

Concerning the Moore Case.

[The following letters are self-explanatory. Suffice it to say that Dr. Hammer, one of our best friends, did not, on first reading, fully understand an article which appeared in the Torch some weeks ago in reference to our mutual friend C. C. Moore, of Blue Grass Blade fame. His kind letter shows the doctor to be a true Liberal, after all, and a friend worth having. It is certain that we who really have the cause of humanity at heart must all hang together if our work is to prosper.—Ed.]

SILVERTON, OR., March 28, 1900.
M. R. HAMMER, M. D.,

My Dear Doctor:—I don't know whether to be amused or grieved over your favor of the 21st inst. about our "heathen" C. C. Moore. You don't seem to catch onto my point and good intention at all. I wanted to do just what other good Liberals, whom you also blame, have done, that is, in a sort of humorous way, to induce Mr. Moore to stand fight, and in an effective, worthy way, for the right of all to think, speak, publish and mail what they choose as long as they do not injure any one personally, and if they do, then let them answer to that person as the law provides.

Now by the last number of his paper (p. 1, col. 3) Mr. Moore has manfully and consistently taken the position which we indicated the persecution required. He is now doing right, and we will sustain him to the uttermost. If we can not send money we can help by words which will bring the needed means to fight out this question through every court and every legislature and congress, until the right of free expression is vindicated and placed beyond further question.

The Christians have roasted, tortured (in every conceivable way), imprisoned, cursed, ostracised, boycotted and slandered us without stint for over 1000 years; and for the liberty and welfare of all they ought not to object to a little free and wholesome tongue-lashing—when it hits no one, but their absurd dogmas.

The meaning of our article was to sustain Mr. Moore in this prosecution and such friends as Dr. Foote and others, who are nobly standing by him.

As Dr. Franklin said it, "It is better to hang together than to hang separately."

Yours sincerely,
T. B. WAKEMAN.

NEWTON, IA., April 9, 1900.
PROF. T. B. WAKEMAN,
Silverton, Oregon,

My Dear Professor:—Yours of March 28th at hand and contents noted. I also received a copy of

the Torch of April 5th today. It gave me great pleasure to read your article on page three, first column. It has the true ring.

I am very selfish in this matter. If they imprison Mr. Moore, it is only a question of time until I will be a guest of Uncle Sam's.

It is a notorious fact that doctors are very jealous of each other, but whenever the profession is assailed they unite for the common good, until, in fact, in nearly every state in the Union laws have been passed which are an insult to the intelligence of the people.

Mr. Geer was a Newton visitor recently. We all enjoyed his genial company. I told him that I feared that my letter would offend you, and he said he thought it would not.

The Infidel editors and teachers seem to be about as jealous of each other as the average doctor. Now I hope they will do as you have done this week and as the doctors always do—unite and hang together rather than to hang separately.

I resubscribed when P. W. was here, and must say that the Torch is the most scholarly of all the Freethought publications.

I have a son fifteen years old, whom I hope to send to your University as soon as my finances will permit.

Hoping you were amused and not grieved by my former letter, and wishing you and the University success, I am,

Most respectfully,
M. R. HAMMER.

At a recent banquet of the Automobile Club of America the plan of a national highway from the Atlantic to the Pacific was formally launched and a definite route was announced. The plan as read by Col. Pope, of Boston, provides for a highway along the eastern coast from St. Augustine to Portland, Me., and on the Western coast from Los Angeles to Seattle. The main highway, however, will be from New York to San Francisco, passing through Chicago, St. Louis, Kansas City, Omaha and Ogden. Congress will be asked to appropriate one-third of the expense, the States through which the roads pass one-third and the counties, townships and cities through which it goes the other third. Owners of property benefited will be asked to donate the right of way. The road is designed to be 120 feet in width and in a perfectly straight line.

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