# The Oregonian

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PORTLAND, THURSDAY, SEPT. 3, 1908

JUST LOOK IT IN THE FACE.

Mr. Henry Watterson, directing from the luxurious rooms of the Manhattan Club at New York, his brilliant and excellent newspaper at Louisville, urges the election of Bryan as a means of bringing the country back to Jeffersonian simplicity and to the frugal life of the early times. Far and away have we parted, he truly says, from the modes and manners and humble desires of the early days of the Republic, which made simplicity virtue 'Artificial conditions of life predominate. Young men are reared to regard enthusiasm as effeminate. Young vomen are almost as educated in a knowledge of evil as young men. The sex line becomes less and less visible, Moral confusion makes political obliquity. Caste distinctions press upon the commonalty more and more, and harder and harder. The foolish poor either hate or emulate the foolish rich." And much more.

There is truth here; and it doesn't lie at the bottom of a well. For it is an old truth, long ago known in other lands; but not less valuable on that count. But we cannot learn that Cato's even more lofty declamation against the increase of wealth and corruption of manners, witnessed in his day, arrested the tendency or mended the times; or that Sallust's striking protest against the evils of luxury and the decay of morals and the growing greed of gain, written on a golder table, within his own splendid gardens on the Quirinalis, just as Mr. Watterson now writes amid the supellectile splendors of the Manhattan Club (hic undique gaza), had effect of staying in the least, the course or progress of

change. Nor was Jeffersonian simplicity so remarkable. The country lived a simple life, but Jefferson didn't. It was a luxurious life he lived, continually above his means, though he was in office with big salaries (for those times) during all his active life. He kept a good table and a cellar plentifully stocked with wines, and had slaves to walt on him. But he was a demagogue, and he pretended simplicity. People were not as well informed those days as they are now. Hence the proverb, "Jeffersonian simplicity." As we read in the "Merchant of Venice," "The world is still deceived with ornament." Greatest, or chiefest, of the deceivers of the American people was Thomas Jefferson. His political But his practice of aristocratic and is undergoing transformation of a nahuman society to yield to the shock of | tial Empire is simply taking on the arms. Luxurious and prodigal living outward appearance of Europe with bankrupted him, and to save his posgave it, but had value as a rare collection of the material of early history of phrase, "Jeffersonian simplicity," has borrowed from our own armories. no relation or proportion to the real simplicity of early life among the colonists, our ancestors, in America. Jef- Japanese victories that they would ferson was simply a politician and a demagogue, of the type of Clodius and of Wilkes-living in the highest luxthe people," and proclaiming the principles of simplicity and severity. The contrast was Washington, who lived Jefferson, yet made no pretenses, to get the favor of the one-gallus democ-

With increase of industry and growth of commerce and wealth there is 'natural and necessary departure from primitive or ploneer conditions To expect our people to go back now to old ways and habits and customsold simplicity-is futile. Such anachronisms are impossible. In all countries progress of industry and commerce and growth of wealth cause changes in the constitution and structure of society. Should Mr. Bryan reach the White House there will be more display than there has been during the time of Mr. Roosevelt, and a origin and spirit, and with Christiansocial tyranny equal to that under ity it includes virtually the entire President Jackson. For Roosevelt is truer to every standard of democratic Centuries after the religion of Jesus simplicity than Bryan could ever be. The party that makes democracy its special profession rises at every opportunity to patricianism, or to pretengion of it. But its demagogues will all pretend to admiration of "simplicity," and will flatter the poor and needy voter. In a new country like ours there is

unusual opportunity to make money and grow rich, and all will embrace it who can. The impulse carries society along and makes changes in its constitution and character. One can expect nothing else. Nor is it a new thing in America. Opportunity here long ago developed this disposition. So sure an observer as Talleyrandfled to America to escape the fury of the Jacobins of France, men not more the levellers of estates than of talents. Some of his observations on what he saw in America-or what he thought he saw—have only recently been pub-lished. We read: "One day in a to have set the population in ferment. small town in Maine, after having questioned his host, 'a man of eminent respectability, about the quality and price of lands in the neighborhood, he (Talleyrand) mentioned Philadelphia. American had never been there. When you do go,' said Talleyrand, 'you will, of course, be delighted to see General Washington?' 'Oh, of course,' replied the other, 'but more than any

ton, the champion of freedom, Bingham, the man of money, in themselves they already incarnate America." you see it isn't altogether a new thing, even in America. The course of things, deplore it how we will, is in fact in accord with the fundamental principles of human nature and belongs to and is part of the necessary movement of human society.

