

REFLECTED RAYS.

Enforced idleness is not rest. It is unrest.—[American Sentinel.

The pedigree of the "civil sabbath" is wholly religious.—[Ex.

If one man lives in laziness, another dies of hunger.—[Chinese Proverb.

Under the freest constitution, ignorant people are still slaves.—[Condorcet.

Not a human being would ever regard the bible as the word of God if he were not told so.—[Investigator.

How much does a man know about God after he has read what everybody has written about him?—[Ex.

The man who is always waiting for something to turn up usually finds that his toes are the first to do so.—[Sel.

The man who is always searching for good fortune through the telescope of his imagination is usually very near-sighted as to good things within his reach.—[Sel.

As all error is meanness, it is incumbent on every man who consults his own dignity to retract it as soon as he discovers it, without fearing any censure so much as that of his own mind.—[Dr. Johnson.

The Protestant religion is, for the most part, more tolerant than the Catholic simply because the events which have given rise to Protestantism have at the same time increased the play of the intellect, and therefore lessened the power of the clergy. But whoever has read the works of the great Calvinist divines, and, above all, whoever has studied their history, must know that in the sixteenth and seventeenth centuries the desire of persecuting their opponents burnt as hotly among them as it did among any of the Catholics, even in the worst days of papal dominion.—[Buckle.

It used to be demanded, "Why does not God kill the Devil?" It seems that very few ask that question now. Because the Devil is as dead as God now, and he couldn't be deader than that. In fact, God and Devil were each other's alter-ego, or double. God was the Devil in a passably good mood, and the Devil was God in his tantrums. They were the oldest Siamese twins connected by a link which they dared not sever. So they dragged out their wretched existence as best they were able, revenging their own chagrin and ill-temper upon mankind. These they did till they died, several years ago. They were poisoned by the pure air of common sense and science, a thing they had never been accustomed to, you see,

and from which their owners, the priests, protected them for ages. However, at length a few holes in their prison-house were produced by decay and want of repairs; and poor God and Devil both died for want of foul air, the only stuff in which they could "live and move and have their being". To be sure some people are so foolish as to fancy that they never could be moral without the Devil to tempt and frighten them into being good. The Devil used to be a faithful ally of the clergy, and did more than all of them as a sheep-dog to hound and frighten the sheep to the clerical shearing-booths and shambles. God was no good at all in those days, and devils and witches used to play all sorts of pranks upon him. Alas! they are all dead, those humbugs of our childhood, and no resurrection will overtake them!—[Liberator.

The Pope's anxiety about the fate of Spain is said to have a temporal reason. The Roman Catholic church holds a vast quantity of Spanish securities bearing interest, and stands to lose terribly by the bankruptcy of Spain. There is generally some such reason behind every move of the astute hierarchy at Rome. Catholic sympathy all over Europe is naturally with Spain. The provincial superintendent of the order of Capuchins at Toulouse in a circular to his monks makes the following declaration: "The war now beginning is not merely a war of races and a groundless war of greed against justice. More than all this, it is a war of religions; Protestantism has come again to attack the Catholic church and the cross of Calvary." The writer of this statement ignores the fact that the Protestants have just as much stock in the cross of Calvary as the Catholics. Both sides have a heavy investment and a good dividend.—[Freethinker.

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.

Remember if you send us the names and addresses of 25 of your Liberal friends and acquaintances, we will make you a present of a copy of the Torch of Reason Song Book No. 1. This will only cost you a few minutes' work and a 2 cent stamp.

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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.

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

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