

staff against the powers of darkness.

On our way home we were obliged to wait several hours in Woodburn, and here we met our Secular friends, Mrs. Robert Scott and family, who are always glad to say a good word and do a kind deed for the cause of truth.

From Woodburn the business manager took a tie-pass for Mt. Angel, where he took part in a drama with the boys of the Silver-ton Marine Band. Here he became acquainted with Mr. G. F. Mills, the station agent, who was found to be a Secularist, and who subscribed for the Torch and promised to visit our Secular Sunday School at Silverton. Thus we are continually finding new friends and breaking down the old prejudices.

The trip did us much good, for it gave us a chance to stand off and look at our work from a distance, and the effect was truly inspiring. All we need now is substantial encouragement from our friends, to make the Liberal University undertaking a grand success.

**War.**

Orthodoxy is an excellent cloak for rascality and it is one that has had a great sale, for the world is full of rascals, who are anxious to cover up their deformed characters; but perhaps this cloak is doing the world no more harm than what is sometimes labeled freethought. That kind of freethought that furnishes certain types of rascals an excuse for continuing in their devilish meanness is our worst enemy, and we should, if we wish to save the genuine article from coming into disrepute and disuse, let our disapproval be known. If all honest Freethinkers knew the real state of affairs, and would cast their whole weight on the side of progressive, moral, freethinking Secularism, it would bring about a change that in its rapidity of coming and its beneficent influence would astonish even the most sanguine. The government of Spain may be our enemy but the religion of Spain and its offspring everywhere is an enemy to the whole world. Soldiers of Secularism to the front!

**Lying Does not Pay.**

In no business does lying pay. Where it is practiced it is sure to be discovered sooner or later. A lie may make its way around the world while truth is putting on its boots, but when truth does get its boots on, the lie is certain to be overtaken and to be severely kicked, if not killed.

Lying re-acts on the liar, and in the long run defeats its own object. Every truth in the universe harmonizes with every other truth. No two or more truths contradict

one another. But a lie agrees with no truth, and every lie that is told requires other lies to bolster it up. The more numerous the lies the more additional lies are needed to sustain them, and the greater the liabilities of exposure.

One lie may be added to another until there is a large network of lies, which by careful guarding and ingenious defenses, may be maintained for a while, but it is only a question of time when the deception and fraud will be seen, and the network will fall to pieces.

To a lie are opposed all the moral forces of the universe. The stars in their courses fight against error, which is negative, temporary, evanescent. Only the truth endures.

One method of lying is to deceive by concealing the truth and thereby conveying an impression which is misleading and false. It is an old saying, that the suppression of truth is the suggestion of a falsehood. Freethinkers more than the slaves of dogma and creed, should recognize and appreciate this proposition. Unfortunately, some so-called Liberals, under the influence of the sectarian and partizan spirit, practice deception and lying whenever they think the interest of "the cause" can thereby be advanced—a method for the use of which the Christian of the third and fourth centuries especially, have been severely condemned by Mosheim and other honest Christian historians.

They, who do this, are men of narrow minds and low ideals, who have not been able to emancipate themselves from the bigotry and dishonesty, generated by the creeds in which they were indoctrinated. Such persons, whether they preach hell or denounce it, are of the same type, and they do not represent anything worthy the name of Liberalism, Freethought, or Secularism. Their influence is but for the moment, and only with those whose love of the truth and the right is feeble.

The Liberal thought of this age, represented by its greatest minds, like Darwin, Huxley, and Tyndell, Mill and Lewes, Grote and Lecky. Harriet Martineau and George Eliot, Parker, Newman and Fisk gives no recognition to the ignorant and petty spirits that prate about Liberalism, without any knowledge of its first principles or any appreciation of its scope and influence.

B. F. UNDERWOOD

Secularists, would you not like to have some letter heads printed with Secular sentiment and Wettstein's Freethought badge, to use in correspondence with your friends? We will furnish them to you with your name and address printed on them for 75 cents per hundred, \$1.50 for 250, or \$2.50 for 500 post paid. Let the people know where you stand.

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