Editorial Page of The Journal

OREGON DAILY JOURNAL

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PRIMARY LAW MUST BE MAINTAINED.

HERE IS A MOVEMENT going on throughout the country to get away from the thrall of the blic office men who will honestly try to do their lic duty. There is another movement, neither so strong nor so pronounced at the present moment, but which is steadily growing nevertheless, to return to the cople themselves some of the power which they had delegated in the past to their public servants. In this latter movement Oregon is in the van. The initiative and referendum have given the people a control over slative action of which until very recently they could only dream. They have it in their power not only to nitiate legislation but to veto it. Previous to the passage of this law the members of the legislature might do they pleased regarding any matter of public concern. They might, as many of them have done, go to the legis-lature pledged to pass a certain measure which the voters oudly demanded, and simply ignore that pledge, and here was no way of reaching them. Under present contions they may, as it were, be caught coming and goby the outraged citizenship of the state.

der the provisions of the direct primary law even e United States senatorship is well within their reach. is true in most states that the men elected to the senare rarely men who could be elected by a popular Many of them have represented not the people some special interest. These interests maintained m in office, oftentimes against the well known wishes of a majority of the voters, against whose best interests they insidiously labored. The boss and the machine omnipotent, so far as was apparent to the public iew, but back of both stood the special interests which ere to be unjustly fostered at the expense of the public The bosses and political machines so manipulated the laws, which were made not to give a full and fair exon to the popular will but to give the bosses an undue advantage, that, backed by the partisanship of those who usually composed the dominant party, whichever it might be; they made themselves invincible.

The direct primary law is aimed to correct this stundous evil. Its purpose is to give the people themves a direct opportunity to say whom they want for United States senator. If they want Jones, or Smith or Brown, it is for them to say so at the primaries which are At those primaries they vote their choice, just as an election. True, candidates for the legislature, in a ise, are not bound to accept that choice but none better than politicians that when the public is used the wise thing to do is to make the concession hich is demanded and in this way save the hides which ey esteem so precious. The experiment for the first is to be put in operation at the coming election. there are hold-over senators who were elected previous the adoption of the law and it is hoped by some of bosses that these may be used as a sort of balance with which to beat down the law and make of it dead letter. If it can be circumvented this year, they igree, it may be forgotten next and in this way the which the law contemplates may be cked out and the same old methods of electing United

But this is a dangerous year to fool with the people. They have found it so in Pennsylvania, of all states, where the apparently impossible was achieved by a wonderful majority. They are finding it everywhere. They ve found more than surface indications of it in Oreople of this state have firmly made up their ninds that hereafter they will control their own podestinies and not only say who will represent but precisely what he must stand for. There is still cling to the old methods and the old ways. The deathknell of the big boss in politics has been sounded in Oregon; he must go to the place assigned him. No more may he conjure with the old tricks; no more work miracles with the methods which once won victory.

Of the goods which they handle. They are not outlaws to be persecuted and the newspaper that takes that stand with reference to them in doing so shows its own bigotry and narrowness.

Occupanged to the did ways. The down or scalawags to be persecuted and the newspaper that takes that stand with reference to them in doing so shows its own bigotry and narrowness. We will have to wait and see. The man who is now to make a great success in politics in this state must cultivate the people, not the bosses or the special interests. He must come out and meet them squarely and frankly, taking them into his inner confidence and then live up to the pledges which he makes. For such a man there is now a great and selfrespecting opportunity in Oregon politics. He has the whole world before him, with no master, if he is successful, but the people. He need wear no corporation's collar, he need be under the thumb of no political boss, he need have no heelers to hamstring him. He is in the presence of a new day that will life him to selfrespecting heights which were beyond the conception of practical men but a brief year ago.

THE LIFE INSURANCE INVESTIGATION.

