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**The Premier Returned.** Sir Wilfrid Laurier has returned to Canada, and has, of course, received a very cordial welcome in the places which he has visited. This welcome is one in which doubtless the people of Canada in general, without regard to provincial or political lines, would desire to participate, for though there are many whose political creed is quite at variance with the premier's, there are comparatively few who do not respond to the charm of his personality, admire his easy and graceful eloquence and respect the purity of his personal character. Probably no public man has arisen in the history of Canada for whom personally the people as a whole have a more kindly feeling. In connection with the report of an interview with the premier, a Montreal newspaper publishes some of Sir Wilfrid's impressions of the Jubilee celebration. He describes it as a sight never to be forgotten, a marvellous revelation of the magnificence of the British Empire and a striking tribute to the personal popularity of Her Majesty, Queen Victoria. "Throughout it was," said Sir Wilfrid, "a wonderful sight, but I think the most impressive portion of it was the service at St. Paul's. I think it was at once an index to the English character and a credit to the English nation that the consummating ceremony of that day should have been a public thanksgiving to Almighty God for the prosperity of the empire. It was truly a great spectacle to see Queen Victoria, dignitaries of state, representatives of the army and navy, and the great men of the nation, all there under the canopy of heaven in the face of that grand cathedral offering their thanks to the Creator for His mercies. The naval review was a spectacle of an altogether different character, and yet it was also most impressive to see the strength of the greatest navy in the world displayed, from the biggest man-of-war to the tiniest torpedo boat. It was a sight never to be forgotten, and made one feel that if there is any one thing more than another that exhibits the strength of the British empire it is a marine display with all the sea forces exhibited in this manner."

**Kindly Sentiments.** At the banquet given in Toronto to the British Association for the Advancement of Science Hon. Jas. Bryce, M. P., was one of the speakers. Mr. Bryce is a member of the British House of Commons, but is better known as a scholar and particularly as the author of two historical works, *The Holy Roman Empire* and *The American Commonwealth*. In proposing the health of the Governor-General and considering the relations of the colony to the mother country indicated in the office of a Governor-General filled by Imperial appointment, Mr. Bryce was naturally led to make some remarks in reference to the Jubilee celebration and the significance of that event. There were two things he said which marked that celebration. One was the feeling of personal veneration and affection for the sovereign who has stood among us as a pattern of constitutional duty and womanly char-

acter for sixty years. The other was the passionate interest our people from the highest to the lowest displayed in the presence of friends and brethren from the colonies. That beyond anything else, except the feeling of affection for the sovereign, was the note of our Jubilee celebration. In Britain's interest and pride in her colonies there was not, however, anything aggressive or defiant. "We were proud of Canada, of Australia and the Cape. We were proud of Canada perhaps above all, as the greatest of our self-governing colonies; but we were proud, not in respect of the military strength which we conceive our vast dominions would add to our empire, we were proud of Canada, I believe, for higher reasons. We were proud of your splendid territory which stretches from ocean to ocean, and brave men and fair women that people that territory. We were proud of the wealth you possess and of the progress you have made. We were proud of the affection which we believe you bear to us, as we bear it to you. We were proud that you have maintained in this country the best traditions of British constitutional life; that you have preserved the purity of your government; that the reputation of your judiciary is untarnished, and that everywhere a respect for law and order is exhibited." In these feelings, said Mr. Bryce, there was no hostility, no defiance, and least of all to the people of the United States in regard to whom there was only one feeling in Britain—a feeling of friendship and a hope that that friendship may always continue, not only between Great Britain and the United States, but also between the United States and Canada, as being communities whose truest and best interests are indissolubly interwoven with each other. Prof. McGee, of Washington, in seconding the toast to His Excellency, spoke of the friendly feeling which existed not only between British and American Associations of Science, but between the British and American peoples. He wished to express the conviction that the warmest possible feelings existed between the two nations, and also that sixty-nine out of the seventy millions of the inhabitants of the United States rejoiced fully in the recent celebrations of the completion of the sixtieth year of Her Majesty's reign. There were certain barriers that at present existed between the United States and Canada. There was the imaginary geographical line drawn across the continent, there were dissenting political platforms—(laughter)—there was a certain Dingley bill. (Renewed laughter.) But these things were mere trifles, and the great fact still remained that their fathers were our fathers, they were blood of our blood, bone of our bone, one in language, worshipping at the same altars, and in every particular the same, merely different branches of one great family.

