

Field Notes.

We left Portland on the 25th for our trip through Eastern Oregon. We spent one night in Portland and had the pleasure of meeting several of our Secular friends who are very much interested in the University. Among these were Mrs. Bailey and family and Mrs. Dewey and daughters. They kindly accompanied us to the depot and their kind words and earnest wishes for our success gave us much encouragement. At 2:45 the train pulled out and we felt that we were really on our journey. The scenery along the Columbia is very beautiful and interesting. The Multanomah Falls is worthy of special mention. The sparkling water dashing down a precipice a hundred feet tells more than words can express of the beauties and grandeur of this earth. How can people prefer gates of gold to the beauties of nature? The conductor was quite sociable and asked us the purpose of our trip. We told him who we were and to our great joy he said he fully sympathized with us. But alas! he didn't understand the word secular for with the next breath he remarked that he didn't know what the world would do without christianity. Imagine the sudden change of feeling! We were taken for christian evangelists, perhaps Salvation Army ladies. We didn't stop to enquire.

About eight o'clock the train arrived at Heppner Junction where we were to change cars for Lexington. Here we procured our supper and the agent calmly informed us that our train would not start for seven hours. Seven hours at a station! We resolved to make the best of our time and managed to while away the hours taking short naps and in arguing with a christian minister who was no more fortunate than we. Instead of seven, we waited eight hours but the train finally pulled out and arrived at Lexington about six o'clock where our friends had arranged for us. Despite the stormy weather the hall was full and many stood up all the evening.

You never saw a more intelligent, attentive audience. They stayed after the lecture was out and we had to sing several songs before they would let us off.

During the lecture we had the hardest thunder storm I ever saw in this country. You see God (?) was angry at us but he couldn't keep the people from coming, without doing something worse than sending a thunder storm.

The people here have been very unfortunate as grasshoppers have destroyed most of their crops. This with the general business depression makes things rather hard to bear. But courage! The world is still moving onward.

We met many bright little boys

and girls who are subscribers to the **LITTLE CANDLE.**

In about an hour we will start for Heppner where we lecture tonight. Altogether we feel that our first effort was a success. "Wherever there's a will there's a way;" and we will succeed. Courage!
K. D. & M. P. H.

Notice our ad for our New Song Book. These little books have cost us much labor and we want to sell them. Send for one and write to your friends about it.

Little Points.

Some one said that God told them to write a book. Is it wise to believe this? Is it right to try to believe it?

The Christians of different nations seem to be very active in trying to establish national creeds, and the United States is not last in the procession.

Think of the salaried chaplains of the United States, in the army, navy, prisons etc. and then if you are a Secularist, ask yourself if you are free. Is this religious liberty?

"The Scottish Sabbath Alliance has come to the conclusion that milking cows on Sunday is sin. A series of experiments has demonstrated that if the cows be not fed on Saturday they will not need to be milked on Sunday. The next step will be to use gags which will prevent any mooing."—The New York Press.

Did you ever see one who hated long with perfect hatred (Psalms cxxxix:25) try to affect his flock with an angelic smile? Isn't it sickening?

Chronic kickers and anything-arians are both nonentities in building up a great cause.

How would it do for christians to use cold water in their communion exercises? It would look better and water comes just as near being blood as wine does.

Some claim that Christ has three offices viz., prophet, priest and king. Prophets are not, and never have been of much profit; every man should be his own priest and kings are out of date in America.

It seems to us that it would have been more just to the ladies to have had God exist in five persons instead of three. They (or it) might have been God the father, God the mother, God the son, God the daughter and God the Holy Ghost. (Ghost means wind.)

Think of the energy that has been wasted trying to prove ancient lies to be divine truths.

UNIVERSITY NOTES.

The first load of lumber for our dining hall was hauled last Monday from Rosses' mill.

We hope to have several teams at work next week hauling rock.

Please let us know at once what you can do for us.

People out side of the City who wish to help on the building should let us know when they can commence so we can arrange for board etc.