TO EVENT OF RECENT YEARS has been more significant, or will have been more interesting and important in practical results, than the investigation that has been under way for some weeks into the conduct of the big New York life insurance com-

These concerns handled tens of millions of money not theirs, but belonging to a great and miscellaneous numher of people all over the country. The officers of they stood in together, and with them stood and op- if we judge the future by the past, will put off their erated such noted financiers as J. Pierpont Morgan and shopping till the last week, almost the last day. But Senator Chauncey M. Depew; they poured out other why do this? "Go early and avoid the rush," have time people's money as one might water in Oregon in to make your selections and take advantage of the opinter-time, it costing them not a cent; they forgot not portunity when the clerk's are not rushed to death.

to pay themselves great salaries-McCurdy senior's was \$150,000 a year, three times that of Theodore Roose velt as president of the United States-the greates country on earth; and McCurdy took good care of all his relatives-his son, son-in-law, brother-in-law, sis-ters, aunt, cousins, and so on-and innocent, ignorant, toiling, people all over the United States were supplying the cash, pouring in a continual, incessant flood of gold! Surely, it was a fine business. And the McCurdys, McCalls, Alexanders, Hegemans

and the rest went into politics, of course. They had lobbyists in every state capital and found out the price of cow county legislators. They put Depew, one of their tools, into the United States senate; they did business with Boss Odell; they sent a \$10,000 check occasionally to Boss Platt; they entertained ambassadors; hey even had the assurance to suggest to Roosevelt that he should appoint James Hazen Hyde, when they wanted to get rid of him, ambassador to France.

But there were honest and intelligent men enough to to about the business of puncturing these bladders of gh finance and sanctimonious rascality. It is being done, pretty thoroughly. McCurdy, for instance, first consents to have his salary cut down one-half, and next incontinently resigns. He may be thankful if that is the end of the chapter. But he is not a whit or feather worse than the rest of them. It was a scheme and system of wholesale robbery, and has fortunately been exposed. The exact like cannot happen again,

Life insurance is in itself all right. It is a creditable proper business, and hereafter, as an outcome of the exosures and agitation, we may be tolerably sure, it will be conducted on honest, legitimate lines.

THE FRONT STREET MERCHANTS.

T IS POSSIBLE that the Front street dealers may drop into slipshod methods as they do elsewhere. It is also possible that they may take up too great hese respects they should remedy their short-coming and comply with the demands of an enlightened public sentiment. If they do not they should be forced to do it. But because they do business on Front street, even

ecause they may at times grow slipshod in their methods, is not reason why they should be spoken of as though they were a band of outlaws which the public should unite to uproot and eradicate. Wherever the produce business is done in this country, particularly in large cities, from the very nature of things there is a good deal of litter. The streets upon which the produce merchants do their business are never regarded as the choicest promenades for fashionable people. Those who have forced their way along South Water street in Chicago will probably not carry with them any violent antipathy against Front street in Portland. The more business there is done the more congestion

naturally follows. There are few busier centers than Front street. In the very nature of things the consignments must be quickly moved and to be so moved they must be kept in sight. Some dealers there deserve criticism for the way in which they handle perishable freight. There are certain ordinances to govern such matters and it is perfectly proper that the authorities should keep a watchful eye on the section as a safe guard to the public health. But the men who do business there are citizens like the rest of us, propertyowners and in their own way are doing a great work to bring Portland to the very forefront. This being true they should be given precisely the same consideration as other men in business; furthermore they should be treated with special referenc eto the peculiar character

CHRISTMAS SHOPPING.

EXT COMES the favorite holiday of the year-Christmas. It is only 25 days distant. Most people, make special purchases at this time of and on account of this holiday, and what we desire to suggest now is that such purchases, if possible, be made early. Don't wait till the last hour or day, or

Do your Christmas shopping, as far as practicable, early, next week. You will thus be better served, will get better bargains, will be better satisfied.

The Chicago Tribune, commenting on the rush to stores and shops prior to Christmas, says: "It means that State street is to be turned into the hands of a mob of countless, prosperous, bargain and gift hunting men, women and children. From now on the great retail thoroughfare will be filled with anxiou shoppers, surging from Randolph street to Congress, stepping upon each other and tearing each other's clothes, suffering all manner and kind of inconvenience and crowding, regardless of everything but the necessity for getting inside the stores and procuring the things that make Christmas worth while. It has been a prosperous year, and a prosperous year means a crowded State street."

