

THE BEACON.

From dusk to dawn a golden star, Hung steadfast between sky and award, Seat forth across the mounting bar, The smiting of its two-edged sword.

A Duel in the Gold-Fields.

They had been friends all their lives. There had been, in their native village, two vine-covered cottages side by side, and all one summer on the veranda of one or the other of these little homes two young women had sat sewing through the long afternoon on faintly white garments, setting each stitch with a prayer and weaving with the flying needle more precious things than cross-stitch and feather-edge, as they talked of their babies' future, as loving women will, and planned great things for the coming ones to accomplish.

sparkling snow. On left and right were stretches timbered with the sturdy pines that straggled like an army over plain and hill, and sent a vanguard up the mountain from whose farther timber line it seemed to signal to the troops below. In front lay the river coiling like a twist of silver braid, and farther on the everlasting hills rose, height on height, to pierce the perfect azure of the sky.

NEW TRAILAGE'S SUNDAY SERMON. A GOSPEL MESSAGE. Subject: "Our Own Times"—How We Can Serve Our Generation—Our Responsibilities Chiefly With the People Now Afloat of Us—Help Your Neighbors.

Let us take another look around and see how we may serve our generation. Let us see, as far as possible, that they have enough to wear. God looks upon the human race, and knows just how many inhabitants the world has. The statistics of population are not taken into account in civilized lands, and every year officers of the government go through the land and count how many people there are in the United States or other parts of the present sphere.

KEYSTONE STATE NEWS CONDENSED. A DISTRACTED MOTHER. William Linehart, of Coudersport, was straggling along Kettle Creek, near Cross Forks, one day last week, when he discovered a boy's clothes on the bank. He pulled a "dug raft" and rowed out into deep water, where he discovered the body of 7-year-old Henry Ritchie, the son of a neighbor, lying at the bottom.

THE SABBATH-SCHOOL LESSON. INTERNATIONAL LESSON COMMENTS FOR SEPTEMBER 18. Lesson Text: "Captivity of the Ten Tribes." II Kings xvii, 9-18—Golden Text: I Chronicles xxviii, 9—Commentary on the Lesson by the Rev. D. M. Sterns.