

NEWS AND NOTES.

B. B. Smith and W. J. Varnes donated valuable books to the library this week.

Mrs. E. Down and Mrs. F. C. Ames made the University a very pleasant call Tuesday.

We are glad to welcome Miss Amie Forward and Mr. Louie Rauch back to their classes again.

The timbers of the gymnasium miraculously rose in the air last Tuesday noon. Many hands make light work!

Miss Jennie Cline has been engaged to teach in the Liberal University. She enters the work next Monday.

Mr. J. P. Geer, Miss Ollie's father, visited at the University Saturday and Sunday. We all enjoyed his visit. He made a pleasant addition to our party Saturday evening.

Frank Morley, Elma Ames, Clyde Mount, Miss Fuqua and Dick Barnhouse are on the sick list this week, and others look sickish. "Wait till the mumps roll by, Annie!"

There were some very interesting and profitable papers presented at the Silverton Teachers' Association last Saturday, and the discussions brought out thoughts of much value to all.

The party at the University last Saturday evening was enjoyed by all. A little piece of the Sabbath may have been broken off, but perhaps it will grow on again, like a lizard's tail.

Some of the mumpy and measley students are crawling back to their places again, while others are just coming down. Oregon students don't usually have such a time as they have had this winter.

The following private notes are self-explanatory:

"Well, Prof., I've got the mumps. My jaws are growing very rapidly, and I would like to have you send up my journal and text book, also my algebra, general history and algebra note book. Send them by Mr. Dahl's children. Yours as ever,
LOUIE."

"Prof. Hosmer:—Well, Mr. Hosmer, I suppose you are surprised to hear that I have the mumps, but I am not, for I have them in great shape. My face hurts me, and so I am wearing it upside down, just for a rest, you know. The fact is, I have arrived at such a state that I can hardly laugh. I know that you will all miss me, but not more than I will you. Please send my general history and physical geography by Elvin, for I don't suppose I will be at school for several days. Tell them all to come and see me when they can, for I am miserably lonesome, and I want somebody to talk to. Yours for the mumps,
L. A."

"P. S.—Tell them to get along the

best they can at Society, for it is impossible for me to be there."

The article on the first page entitled "Space", is taken from the "Wilderness of Worlds", by Morehouse. We hope the book will have a large sale. See notice on page 5.

Mr. Edwards brought down another load of apples from University farm this week, and the students are enjoying them very much. There are plenty more of them, so they can eat all they want.

Our job-work department has been busy this week printing the constitution and by-laws of the Oregon State Secular Union. They will soon be bound in pamphlet form and ready for distribution.

The president of the Liberal University is ready to close a contract with the Liberals of any city of the United States to deliver one or more lectures on Freethought subjects. Write for terms and dates.

Adolf Wolf & Son, merchants of Silverton, have retired from business, having disposed of their entire stock to Messrs Dreyer & Craig, who will continue the business. We wish the new firm success and prosperity.

Notice we have dropped the Five Thousand Dollar Fund. Now we want missionaries in every community to help us raise Two Thousand Dollars at once to convert the heathen Christians of America to common sense. Please pray where it will do the most good and send in the result!

We are glad to see Mr. T. R. Hibbard in Silverton again after having taken an extended trip in California and Mexico. He reports a splendid time, having met some of the Torch of Reason family. One man in Southern California, he says, is intending to lend some beneficial aid to the University ere long.

Eighteen of the thirty-three persons who promised fifty dollars on the \$5000 fund have paid their subscriptions in advance and several others intend to pay in a short time, without waiting for the hundred to subscribe. We will now endeavor to raise the balance by spring so we may be able to go ahead with our building and have it ready at the beginning of the next school year. Donations in any amount, large or small, will be welcome.

Secularists would you not like to have some letterheads printed with Secular sentiment and Wettstein's Freethought badge, to use in correspondence with your friends? We will furnish them to you with your name and address printed on them for 75 cents per hundred, \$1.50 for 250, or \$2.50 for 500, post paid. Let the people know where you stand.

CORRESPONDENCE.

Names for the Song Book.

EDITOR TORCH OF REASON:

Enclosed find list of 25 names for which please send a song book. My father takes the Torch, and we all enjoy reading it very much. After we have read it, we hand it to some friend.

With kindest wishes for your success, I remain,

(MIS.) JENNIE COLE.

Columbia, Okla. Ter.

"Two Shall Chase a Thousand."

EDITOR TORCH OF REASON:

Your letter and Torch at hand. I am pleased with the Torch, the paper and type being good and the matter excellent. It is "dirt cheap" at the price.

The mountain of superstition weighing down mankind in this and other countries is appalling, and it seems to me to be an almost hopeless task assailing it. However, evolution of thought, like evolution in nature, is a slow process, nevertheless it has advanced with sufficient rapidity of late years to create consternation amongst priests and their allies.

This is a small railroad town of less than four thousand inhabitants. Like the Christian faith, it is sick unto death, trade and everything being at a low ebb. It contains one Catholic and four churches of different sects, which wage a continuous war with debt and the devil. The Catholic priest is sleek and fat, and the other preachers have the appearance of being better clad and fed than many who contribute to their support. They retail wind, but apparently do not live upon it.

The town contains very few Freethinkers, but very many hypocritical humbugs. The Freethinkers are characterized by indifference, and the only active ones are Mr. Warren Lloyd and myself, who never allow an opportunity to assail superstition to escape us. We both detest wrangling, but love debate, for the reason, perhaps, that we generally prove top dog. I make it a rule never to contradict, or argue, with an ignorant person.

I will see what I can do for the Torch. But I fear for you to send sample copies would be almost like throwing them away.

Fraternally yours,

A. R. ADAMSON.

North Platte, Neb., Jan. 3, '99.

[We thank friend Adamson for his kind letter and the enclosed money order. Never fear, brother, about sample copies; we are anxious to send them, for, although many may fall on "stony ground," some will take root, GROW and bear fruit for good.—ED.]

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.

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— $\frac{1}{2}$ -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, $1\frac{1}{2}$ miles from Silverton. Price \$700. 6

One hundred and sixty acres; 12 acres cleared, 6 miles from Silverton. Price \$300. 7

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