Bryan may be elected. But his election will not arrest the movement, nor even give it a new direction. forces of human society take and pursue their own course, in accord with the laws of the time and the situation and the movement. The people of the United States do not want the "simplicity" of primitive and ploneer life, and will not have it. They want all the luxuries that can be got and more than can be got, and when they haven't the money they want bonds issued and the efforts of posterity mortgaged to pay for them. "The times" are always changing-more rapidly now perhaps than ever before because of active communication in these days throughout the world, and the stimulative action and reaction of mind on mind and race on race. throughout the world. But the principles of human nature are constant, and all wish the greatest attainable variety of life. This makes money getting necessary, and with new opportunity it produces changes of customs and alters the constitution of so clety. But the movement never can be turned backward.

COERCION IMPOSSIBLE. It is often asserted that it is the purpose and policy and practice of emof desperation to vote against Bryan." It is asserted that this has been done heretofore and that it is to be repeated

Than such assertion what folly could be ranker? No employer has any means of coercion-unless in the Southern States, where the voting all goes one way. In every Northern State the ballot is absolutely free. Workingmen cannot be obliged to vote as employers dictate. The ballot is guarded by complète secrecy; and it is entirely open to workingmen, as ever has been, to vote as they please. They needn't regard either the wishes or interests of employers. Usually they do not. Sensible employ ers, men of fair minds, never attempt 'coercion." For two reasons. would not think it fair and just. And they know it could have no effect, except possibly an effect directly opposite to what they might intend.

The only chance under our system to get votes is through persuasion, addressed to intelligence. This method has beaten Bryan twice. Some think it will again.

UNREST IN WESTERN ASIA. Are we near to one of those recur-

rent epochs when Asia is wont to pre cipitate her forces upon the Western world? Signs are not wanting that some movement of this kind may be brewing in the bosom of that mysterious continent. The success of Japan in her war with Russia has been published far and wide, from China to the farthest capes of Arabia. India has heard the news, and it has contributed with other causes to excite discontent against the British dominion in that vast and populous territory. It is a matter of common knowledge that not for many years has England had such weighty cause to worry over the stability of her Indian Empire as she has today. There theory surrendered at Appomattox, are many indications also that China living was rooted too deeply ture which is not well understood in in principles of human nature and of the West. Some say that the Celes no fundamental change of spirit. terity Congress made an appropriation | Others hint that the transformation is for purchase of his library, which, deeper and that under the stimulus however, had no value for anything he of Japanese hegemony some great union of Asiatic peoples is in proces of formation which will threaten Virginia and the colonies. The catch Western civilization with weapons To some students it has never ap

peared doubtful since the date of the lead sooner or later to one of those ethnic movements which have periodically flowed overland from Asia to ury of the times, yet "the friend of Europe. It has been so long since the last of these occurred that we have almost ceased to believe them possible. People forget a great deal in 500 in less state and amid less luxury than years. But ever since history has been recorded the impulse of Asia to overwhelm and subdue Europe has been often remitted but never permanently abandoned. Under Xerxes, Attilla, Tamerlane, Jenghiz Khan and the Turks, the effort was to effect a military conquest; but three times at least Asia has attempted to overrun Europe through the propaganda of a religion and once the effort was successful. Christianity, the religion in which most of us have been nurtured, exception of some barren formulas culled by Paul from the Greeks. Judaism has never been a conquering faith, but it is altgether Asiatic in population of Europe and America. had completed the conquest of Europe Islamism appeared and made a vigorous fight to wrest the scepter from it. The battle was doubtful for many years, but Christianity finally won and the faith of Mohammed was driven back into Asia everywhere except from Turkey. There it held its own and is religion was Manicheism, which in the Middle Ages threatened the utter overthrow of the Catholic Church

are not now concerned. The pertinent question is whether Islamism and Christianity are not about to enter upon another struggle for supremacy. In the Mohammedan here in his time. In 1794 Talleyrand countries of Western Asia there are violent perturbations. Persia is racked with civil war and with fierce struggles between rival sects, some of Mo hammedan faith, others independent. Modern ideas of government seem to Many of these ideas have undoubtedly crossed the confinent of Asia from Japan. Others have entered directly from Europe. It is still more significant to observe what is going on in Turkey. Superficial observers may attribute the recent revolution in that country to jealousies among its diverse races mingled with Austrian, Russian sive neck, beholding "beauties which and German intrigues. All these had never before discovered."

and was only stamped out by the most

rigorous persecution; but with this we

is the penetration of modern ideas into the Turkish mind and the dawn ing instinct which it shares with all Asia that the time has come for the Orient to reassert itself. Before many decades this instinct, stimulated by the military pressure of Japan upon Western Asia, will probably precipitate another great flood of armed migration from the region of the Caspian and Bosphorus into Russia and Austria. The attempt may be made, as it has been made before, to exterminate the Christian inhabitants of these regions and colonize them with

