

### To Raise Five Thousand Dollars for the University.

Secularists,	
<b>19</b> P. C. Mosier, will give.	\$50
Lou Ames will give.	50
A Friend will give.	50
D. Buckingham will give.	50
A. Slaman, M. D., will give.	50
R. C. Burtis will give.	50
A Friend will give.	50
C. F. Ames will give.	50
P. Rauch will give.	50
D. Bolton will give.	50
Harry Fricker will give.	50
E. Stewart will give.	50
A Friend will give.	50
Mr. Hjermstad,	
Friend from Waldo Hills	50
H. Allen will give.	50
L. E. Fuller will give.	50
F. Wilkinson will give.	50
J. E. Brooks will give.	50
Julius Fisher.	50

provided that **81** more men (or women) will give the same amount. Where are the eighty-one?

### NEWS AND NOTES.

Now is the time to boom the University.

Spain wishes she had never discovered America.

What a glorious Sunday school lesson that was Spain received at the hands of Admiral Dewey!

Dr. J. L. Hill, regular People's Party nominee for congress, second district, will lecture at Liberal Hall Friday evening on the political issues of the day.

Messrs Mason and Libby will soon have all the stone for the foundation of the University building on the ground ready to be put in place by the masons.

The Secularists of Philadelphia have had trouble with anarchists and freelovers in their organization similar to that experienced in Oregon. We hope their victory will be as complete as ours.

The people of Willard, six miles from Silverton, will hold exercises on Memorial Day. The Liberals of Silverton have been invited to take part in the exercises, and Pearl W. Geer will deliver an address.

Before this issue of the Torch reaches most of our readers, we will be located in our new house on the University grounds, where it will be much more convenient to oversee the work. We invite our friends to come and see us in our new home.

Miss Wolf, our former professor of elocution and music, has been engaged by us for the next school year. We could not get a better instructor in these branches on the Pacific coast, and we hope this fact will be the means of bringing us many students in these departments. The tuition will be exceedingly low for this grade of work.

The social dance given by the Y. P. S. S. C. at Liberal hall Friday evening was a very pleasant affair, highly enjoyed by all present. The University fund received \$275 from the proceeds.

Last Sunday evening we had the pleasure of listening to Dr. Van Scoy, of the Portland Methodist University. We enjoyed very much the secular part of his talk to the young people, but the Jesus and God parts seemed very stale. The speaker made some very good points, but very poor applications. In speaking of books which educate, he said that, like geometry, they must not consist of fragments, but be continuous in thought. This is true, and how we would have liked to have applied this fact to the hash of ancient, Jewish, sacred literature called the bible. The evening's entertainment closed with the valuable information, by the choir that we "are going home to Dinah Moore," and by the solemn, closed-eyed remark that the father, son and holy spook live with us right along, a-m-e-n.

### There is Light.

TO THE TORCH:

We miss you since you do not visit us regularly once a week, but if your editors can do more good by talking than printing, we must be resigned to miss you a part of the time. Anything for the good of the cause.

I enclose money order for \$1.25, which is one year's subscription for the Torch and the Little Candle.

"Let there be light!" and there is light.

J. A. TUFTS.

Oswego, Ore.

### Acid Drops.

The archbishop of Madrid has appealed to all the saints to protect the Spaniards, and almost promises them invulnerability against American bullets. The blind chaplain of the United States senate is not behind in the praying business, only he does a little discreet hedging. He doesn't ask God to stop Spanish bullets, or any such nonsense. He only begs the almighty to "wisely direct the president and his advisers to strengthen our forces on land and sea". But in a certain sense this is one better than the archbishop of Madrid goes. Dr. Milburn really asks God to join President McKinley's cabinet during the war — for this occasion only, as the cheap-sale people say.

Aristocratic ladies in Madrid are co-operating with the clergy in organizing special services of prayer night and day for the success of the Spanish arms. We suppose these services are worked in shifts. No doubt this is a good way to keep the Lord's attention engaged, but is it likely to have any effect on

the course of the war? It will take a large quantity of Madrid prayer to keep the Yankee shot from penetrating a Spanish ship.

