

Field Notes.

Friday night we lectured at Mitchell. As most of the people were out of town our audience was not very large but it was attentive. There are very few Liberals in Mitchell, but we met Mr. Boardman and son, both old-time Freethinkers.

Saturday we were driven to Caleb, to the beautiful home of Mr. Barnhouse, and were heartily welcomed. Four o'clock Sunday was the time set for our lecture, and we were met by a very good audience. We had splendid success here, although the Liberal element is in the minority. Quite a number of the Waterman people were over, showing that their faith is as strong as ever. Mrs. Barnhouse kindly assisted us with the music, and thanks are due both to her and her daughter for their kind hospitality and entertainment. With such enthusiastic workers we surely cannot fail.

This afternoon Mrs. Barnhouse will drive us to Waterman, where we lecture on the 20th. Caleb is nestled among the mountains, and once more we catch sight of the timber. The climate at Caleb is delightful, the elevation making the summer as cool and pleasant as spring. Surely, this world is a paradise, and with courage and energy we can make for ourselves and coming generations a heaven here on earth.

LATER.

Monday evening we were cordially welcomed at the home of that staunch Liberal, Mr. Straub of Waterman, and the next day were driven to the pleasant home of Mrs. E. J. Smith. This was the date set for our lecture, and the school house had been secured for that purpose. Onward seems to be the watchword of the Waterman people, for they have a splendid new school house, well furnished. The school, like most of the eastern Oregon schools, is now in session, as the weather will not permit school work during the winter. The people of Eastern Oregon are firm believers in education and are willing to give both time and money to the progress of the world. We have been unable to visit any of the schools so far, but shall surely do so whenever the opportunity presents itself.

To return to our lecture, the house was well filled, and we secured several applications for membership in the O. S. S. U. We received liberal donations to the University fund, Mrs. Smith donating \$25 to aid in the glorious work. Several violinists were present, and after the lecture all joined in that old but ever new amusement—dancing.

The country around Waterman is comparatively level, and as in most of Eastern Oregon, stockraising is the principal occupation.

The next morning we started bright and early for Dayville, Mr.

Straub kindly driving us there. The people are very kind to the Secular pilgrims and we have found very little trouble in going from one place to another. The drive to Dayville can be described in a few words, for it was up and down, down and up most of the way. We arrived about six o'clock at Mr. Snyder's home, by the river, where we were met with a hearty welcome. Secularism is growing and the earthly paradise is to be.

STILL LATER.

Thursday we are at the home of Mr. Snyder and enjoy ourselves in true Secular fashion. While here we meet Mr. A. Officer and Mr. C. E. Glaze who celebrated with us at Wagner. We were to lecture in the school-house but at first it looked rather doubtful, as to whether we would have an audience and some one suggested that we would have one preacher, in the choir and one for an audience. About nine o'clock, however, the crowd began to come. It seemed as though they sprang forth suddenly from the sage brush for soon all the seats were taken and quite a number were obliged to stand. A more attentive audience could not be found and Dayville people show that this world is of more importance to them than the next. After the lecture some suggested that we trip the light fantastic which we did with a will until midnight then departed to our homes so as to be in readiness for the next night.

Friday we organized a choir and in the evening the congregation join in singing, and proclaiming glorious mental liberty. We secure several applications for membership in the O. S. S. U. Mr. Glaze kindly furnished the speaker's stand with a beautiful bouquet. After the meeting, we go to the hall and again enjoy a social dance. The hours flit unconsciously by as both hearts and feet keep time to the music. About one o'clock we bid good-night to the happy throng and are driven to the beautiful home of Mr. Stewart who has contributed so generously to the University.

Dayville is one of the prettiest places we have seen in Eastern Oregon. Wood and water are plentiful and someone has said that it is a very poor woman who can't make a living if her husband furnishes her with wood and water, so we suppose that is the reason so many have chosen the John Day valley as their home. At any rate, they made a good selection.

Monday morning we are taken in charge by A. Officer (the man's name) to be taken to John Day. It is with regret and many fond remembrances that we leave, and we would advise all Liberal lecturers to stop at Dayville, for they will surely never regret it. The Officer was very lenient and allowed us to stop and visit some Liberal friends, as well as the orchards along the

road. The road to John Day runs through a very productive section along the John Day river, and we saw some splendid orchards with good prospects of a large crop. We pass through the little village of Mt. Vernon and arrive at John Day about six o'clock, where we are taken, not to the jail, but to the hotel.

