

To Raise Five Thousand Dollars for the University.

- 33 Secularists,
- 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, } 50
- Friend from Waldo Hills }
- 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
- Adolf Wolf & Son. 50
- J. K. Buff. 50
- B. A. Leonard. 50
- A Freethinker. 50
- Warren Carsner will give. 50
- J. L. Barnhouse will give. 50
- John Madden will pay. 50
- Alex. Hardie will pay. 50
- Mrs. E. J. Smith will give. 50
- Cal Geer will give. 50
- H. C. Edwards will give. 50
- James Officer will give. 50
- C. E. Glaze will give. 50

67 more men (or women) will give the same amount. Where are the sixty-seven?

NEWS AND NOTES.

Some of the students will help build the gymnasium during their vacation.

Miss Amie Forward, our energetic student, is out of school this week on account of sickness.

Next Saturday evening the Cuban Spy will be with us. Everything is ready for her entertainment.

The Y. P. S. C. supper was one of the very best entertainments that we young people of Silverton ever had. The only thing lacking was a larger hall.

Hurrah for skating! Nearly every one in the Willamette Valley goes wild with delight when it gets cold enough to freeze ice an inch thick. The roads are dry and smooth and many ride their bicycles to the pond, which is about three miles from the city.

The article on page 6, entitled Church and State in Utah, contains a debatable question, viz., Should the Mormon congressman-elect be allowed a seat? We would like to hear the opinions of our readers on the subject. The holy bible of the Christians teaches polygamy. Should those who believe it perfect be disfranchised or deprived of holding office, especially if they practice its holy doctrines? Solomon, the wisest man, according to

this good(?) book, had about 100 times as many wives as the Utah wise man, and as far as union of church and state is concerned, God's chosen people were fully as bad as the Mormons.

We have made especially for our school work a large number of note books of the most convenient size. These note books have the name of our school and appropriate mottoes printed on the front cover and Otto Wettstein's Freethought Badge on the back. Do you want one? Eighty pages, 5 1/2 x 8 1/4 inches—post-paid, 8 cents.

Our friend and fellow citizen, Mr. G. Dolan, made our school a pleasant call yesterday. His nephew from Washington was with him and enters the University today. Mr. Dolan, who is a lawyer and city recorder of Silverton, was formerly a teacher, and he says we have the best school in the state. We certainly have a good school, and when we have suitable buildings and apparatus we will be willing to compare our work with that of any school in the United States.

Woodworkers, don't forget to send an order for a set of the Forstner Auger Bits. Price, \$2.60 by mail. See ad.

For the Torch of Reason.

Chicago Notes.

The various religious organizations are discussing the best methods of securing eternal salvation for the inhabitants of the territory acquired through the war with Spain. A minister is quoted as saying at a banquet: "Our work is not done until we install that which is the determining factor of our civilization, Christianity." A judge, speaking at the same meeting, said: "We must bring the Philippines and Cuba up to the full standard of Christian American citizenship." The particular brand of Christianity that these people would most likely recommend as being best adapted to the needs of our island population would most likely be the Baptist variety, as the above sentiments were uttered at a meeting of Baptists. The government inflicted on those islands for many generations has been so intensely Christian that no doubt the inhabitants will gladly turn any way for relief, if it is only a change of Christianities.

I noticed in the real estate news lately that the new building occupied by the Illinois Trust and Savings bank is exempt from taxes for the reason that the ground on which it stands is owned by a religious and educational institution. The ground is held by the bank on a ninety-nine year lease, and the building cost half a million. Now, if that building was taxed at the same rate as a cottage and lot I know of, it would pay over five thousand dollars annually into the

public treasury, but that sum is diverted to the treasury of a private concern instead. The fact that the money is taken from the public treasury in an indirect manner, does not change the fact that it is stolen. J. B. BEATTIE.

LITTLE POINTS.

If God loved the world, why didn't he save it himself? Was he tired?

If Jesus came to save sinners, why don't he do it immediately, neatly and completely?

God made man and the devil; he then killed man for believing the devil, but the devil still lives.

No man in the world would be as mean as the Christians think their God is, and yet they say: "God is love."

