

ples and make it one of the wonders of the world. It should be beautiful, and in this climate it could be made so the year round. It should be made healthful, and no place on earth is more naturally so than this part of the Willamette valley. It should be made a happy, thrifty, progressive home, and no people in the world are better fitted to build such than those who have left the lowlands of superstition and live on the high plateaux of Freethought.

We have only the one life to live. Can't we do something worthy of our great cause? And what is more reasonable, or what would be more beneficial to our fellow men, than to build a Secular Home? We have already started a Torch of Reason and a Liberal University, and while we are working away at these, can't we get Secular Home started? Write to us and tell us what you think and what you can do.

RELIGION OF MEDIAEVAL TIMES.

Essays by Members of the Liberal University Mediaeval History Class in Final Examinations.

The war of the investiture gave the popes much power. In time, even the king became subject to the pope and was often greatly humiliated by him, but in the thirteenth century the papal power reached its zenith and the tables were turned. At this time the Catholic church owned most of France, and within the walls of the monastery were found books to read and study and all was peaceful, while outside of the grounds of the convents everything was in a state of unrest.

Was it any wonder the people flocked to the church for protection when the country was in such a condition? But as civilization advanced and books and teachers could be procured without going to the priests, their power steadily decreased. Wycliffe's translation of the Bible did a great deal toward decreasing this power. At first no one but the priests knew what the Bible contained, but when the people did find out, their common sense told them that all the pomp and ceremony they were accustomed to was unnecessary.

Christ being crucified in Palestine made this place sacred to Christians. It was in possession of the Mohammedans, and they allowed the pilgrims to come and view the holy sepulchre unmolested; but when the Turks took possession they were not so good to the Christians, and this led to the Crusades. The Christians were horrified when they heard of the way the Turks treated the pilgrims, and they resolved to rescue this sacred

place. After the eighth or ninth trial this idea was given up, but not before thousands of lives had been foolishly sacrificed.

The Christians of to-day will not acknowledge the fact that their religion is similar to the Christian religion of centuries ago, but unprejudiced people can plainly see the similarity; but as people are becoming more and more enlightened, the number of religious fanatics will grow less and less.

OLLIE GEER.

Probably at no time in history has religious enthusiasm been as great as it was during mediaeval times. When the Saracens rose with Mohammed at their head, fanaticism so lent strength to their arms that they swept all before them. They seemed crazed as they murdered and plundered on every hand.

During the thirteenth century, the pope gained great power. Even the greatest kings of Europe had to bow to his will. If they did not do exactly as he wished, they were excommunicated and their subjects did not have to follow their lead. The popes were bitterly opposed by the kings, and sometimes a king would gain a point, but in the end he would have to ask the pope's forgiveness and yield all to him. In this way the pope of Rome was the head of all Europe and his word was law to both king and subject.

During the fourteenth century, however, the pope's power began to wane. There were times afterwards when he would gain for a while, but the general tendency was for his power to get weaker and weaker, until at the present time he has no political power whatever. The only influence he now has is over his own people.

LORA AMES.

It is an easy matter for philosophers to furnish knowledge, but not so easy to find minds to understand it; hence the proverb, "You can lead a horse to water, but you can not make him drink." The young philosopher cannot measure the mind he wishes to approach, hence his mistakes. The old philosopher will turn with a sigh from those he vain would benefit, saying, "Alas, it is not well to cast pearls before swine." No learned person will hoard knowledge, but would gladly give it for the benefit of fellowmen; but even those in high stations are blind to the knowledge that would bring peace and happiness, and cling to that which springs from pure selfishness or superstition.—[Common Sense.

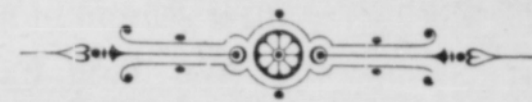
A descriptive catalogue of all the best Freethought works free on application to Dellquest & Andrews, Secular Booksellers, El Paso, Texas.

... The ...

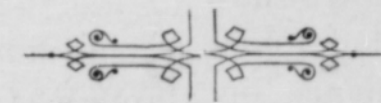
Liberal University



THE ONLY SCHOOL
OF THE KIND.



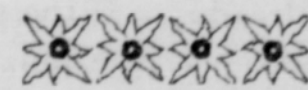
Free from Superstition
Strictly Non-Sectarian



Pupils are Given Every Opportunity to Learn
Without Being Hampered by Supersti-
tions and Dogmas.



Location Healthful,
Society Good.
Expenses Moderate



A Splendid Corps of Teachers and Good Faci-
lities for Teaching. For information,
address

J. E. HOSMER, Ph. D., B. S. D.,
PRESIDENT,

SILVERTON.

OREGON.