As we write, the bells are calling the worshipers of God, (?) but in an hour we go forth to greet an audience who have gathered to talk over the best methods of serving humanity. K. D. & M. P. H.

NEWS AND NOTES.

In order to raise funds to complete our building we have decided to sell scholarships. Prices announced later.

Mr. Martin Klein son of H. E. Klein is working with his team. He will donate this week's work and then work out a year's tuition.

The excavating for the basement is nearly done. Mr. Alfred Desart with his crew of men has quarried for our basement, several perch of the finest building rock we ever saw.

The carpenters are obliged to wait again for lumber, but the frame of the dining-hall is up and the work on the basement, well etc. is going on apace.

While the orthodox preachers are disobeying the golden rule and the ninth commandment, by declaring that Infidels can't build schools etc., our lecturers and friends are sending in the cash to build one. If our good brothers aren't careful they'll become fossils and the Infidels will have them on the shelf.

Miss Leona Allen, one of the students, brought us three bushels of plums and a bushel of fine cherries this week. Taking up one of the plums promiscuously, we measured it and found that around the smallest way it measured 6½ inches. This fruit is just fine. Thanks.

Mrs. Hosmer and Miss DePeatt have been lecturing one month and have sent us \$185.00.

Owing to the sickness of our printer, Mr. J. R. Benton, our work has been rushing this week.

Sculpturers, painters, writers, farmers, merchants, mechanics, teachers—ALL should do SOMETHING to make the Liberal University the best school in the world.

We received 5½ gallons of kittatiny blackberries last Saturday, from Mr. I. H. Keyes of Chemawa, for a year's subscription to the TORCH. These berries have the finest of flavor, no core like the old varieties and measure 1½ inches in length.

Mr. Allen of Cincinnati, Ohio, wants us to print several thousand Secular Church Constitutions. This is what we like; we need the patronage of all Secularists and will print anything from a hop-

check to a periodical, for LESS than bottom prices.

Our library has just received the valuable addition of Bulwer Lytton's complete works, nicely bound in nine volumes. We must have one of the best libraries in the world.

LITTLE POINTS.

When the "barriers (of priest-craft) are burned away" the world may expect to advance as it never has before.

Can it be that "this life is but a net, in which Jehovah catches souls for hell?"

As regards a deity, the Christian religion reveals nothing new; neither did it bring immorality to light. Belief in that was prevalent long before.—Freethinker.

"Every step science makes forward she drives back the belief in supernatural forces, or the need of such a belief into more remote and untenable positions."

A righteous man hateth lying; but a wicked man is loathsome, and cometh to shame.—Proverbs.

There are people living in Eastern Africa who go entirely naked; have no marriage laws; eat mice, snakes, insects, roots etc., climb about in the trees like apes and do not even know the use of fire. Do these people go to heaven when they die, while philosophers who are agnostics or infidels go to eternal torment? Humbug!

The clergy's false pretensions in regard to divine things is one of the greatest crimes that has ever been committed.

A Christian lady objected to her husband giving stone, to use in building the basement of the Liberal University. They wished the stone hauled away but she did not want it to go for that purpose. "Give to him that asketh thee, and from him that would borrow of thee turn not thou away," isn't very practical after all, is it sister?

Notice.

The regular meeting of the Silvertown Secular Church will be held next Sunday evening at 8 o'clock. All members are requested to be present. J. D. GUISS, President.

University Fund.

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

Previously acknowledged, \$399.50  
 A. Vanderpool, Wisconsin, 5.00  
 E. Stewart, Oregon, 50.00  
 Mrs. E. Smith, " 25.00  
 J. L. Barnhouse, " 10.00  
 E. R. Laughlin, " 5.00  
 E. Straube, " 5.00  
 A. Officer, " 5.00

MATERIAL, ETC.

A. Wolf & Son, (lumber) \$100.00  
 J. Wolfard & Co., (shingles) 25.00  
 F. J. Beaty, (hay) 16.00  
 " " (furniture) 7.50  
 T. D. Allen, (rebate on land) 50.00  
 Cusiter & Davenport, (labor) 4.50