God took a rib out of man when he wanted to make a woman, but when he wanted a son he performed a different kind of a miracle.

In union there is strength. Christianity can never unite the people of the world, but the religion of Humanity can. Help it on!

The reason Christianity does so much harm is that it is founded on wrong principles. "He that believeth not shall be damned" is absolute savagery.

Of course Solomon, who had hundreds of wives, is in heaven; but poor Robert Ingersoll, who believes in having only one, will go to a warmer climate.

"There are three kinds of poor—God's poor, the devil's poor and the poor devils." So said Doctor of Divinity Driver in the last legislature. He knows.

Christian:—What will you give us in exchange for this blessed hope?

Secularist:—How would a little blessed common sense strike you?

If Jesus is God, and he at the right hand of the father, then he is at the right hand of himself and, consequently, must be on his own left hand. A wayfaring man, though a fool, can see that he is "all over himself."

Jesus never taught school, nor did he have children of his own, yet people are filled with emotion when they hear the blessed words from their dear pastor on Christmas: "Suffer little children to come unto me." O, how sweet it is to see these little ones dropping their pennies into the contribution box and getting their heads fixed for future Christian work!

Lumber Fund.

- To raise \$1000 immediately:
- Previously acknowledged. \$608.45
- W. N. Jorgenson. 1.00
- H. C. Page. 3.50

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.

Merchandise.—A buyer wanted for a large retail business in the city of Silverton.

Housekeeper.—Wanted, by a widow, a lady as housekeeper; one who understands the care of children and wants a permanent home. None but a Liberal need apply. 14

20 Men Wanted.—If you are a Secularist and have \$500 to invest it will pay you to write to the Information Bureau. In writing state your age, family if any, occupation and views in regard to religion. 12

Agents.—Agents wanted to sell the Forstner Auger Bit. Money can be made. Send 60c for sample, or \$2.60 for full set packed in neat box. 13

80 acres.—About four miles from Silverton; small, unfinished house; about 5 acres cleared; \$600. Better see It. 11

Who Wishes to Invest?—104 acres of as good bottom land as there is in the state of Washington. Was offered \$10,000 for naked land 12 years ago. Sixteen cows, 9 heifers, 3 horses, wagon, harnesses, plows, harrows, dairy and utensils, 9 hogs, 6 pigs, 60 to 65 tons hay, hay bailer, good boat, tide water at door, 2 houses, 2 barns, spring water at both houses, berries of all kinds. Owner has milked 35 cows and kept 21 head of young stock, cutting plenty of hay from this excellent dairy and stock ranch, which he now offers, with all stock, produce and improvements, for \$5500. Write to the Information Bureau at once. 1

For Sale.—A fine little house in Silverton, with one acre of land, for only \$285. "First come, first served." 4

For Sale or Trade.—A farm, about 30 miles south of The Dalles, 320 acres, in good school district of about 100 scholars; county road crossing Cascade mountains, daily mail, short distance to sawmill and flouring mill, two stores, blacksmith shop, free wood and an unlimited mountain range; box house 16x22 with kitchen and woodshed added, good brick fireplace, both up and downstairs ceiled with matched lumber; post barn 20x32; 3 miles of good fence, 120 acres in cultivation, about 50 more ready for plow. The owner holds deed from government. Price \$2000. Would trade for a place in Silverton of equal or less value. The price of the place is based on its money-making capacity, and it is now paying a good income. We will investigate any offer made. 2

For Sale.—A fine little home in Silverton—1/2-acre; apples, prunes, raspberries, cherries, pears; neat little house, painted and papered; good sidewalk. Price, \$450. 3

Wanted.—A buyer for a well equipped livery stable. Good horses, good buggies, good harnesses, etc. Cheap. Write to us. 8

School Teacher.—A gentleman with thirty years' experience in the school room, who holds a teacher's state certificate, would like employment as teacher. Teach vocal and instrumental music. 9

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. 10

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. 5
Twenty acres; 15 acres improved, all fenced, good spring, 1 1/2 miles from Silverton. Price \$700. 6
One hundred and sixty acres; 12 acres cleared, 4 miles from Silverton. Price \$300.