

To convey such thought, magazines have been multiplied, but they have deteriorated in literary worth. The increase of printing presses with its attendant blessings has placed the bound volume within reach of the reading public, and made it possible for one to crystalize his thought in a form at once popular and permanent. With this increased facility for reaching the reading public, the book has invaded the field of the Magazine, despoiled it of many of its richest gems, and robbed it of its noblest functions. No longer do the productions of great essayists enrich the ordinary magazine. Occasionally only does a Gladstone or a Dawson use its pages except to confront with sledge-hammer blows those blindly striving to undermine the holy truths of Revelation. The *teaching*, rather than the *combative*, efforts of such men never appear in the magazine.

It may be argued that such work never was the true function of the Magazine, but was accepted by it until the advance in Science and Art, and the cultivation of public taste rendered the venture upon the sea of publication no longer abortive. We cannot yield this ground, but hold that the book has trespassed unwarrantably upon the field of the magazine. With its previous history, the magazine cannot afford to move on a lower plane at present. With the development of the human faculties, and with the attendant advance in all lines of activity, it is inconsistent to permit a deterioration in this vital division of our literature.

But while the magazine has lost on this field it has gained on others. Recent investigation has opened new lines along which this literature moves, and has developed a new style of criticism. In the Magazine, philosophers and scientists now meet in combat, friendly or hostile, over theories labouriously propounded.

This same activity in the various departments of knowledge has produced the age of specialism. No one scholar can now attain to eminence in many departments of the greatly extended circle of thought and life, and from the attendant exigencies has arisen the specialist. But the foremost thinkers now call a halt in the rage of specialism. The Magazine has become the voice of the specialist, and it may with a degree of potency be urged that this is its true function. At least, this is the only field which it now effectually covers. The modern Magazine impels the conclusion that its readers seek no longer therein

polished and masterly productions probing the very depths of thought-inspiring and life-giving subjects. They tolerate not an article of greater length or more polished rhetoric than that of the first-class newspaper of fifteen years ago. A general subject thoroughly analyzed and developed and suggestive of new lines of thought has lost its hold upon the reading public of general intelligence. Is it the tendency to gossip and foible in the masses that has influenced the intellectual centres? Or is it the sentiment so plainly exhibited by leaders in thought that has so moulded the masses that they discard the thoughtful educative essay occasionally appearing in the newspapers? It is the admiration with which the educated bow before the thought of one so biased by specialism that he can see the world with all its attendant phases of activity only through the one small window, where the light of his specialism is focussed with its rays obscured by the evil hung by his advocacy before his admiring eye, that to-day demands the twenty minute sermonette rather than the thoughtfully developed sermon with perchance tenfold its educative value?

Specialism has produced the combative literature of the day. A careful examination reveals, that by far the largest proportion of the Magazine is devoted to the conflict between Science and Religion. Nor is this surprising. The great commotion which stirred both scientific and religious worlds, when that brilliant luminary, Charles Darwin, shed rays of effulgent light upon the domain of science is known to every student. The religious world accepted the challenge, and from that day the Magazine has been the battlefield of Scientist and Theologian, while investigation and discovery but proclaim the immutability of the everlasting Truth of Revelation; and the Magazine is now used as a means by which these two mighty currents, having apparently different sources and flowing in converging channels, are at length to join hands in upholding the grandest of causes, Truth.

Political and social questions are freely and forcibly discussed in the Magazine thus made the battlefield of *politicians*, while the political newspaper is left to the political *trickster* and *crank*.

Not content with these new fields, the Magazine has invaded and despoiled the newspaper of its richest gems. Subjects of life and general activity have given place to sporting news, and matter akin. Thus the newspaper has been robbed of its motive power as an