

NEWS AND NOTES.

The stairs in the University are nearly completed.

This is examination week at the Liberal University.

Prof. Wakeman's lecture at McMinnville was well received.

The parlor of the dormitory has been completed and looks very well indeed.

All the new desks are in their places and the study room is in tip top condition.

We are glad to announce the business manager's return. He arrived Tuesday.

The new students this week are Miss Leona McMillan and Miss Grace Wolfard.

The lecture delivered by Prof. Wakeman at McMinnville on the 29th inst., will soon appear in the Torch.

A number of new members have joined the Y. P. S. S. C. lately. Our society is now the most popular thing in the city.

Don't forget the Thought Exchange at Liberal Hall next Sunday evening. The subject for discussion will be announced later.

At McMinnville nearly every old Liberal in the county turned out to hear Prof. Wakeman's lecture. An era of good feeling seems to be dawning.

The crazy woman that attended the Y. P. S. S. C. last Friday evening is still at large. She acts a little better now, since receiving so many compliments.

The ladies of Silverton will meet at the residence of Mrs. L. Ames next Saturday at 3 p. m., to organize a Ladies' Social Science Club (L. S. S. C.) All ladies are invited.

One of the finest exercises we have ever had in the Liberal University was Prof. Wakeman's account of "The House that Jack Built", last Tuesday morning.

Mrs. and Miss Wakeman arrived safely last week from their trip to Portland, where they attended the Federation of the Women's Clubs of the Northwest. They report an excellent time.

Mr. and Mrs. Chas. Goss, Mr. and Mrs. N. Dedrick and Mr. and Mrs. G. H. Dedrick bade their Liberal University friends goodbye last Monday and started for one of the mining towns of Eastern Oregon. Sumpter, near Baker city, is to be their future home.

Among the distinguished visitors present [at the federation of the women's clubs of Oregon] were Mrs. A. Stewart of Olympia, god-mother of the Portland Woman's Club, and Mrs. Emily L. Wakeman, a member of the famed Sorosis, New York. She brought with her a letter from

the secretary of Sorosis, Mme. Alice G. Demorest, daughter of the well known Mme. Demorest. A month ago Mrs. Wakeman arrived at Silverton, Or., which she will henceforth make her home, as her husband has just accepted a position in the University of that town. Mrs. Wakeman's daughter, Miss Clara Wakeman, who has given many years' study to art, and is a student of Louis Paul Dessar, of Paris, is also in Portland for a few days visiting the studios.—[Daily Oregonian, Oct. 25.]

"Liberty in the Nineteenth Century."

The above is the title of a scholarly work of 257 pages, by Frederic May Holland, just issued by the publishing house of G. P. Putnam's Sons. Mr. Holland is a radical Freethinker, best known to Liberal thinkers by his large work, "The Rise of Intellectual Liberty," but more popularly known by his "Stories from Browning," "Frederick Douglas," etc. He is one of America's finest scholars, an independent thinker of the scientific school of thought, and a close observer as well as a careful student of history.

In this work the early Freethinkers of the present century receive their meed of praise; evolutionary thought, as represented by Darwin and Spencer, is fully recognized as a factor in the century's progress; Bradlaugh, Ingersoll, and other leading Freethinkers, are praised for their timely and valuable service, Emerson and Transcendentalism are discussed and their intellectual tendencies clearly indicated. The pioneer work of the Boston Investigator, the anti-slavery movement in America and the efforts of reformers like Frances Wright, Ernestine L. Rose, Parker, Robert Owen and his son, Robert Dale Owen, receive full recognition.

The volume is replete with information in regard to the Liberal movement in America, as well as the development of political and religious freedom in France, England and other countries during the present century.

B. F. U.

Petty Religious Spite-work.

Concluded from 5th page.

trons, a very pious Baptist, became so angry because I would not dismiss the whole school, that he asked one of the directors to compel me to do so. The director, however, informed him that he had not the power to do that. The preacher himself denounced me publicly for not closing my school, so all the children could go to his meeting. I had no trouble with any of my pupils; but one month before the close of school, on Monday morning, some of the children met me at the door, exclaiming, "Mrs. Lee,

your bells are gone!" I had two bells, one to call them in from play, the other to call them to their classes. When I went to my desk I found my books were gone also.

We soon ascertained that one of the books and my larger bell were thrown in the well, and recovered them; but of course the book was badly injured. In a few days some of the pupils found two other books torn up in the timber near the school-house; and, later my other book, torn up, together with my small bell, broken.

The boy who is strongly suspected of performing this rude act, because he was seen with my book in his hands the day they were destroyed—Sunday, during church service—and was heard to make threats that he would destroy them, is a son of the gentleman (?) who asked a director to compel me to close school during the very religious meetings. I think the Board of Directors intend bringing the matter before the Grand Jury in November.

We need a more true, practical religion; religion that will make good, honest citizens. I often wonder why preachers do not say something from the pulpit about honesty, morality and good citizenship generally; in short, why they do not say something that will benefit us here and now.

Fouke, Ark.

Commendations from Kentucky.

EDITOR TORCH OF REASON:

You are doing a grand work, and the Liberal University is the grandest project of the centuries. The securing of Mr. T. B. Wakeman for the Liberal University is, in my humble opinion, one of the greatest things that ever happened for the cause of Freethought in our country. Mr. Wakeman is a tower of strength in the realm of Reason. I hope Silverton will become the center of Liberal thought for the American Republic.

Hoping that L. U. O. ("I set free") will echo from ocean to ocean, and that the Torch of Reason will light the way to the Liberal University, and that thousands will enter its portals, I remain,

Respectfully,
JOSEPHINE K. HENRY.

Versailles, Ky.

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