Women and priests don't go to war. They stay at home and egg the men on to fight. Of course the women are not built for fighting, and nobody wants to see them handling rifles and bayonets. But the priests are supposed to belong to the male sex, and they ought to take a share in every war they approve. Indeed they ought to be placed in the front. If their theories be true, they would be safe in that position. Bullets should fly off from the Lord's anointed; and if they didn't, why, then it would be clear that God was against them, and all the soldiers behind them could just take the hint and march home.—[Freethinker.

### A Parallel.

"Some of the native women of Australia have a queer idea of beauty. They cut themselves with shells, keep the wounds open for a long time, and when they heal huge scars are the result. These scars are deemed highly ornamental."

How like these women are many Christians. They think that by punishing themselves by fasts, long prayers, self-denial of many beneficial pleasures, etc., their souls become beautiful. But what cramped, scarred, abnormal characters they possess.

### Tenth Annual Convention.

The Tenth Annual Convention of the Oregon State Secular Union will be held at Wagner, Oregon, three days, beginning Sunday, July 3, E. M. 298. This is the first time a convention has been called to meet in this part of the state, and a splendid time is anticipated. The first day will be devoted to exercises at the grave of Katie Kehm Smith, and the second day to the celebration of Independence Day. A full program will be announced later.

PEARL W. GEER,

President.

Silverton, Or., May 5, 1898.

### University Fund.

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

Previously acknowledged.	\$346.80
The Printer.	1.00
Geo. Riches.	1.00
B. A. Leonard.	1.00
J. C. Wolf.	1.00
L. J. Adams.	1.00
P. T. Hicks.	1.00
Kinney & Porter.	5.00
Jerry Desart.	.50
Drake & Webb.	.50
Y. P. S. S. C.	7.25

### Club Rates.

The Weekly Oregonian is the best newspaper published in the Pacific Northwest. The subscription price is \$1.50 per year. We will give it, together with the Torch of Reason, for the exceedingly low price of \$1.75. You will get two papers for a little more than the price of one.

## Information Bureau

IS THERE ANYTHING YOU WANT?

If so, make your wants known to us, and we will try and supply them. If what we do for you is worth nothing to you, we will expect no pay. Cast your eye over the list, and then write to us. Read our ad. on page 6. Address, INFORMATION BUREAU, Box 100. SILVERTON, ORE.

**School Teacher.**—A young lady, who is a thorough Secularist, would like employment in a public school. She holds a third-grade certificate and can give good references.

**School Teacher.**—A gentleman with thirty years' experience in the school room, who holds a state teacher's certificate, would like employment as teacher. Can teach vocal and instrumental music.

**Care of Children.**—A girl of 19, steady and quiet, Secularist, wants situation as care-taker and teacher of children. Is competent, can teach rudiments of music and plays the organ. References given and required.

**Secularists Wanted.**—Secularists who are thoroughly interested in the cause are wanted to help build up a Secular community near Silverton, Oregon. It is thought best that each member of the community own a little home of his or her own, which can VERY EASILY be obtained. Write to us.

**Real Estate for Sale.**—80 acres, house and barn, good orchard, all fenced, 8 miles from Silverton, near school, 35 acres improved, on main road. Price \$800.

Twenty acres; 15 acres improved, all fenced, good spring, 1½ miles from Silverton. Price \$700.

One hundred and sixty acres; 12 acres cleared, 4 miles from Silverton. Price \$300.

**Help Wanted.**—A lady in Eastern Oregon writes to the Information Bureau as follows: "I want a woman who is able to work; a good cook, and a nice housekeeper. We live on a farm and have no children at home. We have work hands in the spring and through hay harvest. The woman (or girl) we employ must be agreeable and we prefer a Liberal. If we get one to suit, we would want her by the year, or as long as she wanted to stay, if it is until death parts us."

Since advertising as above the lady has taken three grandchildren to care for. She is therefore still more in need of help and will pay good wages.

### BOOKS BY HENRY GEORGE.

**The Science of Political Economy.**

This work, in all main essentials finished, was begun in 1891, and was intended by Henry George to be the crowning achievement of his life. Wider in scope than the world-famous "Progress and Poverty", it is written in the same lucid and aphoristic style. It presents political economy in the new aspect of a clear and fascinating science; a science which needs no technical knowledge or special learning to study and which appeals to the vast majority of men because it treats of the burning problem—the getting of a living. Published in one octavo volume of nearly 600 pages, with photographic portrait taken just before M. George's death. Price \$2.50.

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**Protection or Free Trade?**

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Paper, 20 cents.

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