

Another Plan.

\$34.75 was raised at a basket supper and dance by the Liberals at Wagner, Oregon, Feb. 14. This money was forwarded to us to assist the Liberal University. It was a pleasant surprise. Who will surprise us again? What other locality can do as well, or even better? Try it! Even if you cannot do as well, it will be a great help, and a few sums like this will build and equip the University. It is worth trying. Who will be the next?

General Aspect of the Special-Creation Hypothesis.

[Continued from first page.]

ated. Many who in all else have abandoned the aboriginal theory of things, still hold this remnant of the aboriginal theory. Ask any tolerably-informed man whether he accepts the cosmogony of the Indians, or the Greeks, or the Hebrews, and he will regard the question as next to an insult. Yet one element common to these cosmogories he very likely retains: not bearing in mind its origin. For whence did he get the doctrine of special creations? Catechise him and he is forced to confess that it was put into his mind in childhood, as one portion of a story which, as a whole, he has long since rejected. Why this fragment is likely to be right while all the rest is wrong, he is unable to say. May we not then expect, that the relinquishment of all other parts of this story, will by and by be followed by the relinquishment of this remaining part of it?—[Synthetic Philosophy.]

Friends and Foes.

A letter from one calling himself a Liberal, of California, and another from a servant of God, shows that we are between two fires. The following are the letters.

AN ILLIBERAL OF CALIFORNIA.

"Your letter received telling predicament of the TORCH and requesting donations to Liberal University. Will say in reply that you needn't send the TORCH to me any more, as it is too narrow and bigoted a sheet to suit my tastes, and I will never contribute one cent toward the support of such a so-called Liberal University as that in Oregon."

GOD'S SERVANT OF CANADA.

"Your paper is mailed to me weekly, by whose authority I cannot tell. I wish it to be distinctly understood I want to see no more. Such a paper is a disgrace to any name and to the town where it is allowed to be printed."

These unkind and uncalled-for insults do not sound much like the following, from one who knows our work of education is right.

A TRUE SECULARIST OF TENNESSEE.

"Your circular received, and in reply will say, enclosed you will find a postoffice money order for one dollar—all that this old '72' man can spare at the present time. If I could do more, you should have it. In regard to the TORCH becoming semi-monthly, I would say, suit your own convenience. I will be satisfied. Just cut the clothes according to the cloth. Hoping every one will do the same or better, with kindest wishes, I am, Yours for the liberty of man, woman and child,

"J. A. CALDER."

Decline of Christianity.

Another godly concern has started for the eternal bow-wows. For years the American Sunday School Union has had a big depository in the Bible house, New York City, and has ground out catechisms by the cart load for the consumption of youth all over the country. Several Doctors of Divinity especially famed for stupidity, who never earned \$1,000 a year in their lives, were installed in various capacities at salaries of two and one half times that amount. All went well until about two years ago, when the demand for catechisms began to get slow. Then, to save expenses, the concern was moved to upper and cheaper rooms in the Constable building. Now, the depository has been abandoned altogether and the crop of catechisms continues to grow beautifully less.

With the American Bible Society running behind at the rate of \$150,000 a year, with its big building on the market and with the American Sunday School Union closing its biggest depositories, the outlook for secularism is growing brighter every day. W. E. J.

A Line from Hebo.

EDITOR TORCH OF REASON:

Can you find space in your paper for a line from Hebo?

I attended church at this place last Sunday, for the second time this winter. The first time the preacher did little but slander the Infidels, and last Sunday he made the assertion that the people of the world were getting altogether too wise. I requested him to explain Eccles. iii. 18-22 and Heb. vii. 1-4. He said there was nothing easier to explain, but he could not explain it satisfactorily. He was asked several questions by an Infidel present, and at length refused to answer any more. He said that the bible forbids him to argue with any person who does not believe in the bible. I gave him a copy of the TORCH. Kind wishes for the TORCH and all interested in it.

G. H. WARD.

Hebo, Ore.

***** WESTERN *****

INFORMATION**Bureau and Exchange**

Is there anything you want? Have you property to sell? Do you wish to buy a home? Do you wish to go into business? Do you wish to exchange real estate or personal property?

FRIENDS:—We have recently established a general Exchange and Information business in the thriving city of Silverton, and have for sale a number of town lots, vacant and improved, some well established business enterprises, some splendid farms near Silverton, and last but not least, all the lots in

SECULAR HOME

a tract of land adjoining the Liberal University grounds, and beautifully situated for homes. Below is a partial list of the property we have for sale.

CITY PROPERTY.

Half-Acre Lot in West Silverton; beautiful location for residence. \$200.

Corner Lot near the Liberal University. \$100.

Lots in Secular Home, location to suit, at \$25, \$50 and \$75.

4 acres of land in Silverton, Oregon; two good houses, fruit trees, etc. Will trade for farm land.

House and Lot near the depot. \$750.

House and lot in center of town. \$375.

House and barn with 1½ acres of land in Silverton. \$750.

FARM PROPERTY.

23 acres, well improved, fine house, barn and outbuildings, one mile from Silverton, \$4000. Will trade for larger farm of equal value not over twenty miles from Silverton.

318 acres of splendid fruit and farming land, well improved, good running water, three miles from Silverton, at \$27 per acre. Can divide if necessary to suit purchaser.

160 acres of fine timber, near a large sawmill, \$1000. Logs can be floated nearly all the way to mill.

Silverton is the home of Secularism, and families moving here will have the splendid advantage of schooling their children in the only Liberal University in the world. Silverton is beautifully situated in the great Willamette valley in the foothills of the Cascade mountains. A fine sparkling stream affords splendid water power and great advantages for drainage. Write to us for further information. Yours for business,

INFORMATION BUREAU AND EXCHANGE.

WATER STREET,
Opposite Liberal Hall.

Silverton, Oregon.

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INCORPORATED UNDER THE LAWS OF ILLINOIS

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Among the patrons as students, and graduates holding the fine Latin diplomas of Western University, are teachers, doctors, pastors, lawyers, merchants, mechanics, authors and inventors. For full particulars, address,

J. H. RANDALL, Ph. D., M. D.

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