Mohammedans. The outcome of the struggle, should it ever occur, may depend a great deal upon the relative vitality of the Christian faith as compared with Moham medanism. At the time of their former contest both were young and full of energy. In the future struggle both will be old and it may possibly be discovered that Christianity is decrepit while its rival faith is replete with the power of renewed youth. Religions are subject to periodic revivals of fanatical power. Vambery describes the furious superstition of the Mohammedans of Central Asia. With all the continent in disturbance, with new ideas bubbling in Turkey and Persia, this fanaticism may begin any day to propagate itself and spread like wild-We should then have to face the spectacle of a Moslem invasion from Asia officered and guided by men educated in modern science. When it was over, the prayers at the altar of St. Peter's might possibly be addressed to Aliah instead of Jehovah.

# THE MOB'S USUAL MISTAKE.

"You will have to excuse us, madam," said the leader of the overzealous vigilantes. "The joke is on us, for we have hanged your husband, and he was not the man we were look It is neither satisfactory ing for." nor surprising to learn in yesterday's news dispatches that a similar "joke is on the bloodthirsty cowards who started the reign of terror in Springfield. Ill., about a fortnight ago, it which many lives and an immense amount of property was needlessly sacrificed before law and order were re-established. No statistics are available to show the number of lives and the amount of property that has been destroyed through simtlar since the standard of civilization was advanced beyond that which prevailed during the cave-dwelling era.

It is a fact, however, that is brought to our attention with alarming frequency, that certain specimens of the white race develop an inexplicable barbaric lust for blood that is continually making its presence through just such wild orgies as have disgraced Springfield. The Springfield tragedy was started by the arrest of a colored man for an alleged assault on a white woman. The accused denied his guilt and there were some men in Springfield with good red blood in their veins who demanded that he be given the benefit of the doubt and an opportunity to prove his innocence. One of these heroes, Mr. Loper, who paid dearly for the courage of his convictions by having his restaurant totally destroyed, placed his automobile at the disposal of the Sheriff, and carried the accused man

beyond the reach of the mob. Defeated in their purpose, the inhuman cowards, to quote from the Governor's report, "sacked the stores owned by colored persons and burned a number of houses occupied by colored people. Negroes on the street were assaulted and one was killed, and later was hanged to a lamp-post. The negro was killed while trying protect his home from incendiaries, Another-an old and inoffensive cobbler-was killed as he ran into the street to escape the smoke of his burning shop, which had been fired by the mob." But the man whose blood was most sought by the mob escaped, and now that reason has resumed its sway, the feminine victim of the assault declares that the supposed cul-

prit is not the guilty man. Of course the mob will be discomfited at the discovery that it made a mistake. Its members will probably admit that the "joke" is on them, but the discovery will bring no solace to those that mourn the loss of loved Through no fault of its own, the blood of the negro Richardson is not on the hands of the mob which sought his life. Most of this mob will probably escape conviction of the crime of which its members are guilty, but if there should ever flash across their sin-seared brains a sober thought of what they accomplished during their temporary lapse into barbarism and crime, some of the punishment due them will be meted out before they answer to a higher power.

ADDISON ON FEMALE GARB

If Joseph Addison, who was the great critic of fashions of his time, had lived two centuries later than he is a purely Oriental product, with the did, he would have found in the peek a-boo waist and the directoire gown abundant opportunity for the display of that gentle irony and irresistible humor which made his essays so popular in his own day and age. The question of modesty and immodesty in dress is not a new one, though the manner of discussing the subject has changed somewhat since the time when Addison held up to ridicule the styles that were either innocently senseless, or, in his opinion, craftily naughty. In our day, attacks upon the creations of fashion-makers are conducted by the pithy paragraphers who neither argue nor assert facts dominant today. The third invading but hurl harmless shafts of blunt ridicule. Addison handled the crea-tors of fashion in those dignified essays which were humorous without being frivolous, though sometimes extravagant. He found occasion to make war upon a fad of dress, or undress, with much the same purpose that criticism has been directed against the ball gowns and peek-a-boo waists of our day.

For example, he presents in one of his essays his opinions of the removal of the tucker, which article of dress he describes as "a slip of fine linen that used to run in a small kind of ruffle around the uppermost verge of the woman's stays." Addison's complaint was that "our ladies have of late thrown aside this fig-leaf, and exposed, in its primitive nakedness, that gentle swelling of the breast which i was used to conceal." He graphically describes his own feelings and emo tions on a certain occasion when sit ting beside a "famous she visitant" of a friend, his eyes fell upon her exten-He one else I should like to see Bingham, things have undoubtedly played their was enraptured and the lady blushed. the stump for Taft.

who, they say, is so rich.' Washing- part, but the real source of the trouble He then reviews the change of fashion from the time of Elizabeth, when ladies were clothed down to the very wrists and up to the chin. Gradually the clothing disappeared. "In proportion as the age refined the dress sunk still lower, so that when we now say a woman has a handsome neck we reckon into it many of the adjacent The disuse of the tucker has parts. still enlarged it insomuch that the neck of a fine woman at present takes in almost half the body." Since necks had such a tendency to grow, he desired to be informed where the expansion might be expected to stop.

