

woke. He looked so noble, so exultant, and I thought—I thought that it was because once more he had saved me, a second time had come just at the very moment in which my greatest need had come. And when I went to sleep I was so happy, so content. But this morning, *maman* dear, when Jeanne told me that he was gone, I knew the truth, that he did not care. I was no more to him than any other object of his charity."

She had just ceased speaking when Jeanne came in with a little basket, a message with it.

Monsieur Canière had been over to Quintan where he knew of a man who kept hot-houses, and had procured some grapes of which he begged Mademoiselle Génie's acceptance.

"He is so good, so very kind," said Génie languidly, and she sat up in bed and ate some of them with pleasure.

Madame Féraudy saw with a thrill of pain that Dr. André had been right. His abrupt departure had hurt Génie deeply. Her fancy, which had dwelt on

him of late, was chilled and thrown back. And she knew that she must not interfere, that she must let the girl turn with gentle gratitude to the love which lavished grapes and toys at her feet, and André in his letter had said, "Let it be so."

For two or three days Génie was obliged to remain in bed, but on the Sunday after her accident she was allowed to come down.

She felt very weak and shaky as she came out of her room and stood at the head of the staircase, but taking courage she was about to begin the descent when Monsieur Canière, who had evidently been waiting for her appearance, dashed up three steps at a time and offered her his arm.

Génie was very glad of the support, and touched by his air of devotion as he led her into the white *salon*, and arranged cushions for her on the sofa.

"Ah, mademoiselle," he exclaimed, "you do not know what we have been through, my mother and I! How we

have lived on messages and assurances that you were better. You look so pale, as if the suffering and shock to the nerves had been very great. We cannot bear to think of it."

Madame Féraudy came in, and Jean Canière took his leave lingeringly, assuring her that he would not fatigue her for the whole world.

When he was gone Génie said languidly, "How good-looking Monsieur Canière is, *maman*. I never remarked it before."

Madame Féraudy could not help it, she said abruptly—

"He is not to compare in looks with André, *mignonne*."

"Perhaps not," said Génie with irrepressible bitterness. "But Dr. André's face is fit for St. John or the Archangel Michael in a picture by Raphael, whereas, for every day use, less sublimity is better."

Then Madame Féraudy knew that the work was already half done.

(To be continued.)

OUR PUZZLE COMPETITION REPORT (MARCH).

PRIZE WINNERS.

One Guinea Each.

A. A. Campbell, 15, Cambridge Drive, Glasgow.

M. A. C. Crabb, Red Hill, Rickmansworth, Herts.

Half-a-Guinea Each.

E. C. Milne, 170, Oakley St., Chelsea, S.W. Constance Taylor, 6, Market Place, Peterboro'. Henry Wilkinson, 18, Airey Terrace, Gateshead.

Sophie Yeo, 17, Portland Square, Plymouth.

Seven Shillings Each (for ingenuity of design).

Gertrude A. Cashell, 35, Downs Road, Clapton.

Blanche Holmes, Malvern House, Acock's Green, near Birmingham.

Kate Seaman, 111, Saltram Crescent, Paddington.

Very Highly Commended.

C. Adams, W. J. Barrett, S. Bentley, F. W. Honnibal, Edith B. Jowett, Meta Kelway, Rev. H. McNaught, J. D. Musgrave, Mrs. Paulin, Margaret Robertson, Janet Scott, Lillian H. Sampson, V. M. Welman, M. Wilkins.

Highly Commended.

Eliza Acworth, L. B. Ashford, Sybil Atkinson, Edith K. Baxter, Annie Beddingfield, Dora N. Fertie, Ethel Biggs, W. M. Butcher, Annie J. Cather, C. A. Cooper, Rev. J. Corkey, Mrs. R. H. Field, Mrs. Grubbe, Robert H. Hamilton, Edith M. Harcourt, Edward St. G. Hodson, Catherine M. Kingwell, Daisy V. Kingwell, J. A. Kingwell, Nellie Knight, Edith E. Lane, Ruth Lawrence, Ethel Raffety, Hugh Reynolds, Alice Seaman, Amy Swinger, Ellen C. Tarrant, Mrs. A. Wallace, Lillias Walter, Connie Whitmore, Emily M. P. Wood.

