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A Letter from Mrs. Ingersoll.

The following letter was received by Mrs. Clara Bailey, Secretary Oregon State Secular Union, in acknowledgement of a letter of sympathy to the Ingersoll family:

WALSTON, DOBBS' FERRY-ON-HUDSON, October 3, 1899.

MY DEAR MRS. BAILEY:—

I most gratefully thank you, and through you the Liberals of Oregon, for the loving words of sympathy and appreciation which your letter brought to me. The knowledge that my dear husband's life work was well done—that he was loved and admired throughout the civilized world—the general grief at his death, and the spontaneous sympathy that has come to us from all sides, have helped to brighten the burden of our sorrow. With assurances of our heartfelt gratitude and devotion to you and all of my beloved husband's loyal friends in Oregon, I am

Faithfully yours,
EVA A. INGERSOLL.

Creeds Perish.

Rev. Frank G. Tyrrell, of the First Christian church, Chicago, on a recent Sunday morning, asked in the theme of his sermon, "Are Creeds Crumbling?" and in answering the query said in part:

"It is every day more and more apparent that creeds are waning. . . . A creed is not what I believe, but what I am determined to make you believe; it is an ecclesiastical document, an authoritative statement of faith, made a term of communion, by which persons and opinions are tested and approved and condemned. Such are the Athanasian Creed and the Westminster Confession.

A few years ago the great Presbyterian church was agitated over the question of revision. Later men like Brooks and Heber Newton, of the Episcopal church, were accused of heresy; Professor David Swing was driven out of the church by the proscriptive and persecuting creed, but the thinker lives and the creeds crumble.

"Such a document destroys freedom of thought. Either the mind must decay, like an unused member, or the creed. Let creeds and collects go; sweep them to the limbo of forgotten iniquities, but let the mind expand."

The church war is breaking out again in England; thousands of British churchmen are becoming more concerned over the use of candles and incense at church service than they are concerning actual, practical service to humanity. While church dignitaries are quarrelling over religious customs which a corrupt daughter has derived from her Catholic mother, the people are becoming disgusted with the vagaries of modern Christianity.—[Flaming Sword.

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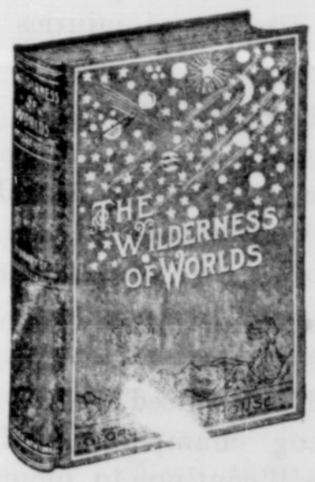

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