In a less degree, yet of considerable intensity, the same may be said of Washington, Morrison and Third hese companies speculated for their private benefit; streets during the next three weeks; but most people

What a Railroad Rebate Is.

Ray Stannard Baker in McClure's. good deal of the present confusion es from a quibbling (or legal) use f terms. The difficulty lies in our arious applications of the words "reand "discrimination", as in polities it lies in the use of the word "bribery." What is a rebate? Strictly peaking, a rebate is a sum of money eccetty paid back by a railfoad comto a favored shipper as a refund his freight rate. And in this rrow sense, rebating is undoubtedly uch less common than formerly.

But the people who are unaccustomed making close distinctions—to whom dealing of any one of the 17 kinds thown to the law is still plain stealing ourse the word "rebate" to wider sense. It means any sort of favoritism to one shipper that is not given to all shippers. We find the name distinction in politics. "Bribery" in the narrow sense—the ugly, crude payment of cash—may be disappearing om politics. But "bribery" in the der sense, meaning any reward for rupt political services, still flour-es like the proverbial green bay tree, ndeed, there has been the same de-oppoient in railroad (and in wider iness) corruption, as in political cor-

same results even more successfully and secretly than the cash rebate. Such for example, are the widespread abuses that have grown up around the private car system, the industrial railroad, the "line" elevator; such is the midnight tariff, the abuse of the carting and witching charge and innumerable other devices. And these new methods have not even the virtue of open-air robbery. They are the work of underhanded cunning, performed in the twilight of legality,

From the New York Evening Post. Mr. Whitney-Why, President Roo relt himself is in favor of reciprocity President Roosevelt-You have wilfully

Mr. Whitney-I am sorry that I mis understood you. But I am sorriest of all that you do not favor Canadian reci-President Roosevelt-That is another

wilful misrepresentation.
Puzzie: What is the president's attitude toward Canadian reciprocity?

Beware of Them.

From the Philadelphia Inquirer. The railroad Crokers have followed he railroad Tweeds, and we discover as much money to the relief of their int the crude cash rebate is being brethren in Russia have devised means eplaced by scores of cunning devices to prevent its transmission through the discriminations which accomplish the

New Styles in Gay Audience. From the New York World.

the smart women at the opera last bygone styles and the other is the use of cockades for a head dress. More and this apparently is the desired of

The satin of pale mauve was relieved by embossed flowers in pink and blue, and the bodice was strapped with black vel-Beach, wore white satin, touched with of pale blue velvet. Mrs. Beach's hair was dressed with a blue ostrich plume.

Mrs. Edgerton Leigh Winthrop wore a perfect replica of a Reynolds gown in turquoise blue velvet and white satin.

The velvet formed a bodice and was draped across the skirt and there was a touch of black ribbons. Her hair was wreathed with pink rosebuds.

Pretty I.

Pretty Lucky Still.

From the Philadelphia Press.

After all, young Mr. Hyde got pretty crat. All over the count nearly everything but ambassadorship after bosses of all kinds, they brought them down.

SMALL CHANGE

The sun doesn't shine always.

The sick man of Europe probably had

Tacoma Ledger: At this critical junc-ture permit us to inquire. Do you know the difference between a cold storage turkey and the real thing?

Gold Hill News: Some Josephine county parties have forgotten that there is a closed season for trout. They are liable to pay \$20 for a piece of valuable information, if they are not care-

The Dalles Chronicle: The turkey at least has one thing to be thankful for, he doesn't get it in the neck but once, and never in the stomach like his vic-

Thanksgiving over and we are still alive—thank God!

Yes, politics in Oregon are all mixed up. It was time.

