

*Conduct of the Allies*, brought about the peace of Utrecht. In the colonial struggle with Great Britain, and in the War of Independence, it had a high part to play; and the pamphlet played it well, as our historical archives show. But the pamphlet disappeared when the daily press in its well-studied "leaders" began to discuss public matters. At length, however, the reading public demanded more thorough and lengthened treatment of public questions than the dailies could give; nor could they wait till the quarterly put in an appearance three months later. Accordingly the monthly comes to the fore and takes up such matters in well-considered, condensed, effective form. Besides, they blend with the weightier matters of the law an element of lighter nature—literature in some form—a story, a short poem, a criticism, a descriptive article. This is but the condiment for the "meat" of the weightier discussion. But a good sauce is no unimportant thing, outside the *cuisine*. The inventor of a good literary sauce deserves well of his country. In this position, and in this manner, we find the monthly discussing social, philosophical, political, moral and religious questions. The old predominance of literary articles is gone. The age is deeply interested in such questions as we have specified above. Our periodical literature is making, I think, a worthy response to this demand. It will illustrate precisely what is meant if I transcribe the table of contents of the *Contemporary Review* for January, 1890. The number is taken at random—the first that came to hand. Authors are not given, as this is not essential to the illustration.

1. Two New Utopias.
2. Mr. Wilkie Collins' Novels.
3. Brotherhoods.
4. The Latest Theories on the Origin of the English.
5. The Unfaithful Steward.
6. Profit-Sharing.
7. The Home-Rule Movement in India and in Ireland.
8. A Lumber Room.
9. Brazil, Past and Future.
10. Running for Records.
11. What Stanley has done for the Map of Africa.
12. Robert Browning.

Without going into any very close analysis of the contents of these articles, it will suffice to say that of the twelve, one-fourth would be of direct use to any clergyman and one-half, of direct or indirect service to him in his calling. No intelligent reader of our periodical literature but must have been struck by the large amount of space they give to the discussion of what are called the "live" questions of the day. The *Century Magazine*, in its projected series on social questions, of which Mr. Dike's admirable article on the Family is the