

**Torch of Reason.**

By M. P. Gifford.

Tune: "Marching Through Georgia."

Spread the Torch of Reason, boys,  
From mountain top to shore,  
And let its welcome light thus shine  
Upon us evermore;  
That through its light we all may know  
That Reason's sure to come,  
While we are marching to freedom.

**CHORUS:**

Hurrah! Hurrah!  
The Torch is shining bright;  
Hurrah! Hurrah!  
It's shining for the right,  
So we'll sing the Freethought hymns,  
And welcome all that come,  
While we are marching to freedom.  
Let's gird on our armor boys  
And make a noble stand,  
And say that we are going to try  
And accomplish something grand;  
Let this ever be our motto boys,  
"The right shall surely win;"  
While we are marching to Freedom.

Chorus.

All of us within the ranks  
Must do the best we can  
To establish truth and justice  
And to help our fellow man,  
Nor spend our time in idleness;  
There's work that must be done,  
While we are marching to freedom.

Chorus.

Let us join together boys,  
In making a grand stroke  
To free ourselves forever  
From old Superstition's yoke;  
Now throw away all prejudice  
And to our standard come,  
While we are marching to freedom.

Chorus.

**FIELD NOTES.**

We took the train Tuesday afternoon for Huntington, where we were billed for a lecture in the evening. On account of a misunderstanding the bills were not posted until that morning, and it gave very little time for advertising. In consequence we were greeted by a small audience—the smallest we have had. There are very few Liberals in Huntington, Dr. Leonard being the only one we met.

Wednesday afternoon we went on to North Powder and were met by Mr. and Mrs. Jack Plummer, who are ever ready to welcome the weary Secular pilgrim to their pleasant home. We took a good night's rest and were ready for our work the next evening. There is an old saying that after the clouds come sunshine, and it surely proved true in this place, for we were greeted with a beautiful boquet, a present from Mrs. Plummer, and a fine large audience, although North Powder is said to be an orthodox community. But there are many who are Liberals in spirit, and they intend to organize a Sunday school where their children may be taught the religion of humanity. Little Robert Ingersoll Plummer entertained us with his bright sayings, and bids fair to become worthy of his name. Mrs. Haines joined our Union, and she and her husband and Mrs. Plummer accompanied us to the train Friday and saw us safely start for home, where we arrived safe and sound Saturday about one o'clock, Prof. Hosmer meeting us with a team at Woodburn.

In all we were absent about two months; visited twenty-one places,

delivered twenty-eight lectures, gained financial aid, scattered Freethought literature throughout the country, and met some of the best people in the world. In the Liberal homes we visited we noticed that spirit of love and harmony which should prevail in all homes. As one person expressed it: "Where they didn't have to bestow love on Jesus they could give that much more to members of their family," and surely Liberals can be proud of the effect of working for a heaven on earth.

We will always carry with us fond remembrances of Eastern Oregon, and especially of the kind, generous-hearted Secularists, without whose help our trip would have been a failure. Long may they live to enjoy the fruits of their labor, and when dying may they be free from the fear of the old orthodox superstition. K. D. & M. P. H.

**NEWS AND NOTES.**

Miss DePeatt's dates in southern Oregon will be announced soon.

Father Geer keeps his little mules busy hauling lumber, stone, hay, etc., etc.

Thanks is due from this office to Mr. H. E. Klein for a nice lot of fine tomatoes.

The O. S. S. U. board meeting next Sunday at ten o'clock, a. m., at Liberal Hall.

Norris and Roscoe Ames, two of our students, brought us some fine plums and cabbages this week.

Last Sunday the faculty took another trip to the Waldo hills. They had a picnic and brought back a load of fruit.

The geological specimens we mentioned last week were donated by Mrs. Eliza Sorenson, superintendent of the Council, Secular Sunday school.

The hop picking and thrashing season is rather a bad time for Mr. Steiner's lectures at Silverton, so all who possibly can should come. Remember the date, September 4th and 5th, next Saturday and Sunday evenings.

The masons have stopped work on the basement for a few days, on account of the lack of teams to keep them supplied with rock. There will be plenty of teams in a few days, however, and work will then go ahead more rapidly.

The faculty of the University accepted a kind invitation to attend an ice cream sociable at Mr. and Mrs. L. Ames, in honor of the return of our lecturers. We enjoyed a very pleasant afternoon, and the cream was par excellence.

Some of our force is taking thought for the morrow and putting up fruit for next winter. Dried pears, canned pears, prunes, plums, apples and apples, tomatoes, corn, berries and berries, etc., etc. We don't intend to starve ourselves nor our students as long as fruit is as plentiful as it is in this lovely home.

