

NEWS AND NOTES.

Liberal University has a new organ.

We laughed till we cried at the Y. P. S. S. C. last Friday evening.

Are we to finish our University building this year, do you ask? That depends on you.

The students and teachers of the University enjoy their vocal music better now that we have a new organ.

The Liberal University Athletic Association will give a grand masquerade ball on Friday evening, March 31.

Manager Geer is becoming quite a kicker. He kicked 25,000 times one day this week in running the printing press.

A pious but sinful man in Silverton often remarks that "if God should send him to hell by mistake it would be a hell of a mistake."

One of our students attended a Salvation Army meeting this week and came home unconverted and told of their singing about "Jesus in the rocky land".

One of our new students says he has learned more in his few weeks' attendance at the University than he did in a whole year's work in other schools, and he is a real student.

We are in receipt of "Live Questions", by J. P. Altgeld. This is a substantial cloth-bound book, containing 1000 pages. It is sent post paid for \$2.50. See notice elsewhere.

We have two emblems of superstition in our museum: an owl and a bat. Both were nicely mounted by Father Page. The bat was captured by Lyman Leonard and donated to the University.

"The Heart of a Hero," played by home talent in Silverton Saturday evening, was very successful, and although the play was not a heavy one, the acting was good and the audience was well pleased.

Our printing press is very busy these times. With its 4800 impressions for the Torch of Reason every week, and the letterheads, envelopes, pamphlets, etc., etc., it keeps the wheels rolling. Keep the work coming and our cause will prosper.

The Daily Alaskan, published at Skagway, Alaska, is a lively sheet to be published in that frozen country. It reaches us each day and is full of news from the Klondike. The issue of February 26th is indeed interesting and artistic, giving illustrations of the country and the city of Skagway. The issue contains 16 pages, and a very artistic cover illustrating the Pacific & Arctic R. R.

Last Sunday evening one of the good Christian sisters in Silverton was heard to say to her saintly husband as they were walking home after church, "We don't seem to have as large congregations as we used to." The congregations of the gods will be still smaller in the sweet by and by, dear sister.

The following persons have sent in money this week to help along the work of the Liberal University: C. E. Glaze, \$2.50; M. Miller, Sr., \$1.00; M. Otis, \$1.00. Others inform us that they are soliciting donations in their neighborhoods and will forward the results to us in a short time. The sky begins to look brighter. Hurrah for the new building!

LITTLE POINTS.

Mind is not a self-existent entity. It is just the reverse.

Religion makes man a slave; science makes him a ruler.

Religion degrades man to a dependent, fallen creature, while science elevates him to an independent, developed being.

Thirty million men, women and children have been put to death in order to establish Christianity, and yet it is far from being established. God is love?

Is a white Christ a perfect savior for negroes, Indians and Chinamen? Why couldn't God have a black, a red and a yellow son from colored virgins?

The sermon on the mount was not delivered by Jesus Christ, but was, according to high scholastic authority, copied from old Hebrew writings. Many think Jesus a fiction.

Some think that to take away the fear of hell will make people bad. The truth is just the opposite, for a sense of the great injustice of a hell is accountable for much of the sin in the world today.

"Man is better today than he was yesterday; and he will be better tomorrow than he is today," in spite of the supernatural religions and not because of them

THE SAMSON SONG.

If you wish to strike a blow
That will knock out any foe,
If you have to fight ten thousand (less or more),

If you'd see them falling die
As you smite them hip and thigh,
You must hunt around and get a donkey jaw.

Hee haw!
Oh, there's nothing like a good, stout donkey jaw.

And when you've slain the foe
(Say your thousand men or so),
When the slaughter of the battle field is o'er,

And you're feeling faint and dry,
With ne'er a bar-room nigh,
Just you take a seat and suck your donkey jaw!

Hee haw!
Oh, there aint no tippie like your donkey jaw! --[Ex. 13

The following is nearly as badly mixed up as the genealogy of Jesus Christ:

"A tall girl named Short long loved a certain Mr. Little, while Little, little thinking of Short, loved a little lassie named Long. To make a long story short, Little proposed to Long, and Short longed to be even with Little's shortcomings. So Short, meeting Long, threatened to marry Little before long, which caused Little in short to marry Long. Did Short love Little less because Little loved Long?"

LOCALS.

Hoptwine 11½c at F. McClaine's store.

Remember our clubbing rate with the Oregonian only lasts for a limited time. Read our offer on page 7.

Ride a Crescent wheel, the best wheel for \$35 on the market. For sale by r. McClaine, W. H. Snyder, m'g'r.

Notice the ad. of Dreyer & Craig on page 7 of this issue. This is a live, up-to-date firm and deserves patronage.

Just received a full line of extras for all chilled plows—shares, landsides and mouldboards to fit the Oliver also. F. McClaine.

Childers & Smith, of the Ladies' Bazar, are showing a fine line of goods. You ought to go and see for yourself.

All kinds of grass seed and a full line of bee supplies on hand at McClaine's store, Silverton, Ore.

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

Buggies, buggies, buggies! Yes, I have the latest styles for 1899, and all direct from the factory. Prices lower than ever for a first-class job. For sale by F. McClaine, W. H. Snyder, m'g'r.

The Leader Millinery Store has an ad. in this issue of the Torch. You will find it on page 6.

Give your orders for McCormick harvesters now and get the best prices. Over 189,760 sold last year. F. McClaine, agent, W. H. Snyder, salesman.

Notice the ad. of the Ladies' Bazar on page 7.

Everybody invited to call and see the new '99 Crescent wheels, the neatest on the beach. For sale at the Crescent agency, F. McClaine's. W. H. Snyder, manager.

Do you want to take the Weekly Oregonian? You can get it of us at the regular price, \$1.50 a year, and we will give you the Torch of Reason for a year absolutely free. Think of it! Send in your orders.

Dairy Farm.—480 acres of deeded land, 80 acres in meadow and balance grain hay land, pasture, etc. A good stream of water runs through the farm the year round. Also 320 acres of timber culture and homestead which can be proved up on for \$200. Good house, dairy with utensils for making cheese and butter, smokehouse, blacksmith shop and tools, and large, new barn to hold 50 head of cows, 50 calves and 100 tons of hay. Good well at house and barn. This fine dairy farm is located in one of the finest little valleys in Eastern Oregon. The owner finds ready market for all his cheese and butter at high prices, and has made enough money at the business so that he can afford to retire. He wishes to locate in Silverton and educate his children in the Liberal University. He offers all this for only \$3000—one-half down and balance on easy terms; also 130 head of cattle and some hogs will be sold very cheap for cash. Address the Information Bureau, Silverton, Ore. 13

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.

\$3000.—Three lots and buildings, consisting of a 2½-story hotel, a saloon building, a blacksmith shop, two dwelling houses and a barn, situated in Oswego, Oregon. Would trade for other property. 15

Dairy and Fruit Farms.—A dairy farm of 36 acres, good alfalfa land, and fruit farm of 80 acres, 10 acres grapes, 2 acres peaches and other fruit, good house and barns and other outbuildings. All situated in San Diego county, Calif. Will sell cheap or trade for a stock farm. 16

To Trade.—Twenty-two acre fruit farm, 8 miles south of Salem, Ore.; 4 acres bearing orchard, mostly winter apples, 2 acres strawberries, new wire fence, good house and barn, plenty of pasture, excellent water, and timber enough for wood. Would like to trade for a larger place. 17

Housekeeper.—Wanted, by a widower, 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

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—½-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

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, 1½ miles from Silverton. Price \$700. 6

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