We have a fine lot of stone ready to be hauled. Come on with your teams.

We should have at least twenty five loads of lumber on the ground next week. It is being sawed and will be ready next Monday. Come on with the teams.

Certain Christians have boasted that the University will not be built. We say it will. All must lift or the work will drag however and we should have the building all enclosed by the time the fall rains begin.

The fact that Liberal University boys are first to donate work is a good sign. It shows that they are anxious to have the work go on.

Some of the young men will work out a year's tuition on the University building. This is just what we want. Are there any more who wish to do the same. Perhaps we can make arrangements to board those who wish to come from off. Write to us.

B. B. Smith, one of our University boys commenced hauling rock for us last Tuesday.

Christian Manipulation of The Public Schools.

EDITOR TORCH OF REASON:

A case of christian manipulation of public school matters occurred near here lately. In a country school district, two of the board are pious, and have few children. The other one is pious, has more children, and is more contentious.

A lady teacher applied for the school, and the pious director objected that she was too young and inexperienced. (She was not a "professor" of christianity.) The non-pious directors gave way, and they finally employed, at the instance of the pious one, a mere child, a girl of sixteen years, with no experience in teaching whatever.

The girl afterwards gave away the whole matter to the other applicant. Church friends of hers had brought about her employment, against the wishes of the two non-pious directors, who preferred the older applicant.

And so it appears to go all around.

The interests of the school, the children, the public money, are all subordinated to the church interests.

It is the same in Turner; "kissing goes by favor," and education and intelligence are set aside for ignorance and superstition, the parents of piety. The qualifications of school teachers cut but a very small figure beside a hypocritical pretense of acceptance of the

fashionable superstition.

Over the door of nearly every public school house in the land should be placed a sign reading: "Only hypocrites wanted as teachers. No honest Freethinkers need apply."

And yet, Freethinkers who love their children, give them their fondest care and toil for them early and late and their affections go out to them in unutterable yearnings, and they strive earnestly and untiringly for the welfare of their idolized off-spring; yet they refuse to organize in defense of themselves and their children.

Surely, parents owe to their children as much of a duty in protecting them from the degrading influences of this superstition called the christian religion, as they do in protecting them from other evils.

What sort of civilization is it where every teacher of the young must begin by being a hypocrite?

Turner, Ore. F. S. M.

University Fund.

The amount given in this fund is actual cash paid in, regardless of what has been promised:

James Down, Silverton, Or.,	\$ 50.00
J. Wolfard & Co. "	25.00
M. J. Adams "	25.00
L. Adams "	5.00
John Porter "	50.00
Peter Rauch "	40.00
H. L. Eisenhart "	5.00
Julius Fisher "	20.00
Samuel Ames "	25.00
L. Ames "	25.00
J. H. Porter "	10.00
A Friend "	10.00
E. Wolfard "	10.00
B. A. Leonard "	5.00
John McArdle, Council Bluffs,	1.00

Secular News.

Don't forget the business meeting of the Silverton Secular Church next Sunday at 10 a. m.

Order one or more of the Torch of Reason Song Books. 10 cents.

Franklin Steiner will be in Oregon about Sep. 1st.

Miss Kate De Peatt delivers the Fourth of July oration at Wagner, Sunday, July 4th.

If you don't write to B. F. Underwood at 2653 Evanston Ave. Chicago, he will think you don't want him to come west on a lecturing tour. Make arrangements and write to him at once.

Rev. Copeland of Salem will deliver an address at Liberal Hall, Sunday July 4th at 8 O'clock. Subject: Independence, Civil and Religious. Miss Helen Copeland will favor the audience with vocal music. Admission free.

In addition to the communication from Susan H. Wixon, which appears in this issue, we received a very kind letter from this noted freethought worker, approving our work. Miss Wixon is the author of a number of excellent works, but we wish especially to recommend her work entitled Right Living. It should be in every home and school library in our land.