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## Contents.

EDITORIAL.	STORY PAGE.
Paragraphs, . . . . . 1	A Story of St. John. Other
N. B. Convention, . . . . . 2	Short Stories, . . . . . 6
Now is the Time, . . . . . 4	THE YOUNG PEOPLE.
Up to Jerusalem, . . . . . 4	The C. C. Work. Award
Notes, . . . . . 4	of Banners, etc., . . . . . 7
CONTRIBUTED.	FOREIGN MISSION.
Baptist Convention in B. C.,	W. B. M. L., . . . . . 8
(J. L. B.), . . . . . 2	F. M. Board, Notes by the
Letter from Mr. Morrow,	Secretary, . . . . . 8
Sights and Sounds, (L.	THE ROSE, . . . . . 10
D. M.), . . . . . 8	THE SUNDAY SCHOOL.
New England Notes, (J.	Lesson 2—Acts 22: 17-30, 11
V. O.), . . . . . 8	From the Churches, . . . . . 12
Adult Leaves, . . . . . 5	Marriages and Deaths, 15
Origin of B. Y. P. U., . . . . . 5	The Faith, . . . . . 15
Constitution of Annully	Quarterly Meeting, . . . . . 9
Society, . . . . . 9	News Summary, 14 and 16

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**Lyach Law in the United States.** It is certainly natural under the circumstances that the better class of United States newspapers should be expressing strong indignation at the increasing prevalence of lynching in many parts of that country. The issue of the civil war was to confer ostensibly the rights of citizenship upon the negroes. But whatever rights the African race in Southern States may now possess, it seems evident that the right of men accused of serious crimes to a fair trial before an impartial tribunal is no part of their heritage. For many years past the lynching of negroes has been shamefully frequent, and these crimes against justice appear to be multiplying year by year. But matters have come to such a pass that it is no longer only in case of heinous crimes, such as murder or offences against women, that suspected men become victims of the lynching mania, but in some parts of the country it is sufficient that a negro be suspected of theft to put him in danger of being hanged to the nearest tree by a blood-thirsty mob. And white men also, as well as negroes, are being lynched. A week or two ago, at Versailles, Ind., five men, who had been apprehended on a charge of stealing, were taken by a mob from the jail and hanged. A great stir is being made about the matter, but it is doubtful whether any of the murderous crew will ever be brought to account. It is hard, indeed, to tell where this growing disregard of justice and of life will end. A colored man was shot in a Georgia town the other day because he had ventured to accept an appointment as postmaster. Two of the leading citizens of the place, it is said, have now been charged with this crime. Later still, in the State of Arkansas, the body of a negro school-teacher of intelligence and good character, named Watson, was found hanged to a tree. A placard attached to the body advertised the crime as "a warning to nigger school-teachers." The man's only offence appears to have been that he was working for the elevation of his own race.

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**"Sec. 22" Interpreted.** The interpretation of the widely advertised section 22 of the Dingley Tariff Bill, by Attorney-General McKenna, has been received with a great deal of interest. It appears also to have been received with pretty general satisfaction, especially on this side the national boundary. The decision of Mr. McKenna is to the effect that the discriminating duty of ten per cent. mentioned in the section is not chargeable against goods, the products of other countries, imported into the United States in bond by way of Canada or Mexico. There appears, however, to be no doubt that such was the intention in the mind of the framer of this remarkable section, the author of which is now known, by his own avowal, to be Senator Elkin, of Western Virginia. Very few members of Congress seem to have known of the existence of the section. It was incorporated in the bill while it was in the hands of a committee

of conference of the House and Senate, and was not discussed by either branch of Congress. Speaker Reed's explanation of its presence in the bill is that it was "slipped in," and it seems evident that it was a very slippery piece of business, contrived largely in the interest of the United States trans-continental railway lines. The Attorney-General's interpretation is political rather than critical. It is based not upon the literal construction of the clause, but rather on the intention of Congress in the matter. Very forcibly, if not conclusively, he argues that Congress did not intend to impose a discriminating in the case above mentioned. The interpretation given by the Attorney-General has not the effect of a legal decision, but it will govern the action of the customs authorities until a contrary decision be given by the courts, or until Congress shall affirm unmistakably its intention to endorse Senator Elkin's scheme of discrimination.

