

COMMUNICATED.

VANCOUVER, WASH., Dec. 9, 1896
 —To the Editor: In my letter to the Oregonian of Nov. 21st, giving proofs of infidel philanthropy as against Dr. Charles Edward Locke's statement that Infidels support no schools or hospitals, I respectfully asked Dr. Locke to acknowledge his error. After giving ample time to do so, and not seeing any such acknowledgement, I wrote him a private letter asking him again to be kind enough to do so; but up to date nothing has been received by me from Dr. Locke in regard to the subject. I therefore submit the contents of my letter to Dr. Locke for public perusal.

Dr. CHARLES EDWARD LOCKE;—Dear Sir,—In my letter to the Oregonian of Nov. 27th, 1896, I respectfully asked you to acknowledge the error of your statements in regard to infidel philanthropy mentioned by you in your sermon of Sunday Nov. 15, 1896. You ought to have kindness enough to admit that you were mistaken in the charges you made or produce the proof to substantiate your statements, and as said statements were published in the leading paper of the Northwest you ought to admit publicly through the columns of the same paper, that you were mistaken in regard to infidel philanthropy. You ought to have fairness about you to admit the facts of history. You ought to be liberal enough to acknowledge the statements of even an infidel when proven by facts and history. You ought to admit that the church is indebted to infidel philanthropy for the magnificent Girard College and other grand institutions of learning. You ought also to admit that the churches have no legal right or title to the Girard College, and by teaching religion therein the will and intent of its founder is violated. Your absurd statement that infidels support no schools or hospitals will be remembered against you when all else you have said, or ever will say, will be forgotten unless you admit publicly that you were mistaken; and, unless you do, you will stand in the pillory of history as a defamer a calumniator of the living and the dead. In conclusion, dear Sir, I would respectfully remind you of the fact that the day has past and gone forever, when even ministers of the so-called Holy Gospels can afford to defame or speak untruthfully about infidels or unbelievers of the Christian religion and its useless dogmas and ironclad creeds. I sincerely hope that you will be honest and fair enough to admit your error and publicly acknowledge the same. I have the honor to remain respectfully yours for truth and reason, vs. myth and superstition.

H. D. BURROWS.

SIX SMILES.



"And did my predecessor not find a place in your hearts?" asked the new missionary. "Well, the next thing to it," answered the cannibal guardedly.—Freethinker.

Always wear a sunny smile,
 Be it fair or cloudy weather;
 For 'tis but a little while
 We have here to live together.
 Wear a smile.

Who feels better for a scowl,
 Or a word in anger spoken?
 Hateful glance, or ugly growl,
 Or some other evil token?
 Wear a smile.

Not a silly, sickly grin,
 Nor an everlasting giggle;
 For the human tongue and chin
 Were not made to wag and wiggle
 All the while. [Sel.

The sexton bought wine for the Communion and vinegar for his own use at the same time. He took the vinegar to the church, and this was duly consecrated and administered to the communicants. Their faces, on finding how sour their blessed Savior had turned, may well be imagined.—Wales News.

Johnnie Chaffie—"Grandma, will we all know each other in heaven?" Grandma—"Yes, my child, we shall know each other there." "But grandma, we can make believe we are out when some of them call, can't we?"—Freethinker.

NEWS FROM PORTLAND.

The Sunday school wants Miss Olds again and when she comes we will fill the hall.

"Laugh and grow fat" is an old adage, and if you want to put it into effect, just come to the entertainment next Sunday night.

The "Dewey Sisters" are prime favorites in the city now. Why? They sang last night for the "Woodmen" and are now in demand for other concerts in the near future.

We are all grieved to learn of the sad and untimely death of Mr. S. P. Putnam and Miss May Collins in Boston, Saturday last.

The Christmas entertainment will be something well worth seeing. We are not going to have a Santa Claus, but the "Queen of Plenty" and all her attendants will be in evidence.

Miss Bertha Dewey as "Cleopatra," Joe Kemp as "Kephron" and Mr. J. H. Fisk as "Marc Antony" will render the famous "Poison Scene."

(Continued from first page.)

spectacle below him where the poor suffering children were being taught by their own mother to steal. She in her ignorance, ragged and almost starved, resorted to this as the only means of making a living. Here is a hell on earth.

