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## Periodicals.

In the Atlantic Monthly for July Mr. E. L. Godkin writes on "The Real Problems of Democracy" and gives his views of Democratic problems, tendencies, and dangers, and of course makes reference to Mr. Lecky's recent book. A review of the chapter in human progress and the changes of thought of the century is furnished by Mr. John Fiske in his paper entitled "A Century's Progress in Science." "Arbitration and Our Relations with England" sets forth the opinions of the Hon. E. J. Phelps formerly Minister to the Court of St. James's on the proper attitude of the two great Anglo-Saxon nations as he terms them, Great Britain and the United States, to one another. While the United States is so inefficiently governed—retrograding instead of advancing during the past twenty years and still on the downward grade. it is idle for Professor Geo. B. Adams to imagine that the United States can ever hold the position he points out in his article headed "The United States and the Anglo-Saxon Future." "Confessions of Public School Teachers," being a group of six letters, exhibit the deplorable condition of the public schools in the United States. How is it possible for good citizens to be made under such a state of affairs? The number also contains other good articles, besides the usual fiction, comments on new books, etc.

Those who believe that American writers and artists must go abroad for picturesque local colour will find their ideas upset by Julian Ralph's article on "Coney Island" in Scribner's Magazine for July. Mr. Ralph has always had his eyes open to what is unusual in his native city and its surroundings. Coney Island is unique and peculiarly a New York product. Mr. Ralph calls it "our sun-bath and ice-box combined, our extra lung, our private, gigantic fan." He sketches its development from the early seventies down to the present. Although a resort which eight million people have visited in one year, it certainly cannot be claimed to be an evidence of a high state of civilization. There have been many articles written on the climbing of single peaks, but Sir William Martin Conway has written an article of unusual adventure entitled "A Thousand Miles Through the Alps." For twenty-five years he has been an enthusiastic mountaineer, and in this article he outlines a route taking in the whole range of the Alps, the descent from each peak ending at the starting-point of the next. This is usually complicated because the Alps are not a range, but a series of parallel ridges. The account of the trip which carried out this plan is illustrated with some new and striking illustrations by Edwin Lord Weeks, who is himself a noted mountain climber. Most of his drawings are from nature. It is a novel form of adventure, even for veteran mountaineers. Turner, the English artist, had a great objection to having his portrait painted, and although much interested in photography in the last years of his life was never photographed himself. For a good many years Cosmo Monkhouse has made a study of the existing portraits of Turner and presents a short essay on them in this issue, with engraved reproductions of eleven authentic pictures; the earliest showing Turner at the age of sixteen, the latest a few months before his death. Mme. Blanc, the French critic, whose articles have long been published under the name Th. Bentzon, contributes a paper on "A French Friend of Browning—Joseph Millsand." The well-known animal painter, J. Carter Pearl, contributes a short paper entitled "A New Art," in which he advances the claim of taxidermy as practised by W. T. Hornaday to be considered an art. In fiction this number is made notable by one of the last short stories of the late H. H. Boyesen, entitled "In Collusion with Fate." There is also a short story of the American Revolution by Clinton Ross, entitled "The Confession of Colonel Sylvester." T. R. Sullivan, the author of "Day and Night Stories," contributes a tale of an old French sculptor and his young friend, an American artist.

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