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**Peace Announced.** After many weeks of labor and a liberal expenditure of persuasion and threat, the representatives at Constantinople of the chief European powers have at length succeeded in inducing the Sultan to attach his signature to the document which gives the official guarantee of peace between Greece and Turkey. What the terms involve is not made clear by the despatches so far received. It is stated that the frontier which the treaty of peace establishes gives to Turkey the village of Kontzofiani, from which the raid of the Greek National Brotherhood into Macedonia was made, which was the immediate cause of the war, and that it also gives to Turkey a number of other places where hostilities occurred at the beginning of the war. Of course it is understood that Thessaly will, with these exceptions, be vacated by the Turks, but whether or not this is the intention of the Sultan and his government remains to be seen. What is to be done with and for Crete is also a question which seems likely to afford ground for prolonged discussion between the Powers and the Sultan, and perhaps also a pretext for the latter's continued occupation of Thessaly.

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**Andree.** When, some two or three months ago, it was announced that Dr. Andree and two companions had set out from a Spitzbergen island in a balloon with the purpose of exploring the extreme polar regions, there were few who were able to regard the expedition as other than a fool-hardy enterprise, though there were some sanguine individuals who professed to believe it not improbable that the bold explorers' expectation of drifting with air currents across the polar regions and back into the habitable parts of the earth was not unreasonable. It can scarcely be said that any authentic tidings have been received from the Andree party. Stories have found their way into the newspapers of carrier pigeons being picked up at different points bearing despatches which were supposed to have been sent forth by Andree, but not much confidence probably can be placed in such rumors. What appears to be a better attested and more significant report is to the effect that, on September 14, there was seen by the inhabitants of a village in Arctic Russia a balloon supposed to be that of Prof. Andree. If there is any truth in the story, it would seem probable that the balloon seen was that of the Swedish aeronaut, and in that case, it may be that we shall hear more of the explorers, but probably there are not any insurance companies at this date desirous of taking risks upon their lives.

**Royal Residence in Ireland.** The reception accorded to the Duke and Duchess of York by the Irish people, on the occasion of the recent visit of their Highnesses to the Emerald Isle, was so kindly and even enthusiastic that it is proposed to establish a Royal residence in Ireland. Mr. Michael Davitt is understood to advise against such a step, saying that English Royalty is mistaking hospitality for loyalty. But Irish politicians are, as a rule, probably not anxious to have Irish loyalty cultivated. As to the value of a Royal residence in Ireland, that would doubtless depend greatly upon the character and conduct of the Prince who should be the representative of loyalty in Ireland. If his presence in the country simply meant an opportunity for the people to pay homage to the representative of royal authority, it would mean little for the good of the country or the unifying of the kingdom. But if this prince were there as a student of the country and its needs, if he were there to show himself a friend to the people and one deeply interested in their welfare, a Royal residence in Ireland might become a most potent factor for the betterment of Ireland and for attaching the hearts of the people more strongly to the Sovereign.

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**British Investors and Canada.** It is evident that Canada is at present occupying a much larger place in the eyes of the British public than it has done heretofore. Several causes have contributed to this. The preferential trade clause of the tariff bill passed at the last session of the Dominion Parliament and the denunciation by the British Government of the interfering treaties with Germany, Belgium and other countries are in themselves matters which have served to call attention strongly to this country. The presence in England and personal popularity of Canada's Premier, the part taken by Canada in the celebration of the Queen's Jubilee, the hearty expression of loyalty to the Crown and the Empire and the impulse given to the idea of Imperial Federation have touched the British imagination and stirred the British pulse toward this the oldest and the greatest of the colonies. Then, coincident with the Jubilee celebration, came the report of fabulous wealth in gold discovered in Canada's far Northwest. This, too, has touched the British imagination in another way. The surplus capital of the mother country is seeking investment in Canada as never before and, from present appearances, if the resources of the country are not developed it will not be that capital for such undertakings as give promise of reasonable returns is not available. The danger would rather appear to be that the British public is becoming too credulous and that many investors will be led by stories of immense undeveloped wealth in the Klondike or elsewhere to put their means into enterprises which will be without substantial result except to the initiators of them. It is stated that within a few weeks nearly a score of companies were floated in the city of London with subscribed capitals ranging from £100 to half a million for exploration and exploitation in the Klondike region, and the prospect is that the number of such companies will be largely increased. It will not be surprising if the experience of a good many of the persons led to invest funds in these enterprises shall be one that will make them cautious of Canadian investments.