Los Angeles man-\$2,000 from a young lady who promised to marry him and then went back on her word. Plenty of that in Albany

Heaven is not reached by a single But we build the ladder by which we

From the lowly earth to the vaulted

The McCurdys will resign; y Resignation is confession. But w they restitute? And if not, w shouldn't they go to the penitentiary

The turkey is dead-poor fellow.

Irrigon Irrigator: Several of our exchanges say Williamson should not have been convicted as he was only securing land by the same system as many others. Are we then to believe that if some "respectable citizen" should steal a few thousand of Williamson's sheep that the thief should go unpunished because other "gentlemen" were also sheep thieves?

OREGON SIDELIGHTS

Snow up east of the mountains and Albany thinks it needs a public park

mill and extensive plant, representing an outlay of over \$1,000,000, will be in full operation by April, 1906. With the natural advantages it already natural advantages it already enjoys through its position among the foothlis of the Coast mountains and the other spects soon to be numbered among the ading scenic and industrial towns of ne Willamette valley.

Astoria, the News-Herald says, is \$211,841.02 in debt. Two cents, at least,

Adams Advance: Ed McFarland, who has been farming on the reservation for several years, raising potatoes principally, brought in a sample of this year's growth. There are four in the group, and the combined length is 35 inches, the shortest being 814 and the longest

Lots of newcomers locating around Medford.

Some geese up the river,

Dufur Dispatch: Willis Hendrix and John Brookhouse started Tuesday build-ing a telephone line from Dufur to Tygh ing a telephone line from Datur to Tygin ridge. There are 15 people in all on the line and it will run by John Brookhouse, Willis Hendrix, Mike Callaghan, the Hillgens, Leon Rondeau and Will Hunter's, and will have its terminus at Owen Jones' on the Canyon City road. They expect to have the line completed in about a week, when people in Dufur can talk with their neighbors along the ridge without extra charge.

Many turkeys were shipped from The

G. P. Higganbotham of Echo has lost two valuable mares within the last few days with something resembling pink eye, which has afflicted horses in this county during the past few months. The mares were valued at \$400. Several other mares belonging to him are also

Snow several feet deep already in the

Athena Press: Last night a funny accident happened to Joe Rainville and Harry Turner. When ready to start home, they untied the team all right and got into the sled. The team whirled and this apparently is the desired estated feet.

Mrs. William K. Vanderbilt in a brocaded satin of mauve was a follower of the idea of reviving ancient styles. The satin of pale mauve was relieved by embossed flowers in pink and blue, and the bedies was strapped with black value.

Corvallis Gazette: Five dozen Chin

Prom the Philadelphia Press.
The people didn't stop to ask whether the boss was a Republican or a Democrat. All over the country they were after bosses of all kinds, and generally

THE SUNDAY SCHOOL LESSON

December 3, 1905—Topic: "Nehemiah Rebuilds the Walls of Jerusalem"—Neh Iv:7-20.

Golden text-"Watch and Matt. xxvi;41.

Responsive reading: Psalm laxix.

ondition of the altar the virile or noribund condition of the cult. Intuitively Nehemiah loved the walls seif "dweit in marble halls," but this he felt to be rather a reproach than a pleasure (I Chron. xvii:17). He did not pleasure (I Chron. xvii:17). He did not think, as sometimes Christian farmers do, that any kind of a church will do, but a barn must be "up to date." He did not think, as sometimes Christian bankers do, that a church must be "a model of simplicity in architecture," but even a country seat should exhibit the taste and open-handedness of its possessor. Nehemiah does not give us any labored argument to prove that the walls of Jerusalem should be builded. He simply felt that life was clouded to him except as the prosperity of Jerusalem should be restored. In the lesson for November 19 we have his prayer imploring that a way for rebuilding the city may be opened. When that way was made free to him, he immediately threw up honors and emoluments to carry out the work of restoration for which he had prayed.