Honourable Mention.

Alice Bart, Leonora Clark, May B. Clements, L. Clews, May Connell, Nina E. Coote,

Kate Daniels, Edith K. Ellis, Annie Fitt, Daisy M. Freeman, A. E. Goodwin, Edith L. Howse, Eveline Mahood, Maud Miller, B. Neve, Miss Oldfield, L. M. Todd, Frances Walpole, Agnes Whiphram, Edith M. Young.

EXAMINERS' REPORT.

WHEN we first saw the pile of puzzles we found no difficulty in controlling our delight. After a casual examination we had even less in expressing our despair. It was indeed a strong temptation to pick out all the good-looking ones, arrange them in order according to their beauty, and settle our award in that way.

But that stern sense of duty which never forsakes a puzzle editor—excepting when he runs away—forbade, and with many a sigh we began to solve. It was some comfort to find that, with the solution to help us, our task was less difficult than we had feared. We must humbly confess, however, that a few devices baffled us altogether. Our first impulse was to regard these with profound respect, but on reflection, this feeling was somewhat modified. "If you," said we to ourselves, "cannot solve one of these familiar puzzles with the help of the solution, either you must be seriously unwell or the puzzle must be too difficult to be of much service to mankind at large." We cheerfully accepted the latter alternative, marked the puzzles "t. d." and kept them out of the prize-bundle.

We are bound to say that, taking the puzzle as a whole, not much originality was displayed. Most of the work was a "colourable imitation" of our own. For instance, the second line usually ended with pictures of a *can*, a *knot*, and a *fly*. True, various kinds of cans were introduced; even the knot was not always obviously a knot, and the fly sometimes appeared as a blackbeetle, sometimes as a cab and once as a Lord Mayor's coach. But, however expressed, the idea was the same, and long before we had finished our work we were a little tired of it. It is one thing to perpetrate a crime oneself and quite another to tolerate it in anyone else.

Of the non-pictorial puzzles, the most irritating were those which substituted another letter for the right one. In this form a becomes b or y, or anything else you like. The result is a most bewildering conglomeration of letters. If you have sufficient time to study it you find a clue and the mystery vanishes. Is it unkind to say that we do not see where the ingenuity of the maker is to be found in such a puzzle?

The knight's move puzzle, of which we had three or four varieties, is pretty, but it is not new.

The simple fact is that new puzzle ideas are now very difficult to create and the old ones have been done to death. The hieroglyphic form is possibly the best of those extant, for it presents so much scope for freshness of treatment. But even it can be played out, as our readers will find one day.

FOREIGN AWARD.

ON CLOTHING.

PRIZE WINNERS (Seven Shillings Each).

Lillian Dobson, 18, Havlock St., St. Kilda,

Victoria, Aust.

Mrs. and Edith Hardy, Finch St., E. Malvern,

Victoria, Aust.

Elizabeth K. Peacock, 8, Lock St., Auburn,

Melbourne.

Very Highly Commended.

Annie Barron (Montreux), Winifred Bizzey (Canada), Annie I. Cameron (British Guiana), Mrs. Haybittel (Cape Colony), Annie Jackson (Canada), J. S. Summers (Bombay).

Highly Commended.

Mabel Ayliff (Cape Colony), Margaret L. Baller (China), Mrs. F. Christian (Bengal), Bertha Dyke (Buenos Aires), Fontilla Greaves (Barbados), Anna I. Hood (France), A. Horne (Wellington), Philippa M. Kemlo (Cape Colony), Mrs. E. R. Mannes (Bengal), Maud Caton Ogilvie (Deccan), Mrs. Sprigg (Cape Colony), Ada F. Sykes (Calcutta).