

was profoundly convinced that the movement really owed its force to the spiritual awakening of women. Why, the speaker asked, should two months in the second division be given to women like Queenie Gerald and long sentences in the third division to those who were working for a great political, moral, and spiritual issue? The moral indignation of men in this country now was very largely expending itself against those to whom they ought to bow down in reverence.

BOOK OF THE WEEK.

"THE BROKEN HALO."*

The interest of this book is centred on the relations between Dick Cameron, an ambitious, clever young doctor, and his Little White Lady, an invalid, lavender-scented, dainty little old woman whom he attended professionally. Dr. Dick is genuinely attached to his patient. Her sweetness and fragility attract him greatly, and he who had had a loveless and lonely childhood found infinite content and rest first in her presence and afterwards in the share of her home that she on her part had gladly offered him. For her malady was that of distressing heart attacks, and Dr. Dick, fresh from modern medical schools, had instantly relieved her in one of her most acute spasms. The little old lady therefore, quite naturally, came to look upon him as an indispensable part of her household. But this story would not have been written if events had flowed on in the prosaic manner to which they had every right.

The dear old lady receives a letter from a kind friend which causes her much anxious thought, and Dr. Dick has to be told the opinion of another old friend "that no woman is ever beyond the reach of scandal." In our opinion three score years and ten should prove a great protection.

Dr. Dick is a queer mixture of attractiveness and qualities that repel. After a careful examination of the terms of the will from which his "Little White Lady" derives her substantial income, he proposes marriage to his benefactress. His knowledge that the heart specialist had given her but six months more to live makes his conduct even more base. "Now look here," he said. "I am tired of playing the non-residing physician-in-residence. I have had enough of being a sort of filial medical man, a little dearer than a doctor, a little less useful than a son." He bent his head, his eyes upon the hands he held. "I want you to marry me, Mrs. Heriot."

To do the little lady complete justice, her sole reason for acceding to this impertinence was that the money that she so earnestly desired to settle on the young man was tied in such a manner as to make this the only way possible.

*By Florence L. Barclay. G. P. Putnam's Sons, London and New York.

"They sat together as they had so often sat before in the quiet drawing-room, Dick and his Little White Lady. Outwardly there appeared to be no change in their relations. Yet that afternoon they had stood together in church. She had put her hand in his and heard him promise with a depth of fervent earnestness in his voice to love and cherish her 'till death us do part.'"

Death parts them quite soon, but Dick's better nature triumphs before that separation, and forces him to confess to her his sorry part. She tells him, "My own dear boy, I forgave you months ago."

"How could you forgive," he stammered, "when you did not know?"

"But I did know. I have known it all along. Why did I marry you? Because I completely forgave you. Because, knowing you so well, I saw how the temptation had arisen, and I believed in the good while realising the wrong. Because I loved you so truly that my one desire was to make things—even your mistake—work together for your eventual good."

This book will, no doubt, be in great demand by Mrs. Barclay's many admirers. She has engineered a difficult situation with skill, and leaves the reader with even a little sympathy to Dick's credit.

H. H.

COMING EVENTS.

October 25th.—Annual Dinner Poor Law Infirmary Matrons' Association. Miss Ina Stansfeld, Chief Nursing Inspector, Local Government Board, presiding. Hotel Cecil, 8 p.m.

October 25th.—Irish Nurses Association. Lecture. "Nursing in Canada," by Mrs. George Cran, F.R.H.S., 34, St. Stephen's Green, Dublin, 7.30 p.m.

October 28th to November 1st.—Cookery and Food Exhibition, Royal Horticultural Hall. Medals and Prizes for Nurses.

October 29th.—Nurses' Missionary League Lecture: "A Nurse and Missionary Service" (a) Preparation at Home; (b) Requirements in the Field, by Ernest F. Wills, Esq., M.B.C.M., Tsao Shih, Central China. Chairman, Howard Barrett, Esq., F.R.C.S. 33, Bedford Square, W.C. 10.30 to 11.30 a.m.

October 29th.—Royal Infirmary, Edinburgh. Lecture: "The Treatment of Fractures," by Prof. Alexis Thomson, F.R.C.S.E. Large Theatre, 4.30 p.m.

October 30th.—Territorial Force Nursing Service, City and County of London. Meeting of the Grand Committee. Mansion House, 4 p.m.

A WORD FOR THE WEEK.

Do your work. Think the good. And the evil, which is a negative condition, will be swallowed up by the good.

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