Between the lesson of November 19 and that for today we have the account

Between the lesson of November 19 and that for today we have the account of those incidents which prepared the way for the accomplishment of this patriot's purpose. The king had listened to his request with unexpected favor. Before its overthrow Jerusalem had been of some importance to Babylon. It had served as an outlying bastion to the distant empire. Since its demolition thingneighboring tribes were turbulent and their loyalty not to be depended upon. In any great crisis it was uncertain where they would be found. Perhaps Assyria needed a fortified base of supplies nearer her only powerful rival

enced Artaxerxes, Nehemiah received a commission to restore Jerusalem to a defensible condition. He had orders from the king for needed supplies (Ch. ii.8). Without standing upon the order of his departure, Nehemiah set out promptly for the city of his fathers, made a hurried and secret survey of the repairs needed, and after a conference upon the walls before his enemies had time to interpose. Some of the patrician families even then refused to take part in the work (Ch. iii:5), but nothing sufficed to discourage this servant of God who had resolved that to the temple and the temple worshipers should be given the protection of walls and gates.

The Lesson. solved entrance, will save himself a world of trouble. But let him bestir himself to save his boys from the approach of the enemy, and he will have the tradesmen and the politicians and the reporters barking at his heels night and day. The world has he use for a milliant church. As soon as the Arabians and the Ammonites and the Arabians and the Ammonites and the Arabians and the Ammonites and the Ashdodites discover that a new man has taken hold of the cause and that he "means business," they leave off their internecine squabbling to jump unitedly render visible from the distance of the The remedy is a very simple one—the internecine squabbling to jump unitedly

Yerse 8. The enemies of religion may seem to have little in common, but they can always make common cause against Christ and his church. There was only Christ and his church. There was only one thing upon which Pharisees and Sadducees and Herodians agreed, and that was that Jesus must be put down (Matt. xxii:15-16-23). Amid all the outward appearance of a real "campaign," the Arabian who runs a brothel and the Ammonite who conducts a saloon and the Ashdodite who owns a gambling hell know that their hustness will be "proknow that their business will be "pro-tected" if they make common cause. Verse 9. With all these troubles rollng up their thunder clouds in his sky.

Nehemiah was not driven out. He was
troubled, of course. He could not ignore the perils with which he was surrounded, but he did not retreat to rounded, but he did not retreat to Babylon. He went straight to the King of Heaven with his cause. Meanwhile he redoubled his vigilance, and proved himself as good a soldler as he was a faithful worshiper. No man understands the true nature or purpose of prayer who substitutes prayer for courage or

ridelity.

Verse 10.—Meanwhile it was only too evident to the great leader that flesh and blood are not inexhaustible. Judah was a small tribe now, wasted by war and captivity. The walls had been built in days of increasing population and abundant wealth. It was a tremendous undertaking for this feeble remnant to restore these fortifications. They were themselves out in simply removing the debris.

all the signs that their enemies were watching for some unguarded moment in which the work of months might be destroyed in one hour. It is hardly to be wondered at that they became weary,

discouraged, petulant.

Verse 12. To add to his anxiety, the families which lived near these heathen tribes were constantly sending word to Jerusalem—whither their able-bodied men had repaired—"Come back to de-fend your own homes." end your own homes."

Verse 13. Instead of sending recruits

pinces behind the low walls where the laborers were still hard at work, and put them thus under the very eyes of those

interested in their welfare.

Verse 14. Nehemiah sought to turn the thoughts of the people from their perils to God's promises, from their foes to their Deliverer. It was not to be believed that God had brought Israel out the face of the earth.

Verse 15. "Thrice is he armed that

Verse 15. "Thrice is he armed that hath his quarrel just." The foes of Judah were like many other men in the wrong, more eminent for brag than in battle. The mere disclosure of their secrets frightened them. The test of courage is to fight in the open. The ambuscade and the floating mine may win a fight but never win renown. The discovered enemy is often a discomfitted enemy. Upon the withdrawal of their foes, the Jews who had taken up their weapons laid them down once more and resumed their tasks as builders. We ought to spend no time in flourishing

spears when the need of the hour is trowels. Honors won with the sword are not so necessary as those won with the spade.

are not so necessary as those you with the spade.

