miss S. Lawson, Inverness; Mrs. Baker, York; Miss M. H. Bateman, Kingston-on-Thames; Miss Ford, Dublin; Miss Taylor, Southampton; Miss C. Rose, Aberdeen; Miss E. McLernon, Maidstone; Mrs. Groves, London; Miss G. A. Hancock, Bath; Miss R. Ward, Leicester; Miss A. Valpy, Lincoln; Miss C. Taylor, London; Mrs. Shoesmith, Durham; Miss H. Bacon, Houghton-le-Spring; Mrs. Naylor, Hampstead; Miss McEwen, Edinburgh; Miss S. Taylor, Brixton; Mrs. Sheard, Chislehurst; Mrs. S. W. Tru, London; Mrs. E. F. Moakes, Holmwood; Miss E. Crosbie, Edinburgh; Miss M. Campbell, Aberdeen; Miss A. F. Lowrie, Belfast; Miss Maclean, Greenock; Miss V. Todd, London.

The new set of puzzles will be found on page viii.

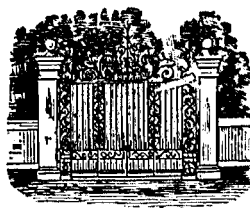
The rules remain the same.

THE MIDWIVES' BOARD.

A special meeting of the Central Midwives' Board was held at the Board Room, Caxton House, Westminster, on Thursday, November 22nd, to consider the requirements of the Board with respect to training in Poor-law Infirmaries. The proceedings were taken *in camera*.

Outside the Gates.

THE SHADOW OF LIFE.*



Miss Sedgwick's book seems to me to be quite one of the most interesting of the season now closing. She has a style full of sympathy—a style which, without mannerisms, leaves a deep impression; and in this book she has chosen

a very curious, very alluring, very intricate subject.

It is a subject which really made the better part of Mrs. Humphry Ward's "Robert Elsmere," a subject which has fascinated Mrs. Browning, and forms the groundwork of her "Poet's Vow." The subject of the man who has lost his hold on life as a reality.

None of us will ever forget the masterly way in which Mrs. Ward handled this theme. The man who, galvanised as it were, into spurious life by immediate contact with the vitality and freshness of a young girl, immediately lost this sensation when apart from her, and had to make the miserable confession that he could not face the idea of becoming her husband.

But the character in question was not the central figure of the Robert Elsmere canvas; and Miss Sedgwick was fully justified in presenting before us a picture as finished, as carefully thought out, as unsparing, as this one.

The sort of character here depicted would seem to be more usually male. At least, in all the instances I am able to recall, it is the man to whom comes this inner death, the woman who struggles to raise him to life once more by the power of her own vitality in two cases—by the power of her death in Mrs. Browning's story. In this latter case, the woman who was spurned living succeeds when dead. The stone is rolled away from the sepulchre of the man's heart and he lives for a few moments; until physical death claims him.

I should have liked the story to end differently. I should have wished the dead Rosalind to be the motive of a long life for her surviving lover, who should have spent the rest of his days in loving every human thing for her sake, and in waiting hopefully for re-union in some more complete form of existence.

Miss Sedgwick's hero, like Mrs. Browning's, is not always dead. He is, when young, quiveringly alive, full of spirituality, full of fine feeling. He pours out the treasures of his love upon a woman who is unworthy; a woman who will sin but does not want to be found out.

Then the full tragedy of his life envelopes him. He has worked to make a home for the mother who is in the power of a brutal, depraved husband. When at last he is in a position to summon her to him, she is in a dying state. She comes to this son from whom she had to part in anguish, years before; and they are almost strangers. Soon the progress of her disease robs her of even the power to sympathise.

* By Anne Sedgwick. (Constable.)

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