

NEWS AND NOTES.

Beautiful weather in Silverton.

Mrs. Hosmer's mumps have gone to heaven. Good!

Miss Ollie Geer is with the University people again.

Silverton will have a grand celebration on the 4th of July.

Mr. Robinson of England, our new printer, arrived from Portland Tuesday.

The last we heard of the business manager he was in Providence, Rhode Island.

Mr. J. H. Morris, our foreman, is having a week's vacation, and he deserves it. Never was found a more faithful worker.

Notice new place offered by the Information Bureau. Some of these places are going at bargains. Write for information. It costs nothing.

Mr. Geo. Healy, who has been with us for several months, expects to start for California next week. Mr. H. is an excellent workman, and we do not like to see him go.

Mr. James Buff is again in Silverton. He reports a very enjoyable time while teaching at Hebo. He delivered several Freethought lectures during the winter, which were highly appreciated.

Our "Christian nation" is converting the Filipinos very rapidly. Kill 'em! Shoot 'em! And then pray for their souls and pass around a little of the blood of Jesus. "O God!" Roll your eyes and say amen.

Remember, if you send us the names and addresses of 25 of your Liberal friends and acquaintances, we will make you a present of a copy of the Torch of Reason Song Book No. 1. This will only cost you a few minutes' work and a two-cent stamp.

Just as we go to press, word comes from the business manager that the work of completing our plans of incorporation is nearing completion. With the most influential and progressive Freethinkers of our age interested in our University, we look forward with the greatest of confidence. Now let us build.

We have lately found another friend of our great cause in Judge J. H. Liening of Colusa, Cal. Mr. James Craig, of Dreyer & Craig, pointed him out to us, and we hasten to extend to him the handle of our Torch of Reason and the right hand of fellowship. The Judge is said to be an old war-horse in the cause of Freethought, and we are glad to make his acquaintance through his Ingersollian propaganda work.

OBITUARY.

Frank Blair Forward, the subject of this sketch, was born in Silverton, Marion county, Oregon, November 13, 1874, and died June 13, 1899. His early life was spent in working on his father's farm in the Waldo Hills and in attending the public school, from which he graduated with honors at an early age. In 1896, his father having died and the old home being sold, Frank moved to the city of Silverton with his mother, two sisters, Mary and Amie, and two brothers, Chancey and Allen, who all remain to mourn the loss of the youngest boy.

Frank died as his father died, with no signs of superstitious fear. When he learned that his time had undoubtedly come, he said to his brother Allen that it didn't matter very much, as he couldn't go to New York this fall anyway. He had planned, worked and studied in order to go to New York to study the art of the sculptor, and the doctor's bill would prevent it. This shows that he really thought more of his ideal in life than he did of life itself. Frank was one of those rare specimens of our great race who was born with high ideals. His great desire was to be a sculptor. To this end he labored hour after hour when other youths were idling away the golden moments in reckless pleasures. Unassisted, he drew picture after picture, made plaster casts of the children's heads, and was now drawing near his long hoped-for opportunity to go where better facilities for study would hasten the time when he would be master of the great art.

In 1897 Frank entered the Liberal University and for many months worked in the Torch of Reason office setting type. In school he was very modest, almost too much so for his own good, for he underestimated his own abilities and oftentimes was so provoked and ashamed at his inability to get things exactly right that he was apt to stand in his own light, but he was a great lover of fair play and was never backward in protecting others in their rights. While setting up Dr. Copeland's sermons for the Torch of Reason, Frank became a great admirer of the doctor's fearless attacks upon the old theories. Dr. Copeland, the Unitarian minister, who has many times said that his church stands for freedom of thought, was called to deliver the funeral address, and those who heard it were not disappointed.

Frank's life-work is over, but he has left us ample proof that those who live need our sympathy, love and help while they yet live; and as his fears and hopes before he

died were for those he left here to mourn, so is our sympathy and love extended to those who need it most. We need not fear for Frank now; we will miss him and his work, but his short life and noble death may be a lesson to all who knew him and to all who read this feeble attempt to show his worth and our loss.

Let us learn to so live that when the time shall come to join the innumerable caravan that is hastening on to be dissolved into the eternal atoms of an eternal universe, we go, not as a superstitious slave, scourged by his fears or crazed by false hopes, but sustained and soothed by the happy thought that the world is a little better for our having lived, drop to rest like one who wraps the drapery of his couch about him and lies down to nature's dreamless sleep.

CORRESPONDENCE.

EDITOR TORCH OF REASON:

Enclosed find \$5, \$1 to apply on subscription to the Torch for the present year and \$2 for A Physician in the House; also 25 cents for Eliza Mowry Bliven's six tracts. The balance can go on the building fund for the Liberal University. I would like to do more for the University and may in the future, though we feel quite poor at present. This is our second dry year and crops are terribly short. I enclose a poem of which I had several hundred copies printed, and as I am nearly out, would like to have some more printed. Please let me know what it will cost to print 250 or 500 copies. If you see fit to set it up for the Torch, I thought you might print the slips cheaper than I could get it done otherwise. This, I think, is a choice poem, and I like to read it often, although I am not ashamed to say I never do without shedding tears of remorse that "heaven cannot save." I wish you abundant success in your laudable undertaking. The Torch is a brave little paper and I hope it will continue to shine. Wishing you long life and prosperity,

I am truly yours,

B. B. Rockwood.

San Pasqual, Cal., June 13, 1899.

Rational religion consists in the knowledge that the character of man is formed for him by the power which creates his organization and by the external circumstances which exist around him from his birth, especially by the society with which he associates; in having charity, in consequence of this knowledge of human nature, for the convictions, feelings and conduct of the human race, and in promoting to the utmost in our power the well-being and happiness of every man, woman and child, without regard to their class, sect, party, country or color. [Robert Owen.

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

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.—A fine little home in Silverton—½-acre; apples, prunes, raspberries, cherries, pears; neat little house, painted and papered; good sidewalk. Price, \$450. 3

For Sale or Trade for Property in or near Silverton—320 acres near Dayville, Ore., on both sides of John Day river; 80 acres meadow; good house, barn, sheds, cellar, etc.; excellent water, well and spring; 200 head horses, 100 head cattle, 24 swarms bees, etc., etc.; one-half section of school land, which can easily be obtained, joins the place. All for \$8500 or good trade. 25

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. 11

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

Teacher.—A gentleman, 40 years of age, residing in Missouri, desires to move to Oregon if he can get a position as teacher or find some congenial work. He has excellent recommendations and has had very successful experience in the school room. 19