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Periodicals.

The Review of Reviews for August, while largely given over to the issues of the Presidential campaign, finds space for the treatment of other important topics. Besides the character sketch of Mr. Bryan, the Democratic candidate for the Presidency, the Review has illustrated articles on Harriet Beecher Stowe and Dr. Barnardo, the father of "Nobody's Children." There is the usual elaborate *resume* of the current magazines; and the departments of "The Progress of the World," "Record of Current Events," and "Current History in Caricature" answer the typical American demand for what is up to date.

In The Canadian Magazine for August, Miss Constance Rudyard Boulton concludes her very interesting and well written account of her bicycle tour in Italy entitled "A Canadian Bicycle in Europe." Other papers in the number are: "The Flower Child," by W. E. Hunt (Keppell Strange); a story by Isabel A. Steacy, called "Editha"; "The Eagle and Child," by Thomas Swift, which is also a story, and very well told it is. Besides these there are a number of other essays and poems, all pleasant reading. The verses, "O Clearest Pool," by Charles G. D. Roberts, and "The Mermaid's Pool, An Idyll from the Dust," by Lee Wyndham, both appeal to us as good work.

The June number of The Educational Review commences with an article entitled "The Work of the London School Board," by T. J. Macnamara. Among other papers it contains are: "College Organization and Government," by Charles F. Thwing; "Possible Improvement of Rural Schools" by James H. Blodgett; "Evolutionary Psychology and Education," by Hiram M. Stanley; "College Entrance Requirements in Science," by Ralph S. Tarr; and "Horace Mann," by Francis W. Parker. In the editorial remarks we are glad to read that "... those who have used the public schools to pay political debts and to provide places for unworthy favourites are just beginning to learn that the honest and fearless administration of the beneficial law (of 1895) will put an end to the *spoils system* in the public schools of the Empire state." It is to be hoped that similar action in all the other States will speedily follow. This vicious system has been a blight on educational advancement in the United States for many years.

The midsummer holiday season is fully observed in the August St. Nicholas "An August Outing" is a full-page picture drawn by M. O. Kobbe, and I. W. Taber sets forth the Minuet at "The Grasshoppers' Ball." "The Little Duchess and the Lion-Tamer" is a Russian story by Fanny Locke Mackenzie, telling how a quick-witted child saved the Czar from assassination. Ernest Ingersoll, in "The Tricks of Torpedo-Boats," describes the night practice of these dangerous little craft when they are manoeuvred against the great battle ships. Harry M. Lay shows the possibilities of "A Sand-Pile" in the way of furnishing subjects for realistic photographs. He had a pile of sand in the yard of his city home and with the aid of toy soldiers, horses, and cannon, made the most surprising battle-scenes. Two papers are full of reminiscences of Eugene Field. They are written by Mary J. Reid, and Henrietta Lexter Field, and Martha Nelson Yenowine. Mrs. Elizabeth Robins Pennell, in "The Palio at Siena," tells of the annual horse race between the different quarters of that quaint old Italian city. The illustrations to the article are by Joseph Pennell. In "The Swordmaker's Son," the serial by William O. Stoddard, the hero starts on his travels and a glimpse is given of imperial Rome. "Sinbad, Smith & Co.," the queer people of Albert Stearns' serial, admit a new partner to their firm. "A Bunny Romance," a poem written and illustrated by Oliver Herford, tells how the rabbits competed for a prize bestowed upon the one who showed the greatest timidity. "A Fool's Wit," is a ballad of the olden time by Zitella Cocke, with illustrations by Reginald Birch. There are a group of poems by Margaret Frances Mauro, remarkable in view of the fact that the author was only twelve years of age when they were written.

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