

A Remarkable Will.

HENRY MOREHOUSE TABOR DENOUNCES ALL RELIGION AS A SHAM.

New York, Jan. 4.—One of the most remarkable wills ever filed in the office of the surrogate is that of Henry Morehouse Tabor, offered for probate today. In spite of the fact that Mr. Tabor was president and treasurer of the board of trustees of the first Presbyterian church, in the opening clause of his will he denounces all religion as a sham and as having its origin in superstition. He requests that no services be held over his body, and that it be cremated.

Mr. Tabor died Christmas eve at the age of 73. Two children, Sidney Richmond Tabor and Mary Tabor, survive him, and to them the estate, valued at over \$1,000,000, is given absolutely. The will is in the handwriting of the testator, and says:

"Believing that all religions, including Christianity, are superstitions; that the basic doctrine of the Christian religion, the 'fall of man', is utterly and absolutely false, and that its opposite, the rise of man from the lower orders, is a scientific fact; that belief in the (so-called) miracles are hallucinations of the brain, and never had the slightest existence in fact; that the chief characteristics of what is termed the 'word of God' is injustice, cruelty, untruthfulness and obscenity; that the effect of orthodox Christian teaching is to encourage ignorance, selfishness, narrow-mindedness, acrimoniousness, intolerance, wrong and mental slavery; that Christianity (so-called) is not the religion of Christ; that it supplants ethical culture and true morality with meaningless theology and unbelievable dogmas; that it puts an unknown (and probably unknowable) imaginary being in the place of nature; that it gives a name and personality to evil, an equally unknown and imaginary being; that it so works upon the incredulity of its adherents as to create in them a fear of (that most horrible of doctrines) eternal punishment; I say, believing all these, in all kindness and in all earnestness, I request that over my remains there be no religious services of any kind, nature or description whatever.

"I also request that my body be cremated at Fresh Pond, or some other crematory, and that all of my ashes be left there."

The above was taken from the associated press dispatch. We cannot believe that Mr. Tabor was at the time of his death connected with orthodoxy in any way, although at onetime he was religious and may have been connected with church work. At the time of his death he was connected with Liberal organizations, and was a warm

friend of Col. Ingersoll, who wrote the preface to his volume of Liberal writings.

Profane Jokes.

From the London Freethinker.]

The following obituary notice appeared in an American paper: "The wife of the Rev. J. Dolittle listened to her husband's preaching on Sunday last, and died in convulsions the following Tuesday afternoon."

Mrs. Jonsing. — "Am Pahson Jackson ve'y eloquent?"

Mrs. Whitewash.—"Am he eloquent? Oh, my! I wish yo' could hab heard his sermon las' Sunday 'bout Balaam an' de ass—yo' could almost 'imagine yo' heard de ass a-talkin'."

"My text, dearly beloved brethren," said a minister in a western town enjoying a land boom, "will be found in the gospel according to St. Matthew, lot six, block ten." And then the congregation settled back to sleep and dreamed that a railroad ran through the place and eastern buyers of real estate were as plentiful as chinch bugs on a Kansas farm.

A strong-minded and loquacious old lady was arguing strongly the other day for women's rights in the way of preaching, when an old deacon attempted to put her down by remarking that St. Paul once gave it as his opinion that women should remain silent in church. "Oh, did he?" retorted the old dame, sharply. "Well, that's where me and Paul differ; and if he were here I'd tell him the same thing to his very face."—[Ex.]

The Cuban republic is an accomplished fact in the Eastern district. Spain has not the power to overthrow it, nor to hold for long the small part still under its despotic sway, kept in subjection by force of arms, being fenced in by a trocha of forts and military camps.—[Statesman.]

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