Of course Addison, like all others, protested that the view of an alabaster neck, extensive though it was, had no warming influence upon his cold heart. But he feared that every man is not sufficiently qualified with age and philosophy to be an indifferent spectator of such allurements. "The eyes of young men are curious and penetrating, their imaginations of a roving nature, and their passions under no discipline or restraint. I am in pain for a woman of rank when I see her thus exposing herself to the regards of every impudent, staring fellow. How can she expect that her quality can defend her when she gives such prov-He gives assurance that ocation?" his fears are well founded, for he observed that upon the removal of the tucker the whole tribe of oglers stared the fair sex in the neck instead "To prevent these of in the face. saucy, familiar glances, I would entreat my gentle readers to sew on their tuckers again, to retrieve the modesty of their characters, and not to imitate the nakedness, but the innocence, of Eve."

"Modesty gives the maid greater beauty than even the bloom of youth, it bestows on the wife the dignity of matron, and reinstates the widow in her virginity."

The Tillamook line now under con struction will go first to Tillamook Bay, where it will provide convenient transportation for the rich dairying region close around the bay and for the timber region which the line will traverse. Undoubtedly lines will soon be built up the coast to the Nehalem and down the coast to the Siletz. Eventually all that coast region wil be given rail transportation, not because rail transportation is cheaper, but because it is quicker and more convenient and people are willing to pay the higher rates a railroad must charge.

Democrats are becoming active and lively in Oregon, but Republicans are doing nothing. "The people will rule." Democrats have the privilege of ac tivity, but Republicans want nobody to take the lead for them. Such person would be "a boss." Any organi zation would be "a machine." Be sides, it would be an insuit to the people to try to influence their votes. This, however, means Republicans only. Democrats have the privilege of organization and activity, in the name of "non-partisanship.

Should Taft be elected there is much probability that Chamberlain will not be. Should Bryan be elected to the Presidency it may not thought worth the while of Republicans to contend about the Senator. Every one knows that the vote of Jun was no indication of "the people's choice." The whole business was merely a juggle. It was demonstrated that no majority, or plurality, of the people wanted Cake. We believe it equally certain that no majority or plurality wants Chamberlain.

Is "the choice of the people" ob-Experience shows that it is seldom never so. There will be many candidates for each important office, and a bitter primary fight. A small plurality will nominate, which cannot be called the choice of the people, or even of the party in whose name the nomi-nation is made. It is far less the choice of people or of party than the representative convention.

There were two Circuit Judges in the district composed of Jackson, Josephine, Klamath and Lake Counties. One was a Democrat and the other a Republican. Judge Benson, the Republican, resigned, and in order to show his belief in a non-partisan judiciary, Governor Chamberlain appointed a Democrat to fill the vacancy. Now there are two Democrats filling the judicial positions out there.

Something of a showing, quite unexpected, was made by the Independence League or Hearst party, in Vermont. It drew about as many votes as the Socialists and Prohibitionists combined. Evidently it will play a part in many of the contested states; and the results of its action probably will not be favorable to Bryan.

The story of the husband whose attention was so taken up with his dogs that he could not attend to his wife who had fallen on the street is something novel. We have been accustomed to stories of women who are so devoted to their dogs that they have no time to spend looking after husbands.

The quality of Oregon hops this year will be perfect, though the quantity produced will be much smaller than last year by reason of reduced acreage. Perhaps, since the quality is so good, the Eastern brewer will reconsider his resolve not to buy any hops grown in a "dry" county.

but France will not make war on Germany till changes in Europe may put her in better position. France now is for peace, perforce, and it is perhaps best for her that it is so.

Who wouldn't live in Oregon at such a delightful time of the year as And there is no time of the year when Oregon is a less pleasant place in which to live than any other

At present market quotations the producer of hay and feed ought not to complain. And the price of wheat is not bad, though it might be better.

The family came home this year from the Summer resort, as usual, in advance of the hotel bills.

