

romance 'to be continued.' In one of these, perused by the editor in a moment of weakness, the hustling hero uniformly dies a violent death in each chapter, or rather uniformly refuses to die, for, shot in the first,—oh, joy! he reappears in the second only to be drowned? is rescued miraculously for the third chapter, only to walk over a precipice one hundred feet high, to be pieced together when the denouement is due, which is of course a happy, happy marriage with a harmless chocolate fiend.—The vast amount of space given over to election rubbish is also regrettable. Surely half of it might well be dispensed with, but here the question will naturally arise,—Which half?—Reading maketh a full man, but often full of cynicism and flippancy of mind, for, 'all looks yellow to the eye jaundiced by improper reading.'

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#### TAKE NOTES.

Two friends of Gladstone, admirers of his versatility and intellectual acquisitiveness, plotted to find a topic on which even the giant would be uninformed. To have him at sea for once, the subject chosen was "Chinese chess," the intricate features of which fantastic game they mastered from a lengthy magazine article. At the next meeting with the Premier the conversation was deftly turned to games, to chess, and finally to that peculiar kind known as "Chinese." Fully prepared to enjoy the Grand Old Man's discomfiture there were electrified to hear him break in with the words "Gentlemen, I have just written a magazine article on the subject." 'Twas the very one our two plotters had exploited. Gladstone scored.—His versatility and great mental store were with all due credit to his genius, the result of method. He was a systematic note taker. The books in his library were amplified by myriad marginal annotations and he was an omnivorous reader in his spare moments. The student to be an all round scholar must read and take notes. When reading a book *if it be your own* make analytical observations, deductions, considerations on the folio if you will, or better as is practiced by a systematic reader of our acquaintance on fly sheets inserted at the back. A volume might well be written on the value of these, and of references, and clippings, it may be a chance bright, elusive