Verse 16. But in this period of "storm and stress" Nebemiah sought to train his fellow countrymen in both the duties of the mason and those of the warrior. The one lesson which he teaches us by such example is that we cannot as yet "lay our armor down." We must provide for the safety of Jerusalem, not assume it to be safe. Of course, there come exigencies in every great undertaking when all we can do is to stand still and see the salvation of God. But ordinarily we are to use our observation and judgment and ipdustry as well as our faith in the service of the king.

Verse 17. To build up the kingdom of God in any age is a matter of great enterprise and requiring great courage. Few people realize how resolute and determined and persistent the foes of true religion are. Nehemiah knew that the enemy might he could be the senemy might he could be senemy might he could be senemy might he could be supported to the senemy might he could be senemed to the senemy might he could be supported to the supported to the senemy might he could be supported to the true religion are. Nehemiah knew that the enemy might be out of sight, but he was not changed in mind or purpose. Disband the police and the militia in any city of America today, and within

24 hours the streets would run with blood and the homes of the city disap-pear in smoke and flame. Peace and justice rest today upon the strong right Verse 18. As the work progressed the Verse 18. As the work progressed the enemy of their enemies increased. The higher rose the walls, the firmer were set the gates, the more bitter grew the thoughts of Sanballat and Toblah. It is so everywhere with the kingdom of Christ. The greater progress Christianity makes the more do Satan's minlons hate. The more progressed a church hate. hate it. The more prosperous a church the more it becomes the target for poisoned arrows. The world speaks al-most affectionately of a dormant church, but for a militant church it rushes out but for a militant church it rushes out all its artillery. When Bunyan and Wesley were at the summit of their careers as soul-winners they were openly charged with the grossest immorality No one needs to be so alert against the foes of all righteougness as the man who is trying to do the most good. Verses 19, 20. But the battles of the kingdom are not to be fought out by single and widely scattered soldiers.

kingdom are not to be fought out by single and widely scattered soldiers. Keep in touch with good men. Be ready to run to the succor of good men. If you are spiritually assailed, seek the aid of Israelites indeed. Other men have passed through similar assaults. Look to them. Let your motto be, "Grateful for help and ready to extend

LIFE AMONG THE STARS

"It is inconceivable to me," says Professor W. W. Campbell, lately di-rector of the Lick observatory, "that

have intelligent life, and that the earth is that one."

Professor Campbell probably voices the opinion of the great majority of astronomers, for there are very few who accept Alfred Tunsell Wallace's view that our little globe is the sole abode in all this vast universe of highly endowed creatures with souls.

Look at the heavens tonight, when the eastern sky is ablaze with the rising of Orion and Sirius, and think, if you can, that that port of mighty suns

can, that that port of mighty suns lights only a desert!

The argument for the immessality of the soul and the argument for the plurality of inhabited worlds are of precisely the same nature and rest upon the same basis. Neither is at present the same basis.

cities; the changes of hue produced by the cultivation of broad areas of land; the great railroad "belts." with their distinctive colors and appearance, are a few among the many marks of man's presence which could not fall to be rec-ognized by an intelligent lunar observer armed with a duplicate of the Lick

telescope.

When we examine the moon with our greatest telescopes we find no evi-dence of the existence of intelligent life moon and its ability to retain atmospheric gases fall below the limits suitable to a world resembling the earth, and accordingly we are not much disappointed by the negative evidence given by the telescope.

With such planets as Venus and

Mars the case is different. Venus is massive enough to possess an atmos-phere very like the earth's, and Mars is not too lacking in mass to enable is not too lacking in mass to enable it to retain free gases that might serve to support intelligent creatures organized somewhat differently from ourselves. The trouble is that the distance of these planets, instead of being 25 or 35 million miles, and with such a distance our present telescopes are utterly unable to cope when the ques-tion is to discover unmistakable signs of the presence of intelligent life.