Should Senator Bourne come back to Oregon, he may be expected to take

At Present, the Laws Both Forbid and

Permit Liquor-Selling. 'lowe canted, decanted and recanted" is the way the working of prohibition in that state is summed up in Appleton's magazine for September by Trumbul magazine for September by White, who has observed the White, who has observed the working of the Iowa antiliquor law for the past 20 years. According to his conclusions, the situation in regard to liquor selling in Iowa is much like that in reference to racetrack gambling in New York before Governor Hughes forced the anti-gam-bling act through the Legislature. That bling act through the Legislature. That is to say, the selling of liquor is forbidden by the law of the state, but is permitted by another law through the device of imposing a fine which amounts to no more than a license fee.

This measure, which is known in Iowa as the muict law, provides for the virtual suspension of the prohibitory statutes if the written consent of a majority of the legal voters in a city or 65 per cent of the voters of a county is obtained.

of the voters of a county is obtained.
When this is done licenses may be issued by the local authorities, the state license fee being \$500 while the officense tee being \$600, while the cities may charge additionally whatever they choose Under this system about one-fourth of the counties of Iows, including most of the counties along the Mississippi and Missouri Rivers, in which the majority of the cities of the state are located, have egalized liquor seiling. It is, therefore, erroneous to speak of Iowa as a prohibition state for a large proportion of the population live in communities where saloons are allowed to run openly and legally, although the prohibition laws passed 25 years ago never have been re pealed, and in some of the rural counties are still enforced.

are still enforced.

An organized movement is now under way to submit a constitutional amendment providing for prohibition to the voters of Iowa. Prohibitionists themselves declare that if this is done the amendment will be carried by from 30,000 to 50,000 majority. On the other hand, those who are opposed to prohibition insist that public sentiment against a prohibitory law has been growing ever since the present law was passed, and that a vote of the state would cause it to return to the license system. leanse system.

BANK CLERKS AS DEAD SHOTS oston Institution Makes Target Practice Compulsory for Employes.

New York World. In Boston banking circles, as well as in the United States Navy, marksmanship is held at a premium. The Shawmut National Bank, one of the largest in that city, takes the lead by establishments. in that city, takes the lead by celab-lishing a private shooting gallery in its basement. For half an hour daily target practice is compulsory for every employe. Messengers, cashiers, tellers, ookkeepers, all allke are armed with automatic guns and the chief watch-man drills them by squads in pisto shooting. These extraordinary precau-tions are due to the recent outbreak of crimes of violence in Eastern Massa-

Quiet, respectable business men, of ourse, will take this as a warning that, especially during the business hours, they must be extremely careful of appearances. It might be disconcerting because of a quick entrance or a sudden gesture to be moved down by a broadside of bullets from behind by a broadside of bullets from behind the counter. Even as a means of self-protection there are reasons of personal comfort as well as of current fashion against wearing a suit of bullet-proof armor when you want to cash a check. It might help if nervous depositors adopted the rule of sending ahead an office boy with a white flag; when it came their own turn to approach the cashier's window they might hold up their hands until the watchman had covered them while an assistant went covered them while an assistant went through their pockets for concealed

There is something to be said in favor of the Boston banking reform, but it might prove a drawback if the cashier and paying telier in striking their daily balances had to report that they had shot four or five brokers and dry goods marchants and innocent by dry goods merchants and innocent by-standers by mistake.

One "Water" Lawyer's Fee \$50,000. Portland (Me.) Dispatch to Boston Transcript.

The petition of certain residents of Portland (Me.) for an injunction to prevent the trustees of the Portland ater district from paying the expenses of attorneys' fees and expert witnesses, incurred in the formation of the district and court proceedings inci-dent to the taking over of the properof the Portland Water Company and the Standish Water & Construction Company, is denied by Justice Savage. of the Maine Supreme Court, in a de-cree handed down recently. The ex-penses amounted to \$127,000, and included a fee of \$50,000 for the leading attorney for the district. The petition-ers asked that the "necessity, reasonableness, legality and justice" of the bill be determined by a proper tribunal before payment, claiming that the bills rendered "by some, if not all, of said attorneys and experts are wholly unreasonable and exorbitant."

### Is This Unfair to Mr. Roosevelt? Baltimore Star.

In the batch of foreign papers which eached us this morning is our esteemed contemporary from new Africa, the Rhodesia Herald Weekly, and it con-tains a remarkable item, which we reprint on this page.

Dutch farmers went forth on a hunt-

ing trip and made a bag of 81 ele-phants. Think of that, ye sportsmen of the Chesapeake who are going forth to give days to your marksmanship, only to bring back one little reedbird which you might send home with a two-cent

Eighty-one elephants! Really, those Dutch farmers are most unkind. Surely, they have heard that another Dutch sportsman will soon be on his way to Africa. Can they be so mean as to wish to exhaust the elephants before

New Bridge Placed in 31/2 Minutes Chester Dispatch to Philadelphia North

A real object leason in the evolution of railroad bridge replacement was given on the Philadelphia division of given on the Philadelphia division of the Baltimore & Ohio Railroad, when the old bridge across Cheater Creek, between this city and Upland, was pulled out and a new double-track steel bridge 150 feet long was slid into position in just 3½ minutes without a hitch, breaking the time record on this system, and thought to be the quickest work of the kind ever done anywhere. There was not the slightest interrup-There was not the alightest interrup-

tion to traffic.