**LITTLE POINTS.**

Buy some child a microscope, instead of spending your money for tobacco.

An ancient papyrus has been found in Egypt which contains some of Christ's sayings.

Because there are some phenomena of the mind that is not well understood, is no sign that there are spirits.

The superstitions of the modern Christians are just as bad as the superstitions of the wild Indians, and very similar.

If some people would put in more time studying the laws of health, and give less time to the preacher, it would save them much pain and anxiety.

If the devil took Jesus up on the mountain and showed him the kingdoms of the whole earth, why didn't we know about America before 1492? \*

Will you have a "smile?" No, thanks, I have use for what little brains I have left. My ancestors "smiled," and prayed more than was good for me, and I've "sworn off."

Wouldn't it be nice if God had so loved the world as to have allowed his son to have stayed with us and taught us, instead of letting the other Jews kill him, and leaving his work in the hands of the preachers?

If the prophets communed with God, why didn't they find out about something useful to man, instead of the foolish trash that is recorded? If a Secularist could talk awhile with the old gent, we'll wager "two bits" that he'd get some valuable information.

Quack preachers and quack doctors work together to rob the people. Trust in prayer, study your bible and pay the preacher; this will keep you from knowing much about yourself and you will soon be sick. Then call the quack doctor and he'll think so hard you can hear his brain purr; of course you're in bad shape—\$50 or so. Let us pray!

**SECULAR FLASHES.**

It is in misfortune that the character of the upright man shines forth with the greatest lustre, and when all else fails he takes a stand upon his integrity and courage.—E. O. Haven.

The great movements of the world have generally commenced among those who were apparently the least calculated to advance them; among those who were weak in power and influence.—Seaver.

The sound of your hammer at five in the morning or nine at night, heard by a creditor, makes him easy six months longer; but if he sees you at a billiard table, or hears your voice at a tavern, when you should be at work, he sends (should

send) for his money the next day.—Ben. Franklin.

All the kings of the earth acknowledge the existence of God, and God is their ally; and the belief in God is used as a means to enslave and rob, to govern and degrade the people whom they call their subjects.—R. G. Ingersoll.

I love the man that can smile in trouble, that can gather strength from distress, and grow brave by reflection. 'Tis the business of little minds to shrink; but he whose heart is firm, and whose conscience approves his conduct, will pursue his principles unto death.—Thomas Paine.

Get wisdom, get understanding: forget it not: neither decline from the words of my mouth. Forsake her not, and she shall preserve thee: love her, and she shall keep thee. Wisdom (not faith) is the principal thing; therefore get wisdom: and with all thy getting get understanding.—Proverbs.

Like the world of which he forms a part, man is governed by natural laws, regular in their course, uniform in their effects, immutable in their essence; and those laws,—the common source of good and evil,—are not written among the distant stars, nor hidden in the codes of mystery.—C. F. Volney.

Years ago Cowper, who died without the illuminating vision of the higher criticism, sang:

"When Jonah sunk beneath the wave,  
He thought to rise no more;  
But God prepared a fish to save  
And bear him to the shore."

If he had been composing verses today, however, the melancholy bard of Olney might have felt constrained to say:

"Jonah has sunk beneath the wave  
Of modern learning's restless sea;  
And God prepares no fish to save  
The man the critics say can't be!"  
—New York Observer.

**University Fund.**

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

Previously acknowledged,	\$311.25
E. O. Decker, Alaska,	3.75
J. R. Allen, Ohio,	10.00
D. Buckingham, Calif.,	20.00
E. Stevens, Idaho,	5.00
O. Sorenson, "	3.00
M. P. Gifford, "	2.50
John Hancock, "	2.00
Byron Camp, "	1.00
M. Winkler, "	1.00
T. L. Hunt, "	1.00
J. Winkler, "	1.00
G. A. Winkler, "	1.00
M. D. Chaffee, "	1.00
Chas. Osborn, "	1.00
A. A. Leonard, Oregon,	5.00
J. Plummer & wf., "	3.00
H. Kelley, "	5.00
J. C. Welcome, "	3.00
I. S. Geer & Co., "	3.00
R. E. Reed, "	2.50
Geo. Hayes, "	.80
S. Ames, "	19.00
Dr. B. L. Hjermstad, Ohio,	5.00

**MATERIAL, ETC.**

Previously acknowledged,	\$208.50
Martin Klein, (work)	11.00
B. B. Smith, "	5.00
Oscar Cavender, "	4.00