

The Immortal Egoism.

A strong article on first page is that from Prof. Ernst Haeckel on the Biological "Soul". It was only three weeks ago that we printed from the New York Journal a statement of this great Scientist on the general subject of life, soul and immortality — a statement which has been pretty well republished over the civilized world. The one we print now is from his great little work called "Monism", published in English, from his German, in London in 1894. It is his private confession of scientific conclusions made public by reason of a controversy with Dubois Raymond, which made it necessary, and from which the world has been a great gainer.

A great gainer, we say, because it has done very much to bring the material science of Cosmology and the vital science of Biology into agreement, and into common support of our Social instead of the old Egoistic, and as many believe, utterly immoral, immortality. And this common support has become necessary, as we before pointed out, because this Coelestial Hedonism, like the terrestrial pleasure and 'greatest happiness' theories and objects of life, lies right squarely across the line of the social evolution and progress of mankind. Nothing really good and great can be done on this Earth until civilized peoples can recover from the illusion that the end and object of their existence is "the multiplication of their own agreeable consciousnesses" in this life, or in a conscious life to follow it. These two paralyzing forms of Hedonism are shown by Science to be neither true in fact nor good in results, and so we have let the Scientists like Prof. Haeckel and Dr. Paul Carus train their guns upon them — in the late numbers of the Torch — the first in the vital and the latter in the moral world.

But beneath them as a common foundation lies the great law and fact of Cosmology — viz., CORRELATION:—that is, (1) All changes in the world are known or knowable as correlative equivalents and causes of each other, (2) All these changes are at bottom modes of motion of the atoms or ultimates of matter; (3) They never do produce or "create" the same results of matter or of vital action, unless they have the same antecedents. Life and mental action is the correlative resultant and concomitant of the processes of protoplasmic animal-nerve systems. Being correlatively produced in this one way, life and mind is and only can become or exist as a property of protoplasm in that ONE way. Any other conclusion is not only impossible, but is even unthinkable, because it is a violation of the fundamental law of Science—correlative causation. It is simply a false notion of people who do not really stop to think.

Do they suppose that buds and flowers and fruits can grow, and actually do grow, without protoplasm, plants and trees, or flit about like butterflies in the sunshine, or take a trip to the moon or off to another planet? That life or thought or "soul" can do so is equally absurd.

The great Biologist, in the extract we give, shows how all mental action, with its thoughts, "ego" and "soul", is just as much a correlative result of the ever growing protoplasmic animal and social organisms as the ever improving flowers and fruits are of the ever improving protoplasmic vegetable or plant world.

In next Torch we will give the reasons he gives why this plain, simple, inexpugnable correlative law and truth of Science is wildly and frantically fought against by many people who otherwise have excellent common sense. Let us rejoice that every week the great Scientists hand to us the Torch of Reason giving us the light of Scientific Truth — in our pursuit of Truth.

T. B. W.

Acknowledgment of Helpful Books Received.

It so happens that most of the books of late contributed to the Liberal University Library have been just in time to meet an occasion to use them.

1. Just as the question of vaccination was up in Silverton, came from Dr. Montague R. Levenson books of Dr. W. S. Tebb, Magazines and pamphlets of the anti-vaccinationists; and they did good service upon that issue. Now we need some literature giving the proofs of the value of vaccination.

2. The Open Court Publishing Co., of Chicago, have contributed their Religion of Science Library Series, also The Lost Manuscript of Fenerbach, and Dr. Paul Topinard's work on Science and Faith most opportunely, and Dr. Paul Carus' Tales from Science. Through them many extracts and articles have already appeared in the Torch and more will follow in time.

3. Prof. Lester F. Ward, of the Smithsonian Institute, Washington, D. C., has deposited with us a most valuable collection of scientific works, generally on Biology and Sociology, which have been already the occasion of speeches and articles. The all important subject of "The New Dispensation" will surprise that professor when in due time he finds how he has indirectly contributed to its clearness and progress.

4. Dr. E. B. Foote, Jr., of New York, has made a very useful and valuable contribution in Dr. John Clark Redpath's History of the World, in nine volumes, to which a friend has added an Atlas (Inter-

Continued on 8th page.

THE LIBERAL UNIVERSITY

OREGON.

The Only Institution of the Kind!

Faculty---1899-'00.

J. EARL HOSMER, Ph. D., B. S. D., PRES.,
Superintendent Department of Cosmology,
Mathematics, Physical Sciences, Dynamics.

ABEL A. LEONARD, M. D., M. E.,*
Superintendent Department of Biology,
Anatomy, Physiology, Animal Electricity,
Physiological Psychology, Microscopy.

THADDEUS B. WAKEMAN,
Superintendent Department of Sociology and Law,
General History, Sociology, Law, Linguistics,
Ethics.

MINNIE P. HOSMER, L. S., B. S. D.,
Superintendent Preparatory Department,
History, English Grammar, Botany, Vocal
Music.

PEARL W. GEER, M. G. H., SECRETARY,
Business Methods and Correspondence.

MARY CHILDERS,
Kindergarten and Primary Classes.

SOPHIE WOLF,
Piano Music, Elocution, English Literature.

M. G. COOLEY,
Violin and Cornet.

CLARA WAKEMAN,
Drawing and Painting.

ALICE DAVENPORT,
Stenography, Typewriting.

LOUIS RAUCH, Assistant,
Bookkeeping, Commercial Arithmetic.

LORA AMES, Assistant,
Physiology, Hygiene.

KATIE MATTESON,
Librarian.

PROFS. HOSMER, WAKEMAN, GEER,
Lecturers on Religion of Science and Humanity.

EMILY L. WAKEMAN,
Matron.

*Dr. Leonard has consented to take this chair until some one can be found to fill it permanently.

STUDENTS MAY ENTER AT ANY TIME.

We are now in our New building, which gives us room for increased attendance and much better facilities for teaching. For terms and further particulars, address,

Pearl W Geer, Sec'y,
SILVERTON OREGON.

FRIENDS OF LIBERAL AND SECULAR EDUCATION

are earnestly reminded that the above University is in active and harmonious operation, but that it must be provided with sufficient means to finish its building, now approaching completion and partly occupied, so that a paying number of students can be accommodated. Please to subscribe, or obtain subscriptions, for our Stock, and send memoranda of property, books or apparatus you can furnish.

J. EARL HOSMER, President of Faculty.
T. B. WAKEMAN, President Board of Directors.
P. W. GEER, Sec'y Board and Business Manager.