What is needed, then, is mightier telescopes, and that will probably mean telescopes of an entirely new kind, something as yet undreamed of, dependsomething as yet undreamed of, depending upon some discovery as unexpected as that of the X-ray or the disintegration of the atom. In 1907 Mars will approach the earth within but little more than 38,000,000 miles, and in 1909 within scarcely more than 38,000,000 miles. The latter especially will be a splendid opportunity for the coming telescope to solve the problem of life on Mars. In order to show things on Mars as small as the Lick glass shows them on the moon that telescope will need to bear a magnifying power of 200,000 diameters. Even with so gigantic a power as that, the apparent distance of Mars from the observer's eye would be still 120 miles. It is hopeless to get any such power with the present would be still 120 miles. It is hopeless to get any such power with the present style of telescopes. But a fundamental discovery in optics might in a year make the great Lick telescope as completely a back number in astronomy as in Gailleo's opera glass.

In the meantime astronomers who share Professor Campbell's faith will not give over their belief that the heavens are as full of life as of light.

From the New York Tribune The American people are perhaps less ready now than they have been at any period in their history to join in the shout, "The boss is dead, long live the

Still Worth While.

Prom the Philadelphia Ledger.
President McCurdy's salary, even at \$75,000, would be better than none.

THE ANTI-SUICIDE COMMISSION

By Rev. Thomas B. Gregory.
Tom Johnson, the big-bodied, big-brained, big-hearted mayor of Cleveland, has organized an Anti-Suleide society.

has it not been true that "Self-preserva-tion is the first law of nature," and that

strings the soul finds the sorrow and gloom that drives it mad.

Sometimes the wrongness is brought on by the person himself, sometimes it is thrust upon him by others.

There is just one thing in this world that is more sacred and more authoritative than is our love of life, and that is the more sacred and more authoritative than is our love of life, and that is

we can flout the moral law, but we cannot stave off the penalty of the flouting—and one of those penalties is that the man who will not live decently shail, by his own hand, rid himself of the life he has desecrated.

But, as has been intimated, the trouble is not always the fault of the suicide.

Bomebody else may violate the moral

their drunkenness or extravagance, may drive innocent ones to self-destruction, not that they themselves have done wrong, but that they cannot endure the thought of the wrong that has been done by the guilty ones.

And then, again, the greed and general

The remedy is a very simple one-sermon on the Mount.

LEWIS AND CLARK

Exploring Young's bay.

December 1—Again we had a cloudy day and the wind so high from the east that, having ventured in a boat with a view to hunt at some distance, we were obliged o return. We resumed our oc-cupation of dressing leather and mend-ing our old clothes, in which we passed the day. The hunters came in with a report of having seen two herds of elk, but they could kill nothing, and we therefore again fed upon dried fish. At sunset it began to rain violently and continued all night.

Causes of Wife Desertion.

Prom the New York World.

General public interest has been aroused by the statement of Lester Rodine, a Chicago official, that big familles, so urgently advocated by President Roosevelt, are the greatest single cause of wife desertion.

The World has sought to find out if what is said to be true in Chicago is

what is said to be true in Chicago in generally true elsewhere.

In New York the testimony is that wife desertion is mostly due to drink and rarely to big families.

large families.

In St. Louis it is charged to drink. In Boston and Baltimore also it is attributed to other causes than the size

of the family.

It is estimated by Magistrate Joseph Pool of this city that the present average number of wife desertions annually in New York is between 7,000 and 8,000.

fense.

According to Magistrate Pool, who has had many years opportunity for close observation, the prevailing cause of wife desertion is drink on the part of the husband. Next to drink he ranks gambling, mostly on the races in pool-

rooms.

The magistrate was asked, specifically, if he thought large families had anything to do with wife desertion. He said, emphatically, no! He said, further, that while incompatibility of temper was frequently alleged in the higher courts as a ground for separation or desertion, he could not recall even one such case in his court.

It was undoubtedly a fact, however, he said, that the great majority of wives who were deserted were left with several children on their hands.

A Humiliating Confession.

From the Indianapolis News.
It must be with considerable humiliation that the Metropolitan Life confesses that it saved only \$8,500 worth
of the country in 1396 as against much
larger portions saved by its rivals.