The new bridge weighs about 300 tons, and was built complete alongside the old one by the Pittsburg Construc-tion Company of steel furnished by the American Bridge Company.

Atlantic City (N. J.) Dispatch. Justice Bray, of West Orange, N. J. is trying to find a husband for a in client, who says he may be old

Six Girls' Ante-Nuptial Demands. Six girls of New York City have en-tered into a compact never to marry a man who does not shave every morning and put on a clean shirt before breakfast.

Lightning Misses Mr. Bryan's Mule. Baltimore News.
Lightning struck a windmill en William Jennings Bryan's place in Nebraska, but missed a mule standing

STATE OF IOWA MAY GO DRY IMPROVEMENTS BY THE BLOCK Happy Idea Tried for Betterment of

Homes in Birmingham, Ala. Chicago Record-Herald. Excellent service in the movement for the purification and beautification of our cities has been performed by the public improvement associations, whose scope and jurisdiction are necessarily limited and whose members maintain relations of a neighborly character. It has occurred to Mayor Ward, of Birmingham, Ala., to try an even smaller unit, the block, and as a result of his efforts many block improvement societies have been organ-ized in the Southern city.

These societies are expected to do tions being small they are encouraged by immediate and perceptible benefits. They attend to a hundred different things, enlisting the aid of the chil-dren, and whenever the aid of the city s needed a telephone message suffices the prevention of street littering, the cleaning of sidewalks, the muzzling of dogs, the proper use of vacant lots, the prompt reporting of nulsances are among the tacks undertaken by the block societies. The Mayor helps them by issuing circulars containing not only general advice but practical hints as to the work to be done and the most efficient and inexpensive methods of He is very enthusiastic and doing it. has faith in the civic spirit of his city. "It needs only to be stimulated," says, "and backed up to get wonderful results."

In commenting on the Birmingham idea the current Outlook says truly that "the South is affording many happy civic suggestions, and this is one of the happiest." It is, plainly, a logical development of the public improvement club and means block "home rule," as to all things that require no wider cooperation,

It is certain that the block clubs will be found ready to federate and make common cause with the administration as regards larger enterprises of a municipal character.

## FLAWS IN DIRECT PRIMARY. System Works Disruption of Parties in States That Use It.

St. Paul Pioneer Press.
The platform of the Minnesota Democracy demands the extension of the primary election law so as to include the nomination "by the people" of state officers and United States Senators, as well as the municipal and county officers, members of the Legislature, judges and Congressmen. The assertion is made, in an article copied from the Duluth Herald in Wednesday's Pioneer Press, that in other states where the laws are so ex-tended "generally their use has been at-tended with such success that there is no

doubt they will be continued."

The Pioneer Press has failed to note, in its exchanges, any evidences of such "general success"—unless the promotion of factionalism in the parties, the planting of lasting animosities between leaders, the successful interference of Democrats making Republican nominations and "v versa," and the frequent triumph minority candidates, may be regarded as such evidences. In Republican states the application of the primary to state and Congressional offices is operating to split the party, destroy the organization and promote Democratic success. In Demo-cratic states it is working to split the party heretofore justly dominant by reason of its large majority, and to give op-position minorities frequent successes, to which they are not morally entitled. The case with which, through a multiplicity of candidates offering themselves at the pri-mary, minority candidates can be placed in nomination places the direct primary in plain antagonism to the fundamental prin-

plain antagonism to the fundamental principle of majority rule.

In Oregon, Iowa, Kansas, Nebraska, West Virginia and Illinois this extension of the principle of "direct" nominations has so disintegrated the Republican organization and divided the party that there is small wonder that Minnesota Democrats applaud. They see in its recommended adoption by Minnesota the probability of like results to the Republican organization in this state, and an effective "boost" for the Democratic minority, A minority party is much less itable to disintegration through the operation of the law than a majority party. The fact that a nomination by a dominant party is practically equivalent to an elecparty is practically equivalent to an election greatly increases the number of aspirants for its nominations, and inten-sifies both the eagerness of pursuit and the bitterness of defeat.

the bitterness of deteat.