In China the people are bound for a foreign hell at the rate of a million a month all because the missionaries have visited there. Had they stayed away, the Chinese would die in ignorance and in accordance with the Christian doctrine, would have gone straight to heaven on account of their ignorance. In this case, ignorance is bliss; but the Christian missionaries spoiled it all. They have preached their gospel to the poor Chinese who won't accept it and, as a result, are sending them to hell at a rapid rate.

If all these souls go to hell, are not the missionaries responsible for it?
 P. W. GEER.

QUESTION BOX.

Could any of the orthodox creeds become the universal religion?

Could Secularism (religion of humanity) become the universal religion?

Are the creeds a great hindrance to bringing about the brotherhood of mankind?

How many spirits can dance on the point of a needle? Isn't this question as important to mankind as any of the questions of theology? Does any one really know anything about a future life? Is there any use in talking about things of which we know nothing?

Should our public teachers (the preachers) confine their teachings to things of this life? Why?

Do the orthodox people know what they are talking about when they talk of supernatural things? Do Secularists know what they are talking about when they are talking about the things of nature? Who are the wisest? Who will do the most good?

SECULAR SOCIETIES.

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 McMinnville, Oregon,

Mabel Hopkins,
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 Mrs. J. D. Guiss.

First Secular Church of Portland,
 Clara Bailey, Sec.

First Secular Church of McMinnville, Wm. Lambert, Sec.

First Secular Church of Silverton meets every other Sunday, 7:30 p.m.
 Mr. John Hicks, Sec.

The Silverton Secular Sunday School meets every Sunday in Liberal Hall at 2 p. m. You are earnestly invited to attend and help in our great work of advancing the cause of science and morality.
 J. E. HOSMER,

Mrs. J. D. GUISS, Supt.
 Secretary.

LIBERAL UNIVERSITY FUND.

The following is a list of those who have subscribed to the Liberal University Fund, with the amount signed by each:

E Stewart, Dayville, Or.	\$50 00
L S Davidson, Portland, Or.	25 00
Michel Steffen, Vancouver, Wash.	5 00
Herman Kehm, Portland, Or.	10 00
W E Parrot, Astoria, Or.	5 00
W G Kent, Portland, Or.	20 00
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A Officer, Dayville.	5 00
W Carsner, Wagner, Or.	5 00
W R Smith, Silverton, Or.	100 00
Flora Burtis, Watronsville, Mich.	5 00
H E Klein, Silverton, Or.	25 00
Wm. Kight, Rose Lawn, Ind.	3 00

Total \$403 50

There are other good, responsible parties who have promised sums ranging from five dollars up to two hundred dollars, although they have not signed any particular amount, and we hope that, now we have started in earnest, the required amount will soon be raised.

John Diamond of Coburg, Oregon, will donate fifty dollars, provided the new university building is constructed by Nov. 20, 1897, and John Leitch, of Mazo Manie, Wis., has bequeathed us one thousand dollars.

UNIVERSITY LIBRARY.

Those wishing to become members of this Association may do so by contributing one or more good books.

Members who have joined during the month of December.

P. W. Geer, 10 vol. Cooper's Complete Works.

M. Fitzjerrell 2 vol. History of Christianity.

H. L. Allen 12 vol. Scott's Works.

: GOOD BOOKS :

Force and Matter, Buchner, cloth.	\$1 00
Locke on Human Understanding	1 40
An Ideal Republic, paper	50
Aristotle's Ethics, Gillies, cloth	1 40
The Nature Cure, Dr. Conger, (new) cloth	2 00
Same as last in leatherette	1 00
Volney's Ruins, cloth, 75c paper	50
Vital Force, A. Clevannes,	20
Aristotle's Politics, Ellis, cloth	60
Trials and Triumphs of Labor, Bernardi, paper	50
Hypnotism, How it is Done, its Uses and its Dangers, James R. Cocks, M. D., cloth	1 50
Dialogues of Plato, translated by Carey, cloth	80
Del Mar's History of Monetary Systems, cloth	2 00
Renan's Life of Jesus, paper	50
Molecular Hypothesis of Nature, Lockwood	25
Handbook of Currency and wealth, Waldron	50
Rapheal's Astrological Almanac and Ephemeris	35
Language of the Stars	50
Whither are We Drifting as a Nation, Wiley, paper	50

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