

and give John a pretty hard shove under water.

"Well, sir, I'm blessed if he didn't push poor ole John right off'n a step off, and his peg leg stuck in the thick mud about six foot under water.

"The minister stood there kind o' impatient waitin' for John, but ole John, bein' stuck fast to the bottom, never showed up. The minister, he waited and waited, and John he thrashed and thrashed around tryin' to get his self loose, but his peg stuck in the mud like it growed there, and worst of all he couldn't get no purchase with his other foot on account o' the mud bein' so soft. John opened his mouth just as he went under, ready to get off his part of the service, and had took aboard a good load of muddy water, so he was kind o' swamped so's to speak.

"Well, by and by, the minister see John wasn't goin' to come up, he begin to get mighty scared, and droppin his book, begin feelin' for John all around under the water, hollerin' for help all the while like a Comanche Injun.

"Them that was on the bank had been kind a took aback by John's not a showing up, they come in too about this time and begin to help hunt, and pretty soon one of 'em grabs John's collar and yells: "I've got him."

"Well they all come around and pulled, and in a jiffy they had poor ole John ashore.

"He was pretty blue in the face, but they managed to get him pumped out, and he's one of the pillars of the church down that way."

The God of Peace.

BY JOHN A. WILSON.

The Lord is a man of war.—Ex. xv. 3.

I am come to send fire on the earth.—Jesus, in Luke xii. 49.

Think not that I am come to send peace, but a sword.—Jesus, in Matt. x. 34.

Beat your plowshares into swords and your pruning hooks into spears.—Jer. xlvi. 10.

Suppose ye that I am come to give peace on earth? I tell you nay, but rather division.—Luke xii. 51.

Blessed be the Lord of my strength, which teacheth my hands to war, and my fingers to fight.—Psalms cxlv. 1.

And thou shalt consume all the people which the Lord thy God shall deliver thee; thine eye shall have no pity upon them.—Deut. vii. 16.

Thus saith the Lord God of Israel, put every man his sword by his side, and go in and out from gate to gate throughout the camp, and slay every man his brother,

and every man his companion, and every man his neighbor.—Exodus xxxii. 27.

Then said he [Jesus] unto them, but now he that hath a purse, let him take it, and likewise his scrip: and he that hath no sword, let him sell his garment and buy one.—Luke xxii. 36.

So John slew all that remained of the house of Abat. . . . And the Lord said unto John, because thou hast done well in executing that which is right in mine eyes, and hast done unto the house of Abat according to all that was in my heart, thy children of the fourth generation shall sit on the throne of Israel.

Amesbury, Mass.

Little Torches.

BY W. E. JOHNSON.

God is revealed both in his word and in the person of Christ, but there must be a personal application of this knowledge to the individual before God can be known.—[Methodist Recorder.

In other words, you must know God before you know God, and if you do not know him before you know him, you will be damned. This puts us in a mighty tight fix.

The world has crucified him as a malefactor with every indignity and contempt that could have been heaped upon the lowest of criminals. This grieved God and cried to heaven for vindication.—[Zion's Outlook.

But your theology teaches that God sent Jesus into the world for the very purpose of being crucified. Why should God be "grieved" because his plan did not miscarry? He is a very hard God to satisfy.

How can a confirmed old toper reform while loafing night and day in a saloon? It is impossible. How then can a doomed soul, like Dives, repent and escape the awful confines of hell when forsaken by all good and surrounded by all evil? The great gulf that hems him in is fixed, and will remain fixed while God lives and hell burns.—[Religious Telescope.

So your god made this hell and made it so that an inhabitant of it cannot reform, even if he wanted to, did he? Well he certainly bears out his record as given in the Old Testament.

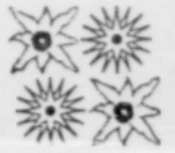
The magistrate is the representative of God in his administration of affairs among men. His power is of God. He should, therefore, in his personal life, as well as in his official administration, reflect the character of God and rule among men according to his law.—[United Presbyterian.

But the magistrate quits business as soon as his term of office expires, god or no god. If the magistrate really "reflected the character of God", he would stone people to death for chopping wood on Sunday, just as God ordered magistrates to do.

FREE!— TUITION — FREE!

IN THE

LIBERAL..... UNIVERSITY



This is a Remarkable Offer!
Some One is Going to be Benefitted!

*** LISTEN! * READ!! ***

From February 1 to August 15, 1898, we have decided to make this **Remarkable Offer.** The party sending us the largest number of Yearly Subscribers to the TORCH OF REASON, at the regular subscription rate of One Dollar a Year, will receive **Free Tuition and Board** at the Liberal University, at Silverton, Oregon, for One School Year. The person sending the Second Largest number of subscribers at one dollar a year, will receive **Free Tuition** one year. The winners of these prizes may choose any course of study given in the University.

Remember the Liberal University is the Only School of the kind, and an offer like this is Indeed Remarkable.

SOMEONE

will receive free tuition for a year and free board besides.

ANOTHER

will receive free tuition for a year.

If you do not succeed in winning either prize, we will allow you twenty-five cents for every subscriber sent us, provided you send five or over. Remit us the full amount with each order, and we will return the amount due you at the end of the contest if you fail to win a prize.

*** RULES OF THE CONTEST ***

All subscriptions must be paid in advance.

Money must be forwarded with the order.

All orders must be mailed to us and bear the postmark at the office of mailing not later than Monday, August 15, 1898.

Subscriptions may be sent in at any time prior to Monday, August 15, 1898, and we will keep a record of the number sent in by each contestant.

State in your letter that you wish to enter the contest.

Sample copies will be sent for two cents each.

Address all letters and make all orders payable to

TORCH OF REASON,

SILVERTON,

OREGON.

WHO MAKES OUR SHOES?

4

of the best
factories . .
in America



ADOLF WOLF & SON

Silverton, Oregon.