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Periodicals.

The Quiver for July contains "At Home with the Spurgeon Orphans," by V. J. Charlesworth; "On Being Children," by the Bishop of Derry; "A Lost Ideal, and How to Find It," by the Rev. W. S. Dawson; "The Right of the Strong," by C. E. C. Weigall; "The Career of Solomon," by the Dean of Canterbury, besides other good papers, and further instalments of the serial stories, "An Unprotected Female," and "Closely Veiled."

A clever criticism of Admiral Fournier's pamphlet (which sets forth a plan of reconstruction for the French Navy and describes an hypothetical conflict between the English and the suggested new French Navies), under the caption of "A Naval Utopia," is the article with which the June Blackwood opens. Next comes a review of Mr. Purcell's Life of Cardinal Manning, followed by "Some Episodes in a Long Life," by F. M. F. Skene; a further instalment of "An Uncrowned King;" "The Novels of John Galt;" "My Friends who Cycle;" "Captain Francis Lawton;" "The Looker-on," and "The New Obstruction a Serious Danger."

There is a wealth of able essays in The Contemporary Review for June, but the last paper in the issue is of the most interest to Canadian readers. The paper to which we refer is entitled "Our Telegraphic Isolation," by Mr. Percy A. Hard, who points out that the Pacific Cable Conference which Mr. Chamberlain has summoned to assemble in London, may be regarded as the first step towards meeting one of the most pressing needs of the British Empire—viz., a system of telegraphic communication completely under British control. The important subject is most ably handled by Mr. Hard; and after giving credit to Mr. Sandford Fleming, "the cable reformer of modern times," for his splendid ideal, he winds up his most comprehensive essay with the following notable remarks: "Whether the new lines be state lines or company lines the need for them is imperative. Our commerce requires them. Our safety as an empire depends upon them. Our Colonies stand ready with a liberal share of the cost, and a guiding hand is alone needed to take up the question in the spirit of statesmanship. Is it to be the hand of Mr. Chamberlain?" Among other articles in the issue are: "The Policy of the Education Bill," by Dr. Fairbairn; "The Late Marquis of Bath," by Canon MacColl; "Champagne," Dr. George Harley; and "The Highlands of Natal," by Emile McMaster.

To Canadian readers the article "America as a Power," by Mr. Alexander MacLure in The Nineteenth Century for June will be perused with interest. As Mr. MacLure truly points out, the fighting power of the United States is constantly overrated, and her fleet is insignificant—hardly equal to a sixth of that of Great Britain, and ranking as only eighth among those of the world at large. Of her carrying trade she has nothing left, and fifty per cent of her exports go to England. It is the fashion to describe the United States as being possessed of immense wealth, and great stress is laid on the supposed energy of her people, but we in Canada know how fallacious these ideas are. Another paper of interest to Canadians is Mr. B. M. Godsall's "Round Pegs in Square Holes," in which the career of the young gentleman who emigrates to Western America with the idea of making a fortune by "taking up land" or "ranching" is portrayed, but however true Mr. Godsall's remarks may be, so far as the Western States are concerned, we believe they do not, in the main, confirm the experiences of many Englishmen located in the Canadian North-West. "The True Motive and Reason of Dr. Jameson's Raid," the opening paper, is, we venture to think, the most important that appears in any of the June magazines, and the writer, Mr. Seymour Fort, who was private secretary to Lord Loch at Cape Town, has handled the difficult subject most ably. A paper by Colonel Adye shows that the British army has not expanded like the British Empire, and in the last paper Mr. Gladstone endeavours to establish that the position of Sheridan in politics was not a great one.

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