**In the Klondike.** The excitement in regard to Upper Yukon gold fields has not suffered much abatement. What may very properly be described as the mad rush of fortune hunters to the Klondike country continues, and according to reports which come apparently from trustworthy sources the influx of people far exceeds the available food supply and as a consequence great suffering and loss of life during the winter seem inevitable. H. N. Stanley, a newspaper correspondent who has just returned to Seattle by the steamer Portland, after spending some seven weeks at St. Michael's at the mouth of the Yukon, gives information which makes the prospect a gloomy one indeed for the thousands of men who have rushed into the newly discovered gold fields. Mr. Stanley says that the average man requires about one ton of carefully

selected food and clothing for a year's supply. He estimates that there are some 6,000 or 7,000 men in the gold fields, who will be cut off from all outside sources of supply for a winter of nine months duration, with less than 3,000 tons of food to live on. The extreme cold makes warm shelter as well as abundant food a necessity, and it is said that the great number of new comers will find it impossible to secure comfortable quarters before the winter shall be upon them. Mr. Stanley asks that in the name of humanity this mad rush of people to the gold fields at the present time be stopped, and says that no man should be allowed to go into the country who does not take with him a supply of food sufficient for his needs until the re-opening of navigation. From all accounts it would appear that a very large number of persons who have set out for the Klondike country will be unable to reach it this year. Not a few, it is possible, will lose their lives in attempting the overland route, while others will turn back discouraged. A large number, it is said, will find themselves stranded at St. Michael's unable to make the voyage of 2,000 miles up the Yukon before the close of navigation, and with the alternative of spending the winter in idleness at St. Michael's or returning whence they came.

**Trouble in India.** The news from India of late has been of a character to create a good deal of uneasiness. The trouble is principally in the northwest, and in connection with certain trans-Indus border tribes who have been in friendly relations with the British Government but have now become actively hostile. These people are called by the general name of Pathans, and are divided into several tribes of whom the Afridis appear to be most active in their opposition to British authority. These tribes inhabit a mountainous and—to Europeans—extremely unhealthy country. They are represented as being a hardy and warlike people and many of them are armed with rifles of a modern pattern. Several forts held by the Indian Government have already fallen into their hands, and their subjugation will necessarily involve no little expense and difficulty. This task, however, appears to be recognized by the British Government as a necessary one. The Ameer of Afghanistan has declared that he has done nothing to promote the hostility of the Panthan tribes, and his generally favorable attitude towards British interests dispose the Government to accept his statements. It is quite possible, however, that the hand of the Sultan is making itself felt on the borders of India. The success of the Turkish arms against Greece have no doubt become known, and their importance magnified among the Mohammedans of Asia, and it is not improbable that the Sultan is now stirring up the Mohammedan population of India against the British Government out of revenge for Great Britain's action in blocking the schemes of Turkish ambition in reference to Thessaly and Crete, and perhaps with the expectation that by diverting the attention of the British Government to troubles in India, his own schemes may more effectively be carried out in Europe. Whatever may be back of this revolt of the trans-Indus tribes, it seems altogether probable that it will involve an expensive war.

—The Constantinople correspondent of the London Standard says he has been informed that the Sultan has been in direct communication with the Russian Czar, with the result that arrangements have been made whereby the Sultan agrees never to use his influence against Russia in Central Asia, and the Czar pledges himself to uphold Turkish rights in Europe.