

No Dividing Line.

EDITOR TORCH OF REASON:

I am in receipt of several copies of the TORCH OF REASON and will say that I am pleased with the publication, its articles being liberal, moderate and upon the basis of a successful future. Enclosed please find express money order for \$1.50 for the TORCH OF REASON and Freethought Magazine for one year as per your advertisement. It is gratifying to see by your paper that you are in a fair way to commence the building of the Liberal University and I earnestly wish you success in the undertaking. I had intended to give \$2 toward this institution but upon consideration and acknowledging your earnest endeavors I will send you \$10 instead—on or a few days after the 1st about the 4th of July next would I think be a good time.—We talk dull times but this phrase has become a byword.—Our shoulders should push the wheel of progress and in this effort it should be long and altogether. There are quite a number of liberals in this vicinity all good Britishers but who all agree that there is no dividing line, no 49th parallel between the lovers of freedom, between your country and ours and we gladly welcome any national day of liberty and independence. I remain dear sir, Very fraternally. J. JOHNSTON.

Victoria B. C.

Truth and Reason will Prevail.

Editor Torch of Reason:

I have received your letter and sample copy of your paper and enclose you \$1.00 for subscription to same.

I am very much pleased to know that Universal Mental Liberty, has so able an exponent on the Pacific slope. As soon the people are fully informed of the causes which led to the rise of Christianity and the infamous uses to which it was put by designing scoundrels they will repudiate it. All advance and progress in the past hundred years is due to men of independent thought who have been greatly hampered in their work by bigotry and superstition. Remove this opposition—permit free, fair and independent investigation of nature and its laws and the advance of the race to the higher civilization would be simply marvelous. I hope that you will make a grand success of your paper and University. It is the pioneer institution of its kind. For sometime perhaps it will have a hard struggle to maintain itself against Christian intolerance and hatred but truth and reason will prevail and it will forever stand a monument to the determined character of the men who are backing it with their time and means and pushing it onward to success in spite of all

opposition.

Very truly yours,
C. K. TENNY.

Madison, Wis.

Will do All he Can.

EDITOR TORCH OF REASON:

Please find enclosed \$1 for which renew my subscription to the TORCH OF REASON. We like your paper better than any received and will do all we can to help you along. Yours for truth and justice.

CLARENCE WICKLUND.

Vale Oregon.

Wishes To Join Us.

EDITOR TORCH OF REASON:

I received a sample copy of the TORCH OF REASON and have read of the qualifications for lecturers and teachers in your society. I never belonged to a Freethought society but would like to join the Oregon State Secular Union and I send five dollars for that purpose and five dollars for subscription to the TORCH.

Of course with such a rigorous standard of morals the membership is not likely to be very large but financially, Freethought is a losing game anyhow. Our own Charley Moore, one of the ablest and certainly the most voluminous and tireless Freethought writer in our language, whose denunciations of spooks and other fads are the most entertaining I have ever read issues his Blue Grass Blade at a loss, when the same talent expended in other directions would certainly bring a fortune.

Only about one man in a thousand abstains from both tobacco and intoxicants and I never knew a woman that was not a believer in gods.

Recently while travelling from San Francisco to Ogden I unwillingly came in contact with a tobacco soaked Union News Agent whose books were so permeated with nicotine that I could not bear to have one on the seat with me where he so persistently placed it.

Noticing the disgust of some of the women passengers at his too frequent importunities I ventured to acquaint him of his offensiveness to non-smokers but he actually would not take it seriously, evidently thinking that I was joking. There was much speculation as to how his wares could become so contaminated until it was discovered that during his long run which included a whole night, he constructed a little tent over himself and his goods in the smoker where he slept, and I suppose they were hauled back and forth and subjected nightly to the mellifluous exudations of his breath until they were in a condition to have made the journey unaided across the one thousand miles of desert.

It is well known that the oc-

cupants of the most befouled domicile cannot detect the odor thereof from familiarity with it, and I suppose tobacco smokers cannot be made to realize the offensiveness of their persons which can only be approached in loudness by the sewer-like emanations that proceed from the interior of excessive drinkers of intoxicants.

We have all met the man who thinks there is nothing wrong in taking an occasional drink when he feels like it, but the fact is the man that takes one drink is a drunkard, and he takes the drink precisely for the purpose of getting partially drunk and if you watch him closely you will observe that peculiar offensive manner of all drunkards will become manifest in some degree.

WM. PLATTS.

McDonald, Pa.

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