From the point of view of the welfare of the Republican party the proposed extension of direct nomination has certainly nothing to recommend it. From the breader standpoint of the welfare of the state it has just as little, as will be shown in a further discussion of the

"Cincinnati Enquirer," a Kitten's Name

Kansas City Star. E. R. Blaine, of "Zinzinnati," who is E. R. Blaine, of Zinzinan.

here as a delegate to the Associated Advertising Clube' Convention, was the guest of a Kansas City man at his stock farm south of town. The advertising man was shown thoroughbred horses, blue ribbon cows, aristocratic pigs and chickens worth a small for-

Mr. Blaine showed interest in every thing as he met it, but his attention was chiefly attracted by a kitten. He was so taken with the playful pet that the owner of the farm asked him if he wanted it. "Sure," said Mr. Blaine. "I'll take it home with me."
"We'll send it for you," said his host.

"No. I'll take it right along."
So along it went in the mojor car to
the Hotel Baltimore. He carried it into the hotel and personally looked after its crating. In doing this he missed the banquet and the evening programme at Elm Ridge, but this did not appear to ruffle him. In the trip downtown the kitten developed such an inquisitive nature that Mr. Blaine said he was going to call it the Cincinnati

Atlantic City (N. J.) Dispatch. Beauty experts who recommend swimming as the finest possible exerwho recommend

cise for development of the feminine figure are responsible for a sudden rush made on bathing masters by the maids and matrons of the cottage and hotel colonies.

The Summer girl of this year is not content with the ordinary "bath," wherein she wades out to her pretty knees and then Iolls in the breakers, and the reason given is that advice which she has received to the effect that real swimming will give her both form and poise has aroused her to the advantage of at least a daily swim As a result of the insistence of the young women upon taking long swims, lifeguards have been worried and some are objecting to the necessity of keep-ing their boats outside the breakers for protection of those who venture too far out and are unable to return to shore.

Lonesomest Town in the Southwest.

Galveston (Texas) Dispatch,
Tyler, Texas, is the lonesomest town
in the Southwest. It is stuck away in
a little corner by itself, and there is
only one train a day in or out; in other words, it takes two days to go into Tyler and get out of it again. Many of its residents have never seen strangers other than drummers or theatrical troupes.

Denver's Heavyweight Mayor.

Kansas City Star. Robert W. Speer, who has again been elected Mayor of Denver, Colo., wears a No. 5 hat and No. 11 shoes, and weighs 314 pounds in the Turkish bath.

STORY OF THE TAFTS. Material for Possible Campaign Per-

sonnlities Under the caption, "Taft a Scion of a Mighty Family," our esteemed contemporary, the Philadelphia Record, pub-Hahes an interesting sketch of the forbears of the Republican nominee for President. It is natural for a man who aspires to the highest honors in the gift of the American people to feel a certain pride in his descent from ancestors who were "energetic, industrious and gal," as the Tafts of past generations proved themselves, according to an address delivered by the Secretary's fas great deal, but their sphere of opera- | ther in 1874, at a family reunion at Uxbridge, Mass. We learn from this authority that in past centuries, before Uncle Sam had established himself in the Western Hemisphere, the Tafts were domiciled in England, Ireland, to yield it. Tree and flower planting. Scotland and Wales. In Ireland, it is the removal or whitewashing of fences, intimated they were identified with the intimated, they were identified with the old Irish nobility. In England and in Wales the family name may have been spelled "Taffee," or "Taffe." But the father of Secretary Taft was an outand-out American, who made no claim to anything more than honest plebelan blood. There was glory enough for him in the thought that the first Amer-ican Tafts had been worthy and useful

ctizens, who served their country in the Indian wars and settled in Mendou, Mass, in 1680.

In the Revolutionary War and in the Civil War the Tafts were on the fighting line. It thus appears that Secretary Tatt is descended from ancestors who have done the state some service in the have done the state some service in the two and a quarter centuries in which the Tafts have been living in this con-tinent. We have no doubt that the Tafts, or "Taffees" or "Taffees" played a worthy part in their day and genera-tion in England, Scotland, Ireland and Wales, Still, the Secretary must be Wales. Still, the Secretary must be prepared for attacks by enemies, not only in the opposition camp, but by en-vious men within his own fold. That eminent authority on Welsh biography the late "Mother Goose," has written in her immortal work of one of the celebrities of Wales:

Taffy was a Welshman, Taffy was a thief, Taffy came to my house And stole a piece of beef.

We are convinced that fair-minded and discriminating men of both parties will not be influenced by attempts to connect Secretary Tatt's ancestors in the old country with the "Taffy" whom Mother Goose handed down to fame But the Secretary ought to be on his There are indications that the guard. There are indications the ot lack in vigor and possibly in acerolty and reckless personalities. believe that If the Mother Goose canard is to be circulated in this campaign Secretary Taft should be in a position to "nail it" promptly.

SAYS OREGON WANTS TAFT. Writer Argues That Federal "Push"

Want to Hold Their Johs. Want to Hold Their Johs.

