



JUDGE WILLARD E. STEWART

Judge Willard E. Stewart, candidate for re-nomination for judge of the district court, has good claims for that re-nomination, and for re-election, based upon his record during his first term upon the bench. Four years ago this newspaper, then under another name, opposed Judge Stewart, and for what it then deemed to be very good reasons. Fairness demands confession that this newspaper was mis-

taken in its estimate of Judge Stewart. His term of service upon the bench has given him ample opportunity to demonstrate his fitness for the place, and he has done so. Because of that record, and because he has convinced this newspaper of its mistake in opposing him four years ago, Will Maupin's Weekly welcomes an opportunity to make such amends as lies within its power by advocating his re-election. Judge Stewart has made good.

PROGRESSIVE ADULTERY IN NEW YORK

The Episcopal clergy has refused to officiate at the marriage of John Jacob Astor and Miss Madeline Force. The clergy of other denominations also refuse. But Mr. Astor and Miss Force will have no trouble in finding some minister or official competent to tie the nuptial knot. About the only result of all this hullabaloo will be to call renewed attention to the progressive harlotry of New York's "four hundred." Plainly speaking, the "swell set" in New York is made up of men and women who are about as promiscuous as flies, who look upon the marriage tie as merely a legal protection from arrest for open adultery, and whose orgies are a stench in the nostrils of decent people,

We do not know Mr. Force, father of the bride-to-be, nor would we care to make his acquaintance. A man who would allow his daughter to become the legalized mistress of a man of millions isn't worth knowing. Nor is the girl willing to thus sell herself into chattel slavery any better than the girl who sells her body for a chance to wear pretty clothes and picture hats. We are sending missionaries by the hundreds to save the heathen in foreign lands. In heaven's name let's send a few to "Darkest New York" and put them to work among the besotted millionaires and millionairesses to whom the marriage tie is about as sacred as swill is to a porker.

IS THE CHURCH MAKING GOOD?

Whenever I hear a man declare, with emphasis, that the church is a failure; that it is a waning power; that it is an effete institution which will soon be superseded by another organization, I am reminded of the anvil that wore out many a hammer. The church is the anvil and the "knocker"—well, he is another hammer. We will admit, at once, that the church needs to be criticised—severely criticised, sometimes. But there are certain facts of which we must not lose sight. When it is said, for example, that the "church having failed, outside agencies have arisen and today they are taking the place of the church," it should not be forgotten that the religious institutions which are supposed to rival the church are all of them supported by the church. The Young Men's Christian Association, for example, is the church at work among men. The rescue mission, or the Salvation Army, is the church specializing upon certain classes of people. Whatever one may think of the value of these agencies and of their effectiveness, they are not really rivals of the church in the sense that they have been organized because the church has failed to make good. Not every church can be run as the Salvation Army is being conducted, for instance. In ministering to the spiritual needs of the world, the church has simply learned to adapt itself to various constituencies. And the workingman, who, for social reasons which are perfectly legitimate, does not care to go to the rich man's church for fear of being patronized—and I don't blame him much for this—greatly prefers a church made up of his own class where he can hold his own with the rest of the people. There is such a thing as "class democracy" and the church, in its dealings with men, has learned to recognize this very human fact. We may theorize about it as we please and wish that conditions were otherwise, but we must take people as we find them. When it is asserted that the churches are not doing anything in the work of caring for the unfortunate in our great cities who are outside of the church, I recall a very extensive study which was recently made among the social workers in the United States. This study revealed the fact that while the church membership in this country is only about one-third of the entire population, it furnishes 75 per cent of the social workers.—Rev. Charles Stelzle.

COMPLIMENTING THE LAWYERS.

A St. Louis judge has just paid the lawyer of the country a compliment that they should be proud to acknowledge. "I have found reporters to be as honest and as reliable as lawyers," says this St. Louis judge. Nothing kinder has been said of lawyers since we can remember, and our experience as a newspaper reporter dates make more than a quarter of a century.