

and ideas" concerning Christianity as you have. I HAVE READ THE BIBLE. The words I put into your mouth in my first letter actually came from an earnest Christian teacher, and are not a "foolish notion of my own Secular brain". I know Christians differ much and leave a VERY "wide range", yet the words I have placed in their mouths are voiced by a very large class. Only a select few are yet capable of the "better opportunity" as you call it. Most Christians still follow the old "narrow path". You may believe that gods and angels are without body, parts or passion — that they are spiritual beings — that they are purely imaginary, or that they do not exist at all, but you are only one out of many who claim to believe in angels, and we know that many Christians believe in real, honest angels. They believe that after death the spirits of earnest Christians are clothed in a more refined spiritual body, like unto Christ's when he appeared and disappeared at his will. You know this to be a fact, and you know also that you know no more about angels than I do. Your calling them spiritual beings is only an unconscious subterfuge. You do this to blind the ignorant or to keep down your own reason, by defining a thing by calling it something that is undefinable. You judge us and then whine, "Judge not, that ye be not Judged." We will judge you. We are forced to judge you, but in our judgment we will use only facts of science and leave angels, spirits, gods and (holy) ghosts to help you in your unnatural conclusions in regard to our natural ones. Of course you don't care whether angels wear pants or not, and you do not like to have the question discussed; but we will discuss it, even the hip pockets and leather suspenders, and the people will begin to think, your "spirit business" will lose its power and the world be saved from the biggest devil (O how I hate it!) that ever existed.

What do I propose in place of Christianity, its "high standard of ethics and Christian living"? EDUCATION, CULTURE, the RELIGION of HUMANITY, a HIGHER standard of ethics and HONEST living. Your standard of ethics is very low. It is acknowledged by all modern educators that rewards and punishments are absolutely wrong. Heaven is your prize and hell your old fashioned birch rod and ferule. Your dream book teaches a very low standard of ethics. At God's command innocency was robbed of its virtue, men murdered in cold blood for slight offences, honest people robbed of their goods and God's son born of doubtful parentage.

There is no cold blooded reason; reason requires warm blood—blood that is not chilled by superstition,

fear nor hypocrisy. Christly, cold blooded work against reason, and in favor of faith, is doing untold injury to this and coming generations.

No class of people are so happy and affectionate "here below" as those who use their reason. Your "great hereafter" dodge is only used for effect. You know no more about it than I do.

Your personal attack is evidently intended to hit something, for it scatters over much territory, but you shot wide of the mark this time; and don't you think it would be better to stop your Christian guessing at things, and especially the character of people of whom you know nothing? Your humble servant, the Devil Hater, is not an "old crank", not "stranded on the rocks of bachelorhood", "disgruntled" nor "a grass widower". He is a young (36), happily-married man and although we are as yet not

past. We must build on the good and reject the bad; we must not rob men, women nor children of anything that will make them happier or better, but it would be well to teach all to lift themselves out of the ethereal realm of idiotic, superstitious nonsense and come back to the terra firma of common sense. When lies are taught as the truth the effect is bad and the effect is manifest in the blind mental wanderings of more earnest Christians than one.

"Shall we deprive innocent children of those beautiful visions of pure imagery," etc.? Truth is stranger than fiction. I have seen children who were only taught the truth, fully as happy as those who indulged in the acquired appetite of god and angel stories sandwiched between those of the flesh and clotting blood of a heathen savior.

"God forbid." How ethereal that sounds! But what good does it do

The Campbellite Folly.

The church that is known far and near as the one which is trying to get a corner on the name "Christian" and trying very hard to prove that the other churches have departed from the true faith, has opened fire on our works here at Silverton. A plan is on foot for the stronger churches of this denomination to pour their money into the lap of their weak sister here at Silverton until she will be able to "root out the awful curse that is in this place." Sunday evening their minister took occasion to enlarge upon the theme of this "terrible blight" in a way calculated to damage our educational institution, and after church was out we tried to show the gentleman that he had made a mistake, but a man who is drunk on religious spirits is about as drunk as one drunk on other kinds, and we could only get him to listen to a few scientific facts and show him a few absurdities of his faith before the faithful Christian janitor put out the lights. We had time, however, to challenge the gentleman to debate with us in public, but no, these libelers of the truth rather talk their idiotic doctrines and rant against the good works of others when there is no one to explain or tell the audience the truth.

How cowardly it seems to us for a man to get up before an audience and say things that will damage those he dare not meet in public. How hard they will work now to root us out! How the money will pour into their treasury! But if we have one-tenth the help and one-hundredth part of the enthusiasm, we will still be here when they have shot their "big wad."

Come on, you cowardly superstitious hosts of a weakening cause! Arouse your slumbering forces! Tell them that their Jesus is soon coming and will hold them responsible for this awful thing in their midst. We are not afraid of you, your gods, nor your devils, and when another year has rolled around, we will prove that your prayers, your groans, your hellish threats, your heavenly promises and your holy lies have lost their power over the people.

A fine specimen of telling sarcasm is reported on the part of the Chinese consul-general in San Francisco. Somebody asked him if he thought the reports were true regarding the intentions of the European powers to partition China, and he suavely answered: "No, it can not be—of course not. Why, these are Christian nations! Germany is a Christian nation, Russia is a Christian nation, and France is a Christian nation. They would not do what is attributed to them, because the rule of Christianity is to do unto others as you would be done by."—[Ex.

Twenty Forerunners.

TO BUILD SECULAR HOME.

.....189..

On demand, we the undersigned promise to pay the Liberal University Company Five Hundred Dollars (\$500) for and in consideration of a good and sufficient warranty deed for one acre of the tract of land lying west of the Liberal University and the city of Silverton, Marion County, Oregon, known as Secular Home, and a written promise from said company that within ninety days after receipt of said Five Hundred Dollars [\$500] said company will commence the erection of a dwelling house on said acre, to cost not less than Four Hundred Dollars [\$400], said building to be built on such plans as the said parties may agree upon and to be finished within six months from date of beginning: Provided that not less than twenty reliable persons have signed this contract when said demand is made.

Signed.....PETER RAUCH.

Signed.....

If you wish to become one of the TWENTY FORERUNNERS, cut out or copy the above, sign it and forward with answers to the following:

Your Name.....
 Age..... Family.....
 Religious Belief.....

blessed with children of our own, we sometimes think it for the best as long as the little ones of earth are so surrounded by the poisonous breath of a generation of hypocritical vipers. Mrs. Devil Hater and myself have, however, before and since our marriage, worked and studied with the children, and although we feel quite modest, we know we have gained some knowledge of child nature. We are anxious to learn more, but we will study books of science for this purpose, and not the one whose chief hero sent she bears to devour the children who told the truth about an old baldheaded preacher, and which advocates the pernicious doctrine that to spare the rod is to spoil the child. We do not believe in that kind of child culture.

No, we are not to disregard the

to say "God forbid"? He (she or it) won't forbid anything. Science (not Jesus) is calling, "Come, learn of me," and let us mistake not. Christian fanaticism is not science, and he who searches for truth in the Christian's "workshop" will find instead, the devil of superstition's substitute for truth—damnable, ethereal lies.

We have taken no offense at what you have said. We have simply given "our honest opinion", and trust that it will not give offense.

Yours for True Progress,
 SECULAR JOHN,
 THE DEVIL HATER.

P. S. — Please send as many teachers' names as possible, and we will gladly send sample copies.

S. J. T. D. H.