KLAMATH FALLS, Or., Aug. 31.—(To the Editor.)—The Democrats of this state are making a great effort to raise funds and organize Democratic clubs for the purpose of carrying Oregon for Bryan and Kern. This effort and expanditure of inoney, in my judgment, are uncless. Oregon will certainly be found to be a Republican state in Nevember.

The Federal machine in this state will

certainly be found to be a Republican state in November.

The Federal machine in this state will vote for the Republican electors for precisely the same reason that it voted for Governor Chamberlain in the June election and against Mr. Cake, and it was exactly for the same reason that the Presidential Postmasters of this state in their recent convention, passed their tenure of office resolution, viz. the desire to be left undisturbed in the enjoyment of the emoluments of their offices for another four years. The Federal "push" for this state cannot be driven from the Republican ticket.

Senstor Fulton owes his defeat primarily to the fact that he and Senstor Bourne, with selfish design, entered the field of Federal patronage of this state, which belongs to Congressmen in other states, and undertook to huld up a machine among postmasters, for the purpose of perpetuating their terms in Congress. Thousands of Republicans in this state, in the primaries, did not favor this scheme, but cast their votes for Mr. Cake. Then the Bourne-Fullton Republicans and Federal officeholders, rather than vote for a new Republican for Senstor, who might disturb them in office, voted for Mr. Chamberlain, who would have nothing to do with the selection of

Rapublicans and Federal officeholders, rather than vote for a new Republican for Senator, who might disturb them in office, voted for Mr. Chamberlain, who would have nothing to do with the selection of Federal officers. They preferred to take no chances. They wanted a Democratic Senator who would have no influence with the new probable Republican attministration, in the selection of Federal officials.

Now, these same officials will vote solidly for Mr. Taft for the same reason the Presidential postmasters recently resolved, namely; to be left undisturbed in their offices for four years more.

The 30,000 loyal Republicans of this state, who are not influenced by tenure of office, led by the magnificent fight The Oregonian is making for Mr. Taft in exposing the vagaries of Mr. Bryan, and in showing him up to the same "Old Radical Bryan of 1596 and 1901," sided by the "Federal push," which cannot be driven from Mr. Taft, will make this state safely Republican, whether Jonathan Bourne and Chairman Cake allow any campaign to be made at all in Oregon for the Republican ticket.

Oregon will certainly be Republican, and the contributions of our Democratic farmers to carry this state for Mr. Bryan will prove to be of no value.

HIRAM F. MURDOCH.

NEED OF SOCIAL DECENCY. Oregonian Editorial on the Subject Is

NEED OF SOCIAL DECENCY.

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Commended.

PORTLAND. Sept 1 — (To the Editor.)—
Day after day as 1 have road The Oregonian's ringing writings on the subject of social decency. I have felt that I wished to be one of those to publicly thank The Oregonian for its fearless and manly opinions. It is high time society took a keener notice of the fitting punishment of the masculine, moral lepers, and thus strike a blow that has been overdue these many ages.

People speak of these "dens of vice" as corrupting our youths. But it is seldom any voice is raised in reference to their corruption, through the constant example of fathers and elder brothers, who go their gilded and culity way "inwhipt of justice, except such as outraged Nature inflicts, which brings misery to families yet unborn. For the well-being of all these wretched men themselves, it is better that the law should forcibly assist them to better paths, until common sense and true manilmoss have opportunity to guide them. And why, oh why, do not parents everywhere talk confidingly and interestingly to their children, of either ear, on the great problems of life? If this were only done the awdil results of all this ignorance would not be soontinually manifested in all our beautiful world.

Boys should be taught that it is manly and strong to be clean in their morals, and that it is the very opposite of manly to live the rulings of the universe.

I trust that The Oregonian will continue the group and or controlling this horrible subject by giving some adequate punishment and restraint to the wretched men without whom the scarlet woman could not live.

Institutions are multiplying all over the land to ambit the fallen of both sexes back to a decent life, if they wish to comes and truly begin life again. And that The Oregonian is helping the cause of decent life by its forceful work is the conviction of a bellever in decency.

Side Lights on History.

Side Lights on History.

The geese, by their loud cackling, had saved Rome.

"That'll do." said the old gander, irritably. "You've done all that anybody has a right to expect from you. Stop your noise now and let me go to siesp!"

For the geese of ancient Rome, like unto many a biped of a later period, when once started to cackling, didn't know when to quit.—Chicago Tribune.

The Banker's Responsibility.

New York Times. A banker who felt that the sums in trusted to him by depositors would be repaid out of a Government fund if he should lose them would certainly be under temptations not likely to beset the banker who felt that the responsibility of his trust rested upon himself