

ensign is the flag and inscription on this pointer: L. U. O. That is the Greek verb meaning "I set free;" and its letters mean that the Liberal University, Oregon, is set free from the supernatural gods and their priests, revelations, churches, creeds and dogmas of the past, and that it exists to incubate wisdom, culture, and the higher life and aspirations of mankind upon the knowable basis of Science — its methods and results.

But we have been told by the prayer-makers over and over again that there cannot be any high culture with its learning and wisdom without their gods and religions. We insist to the contrary, and we are completing this Liberal University and educating these young people in answer to this objection. This celebration, this day, is a part of our answer made vocal. We have concluded that the time has come for the more intelligent part of the human race to determine whether its future, for such is the meaning of the education of the young, shall rest upon the revelations, inspirations, commands and undiscoverable heavens of supposed but unprovable supernatural beings, or upon the Infinite World as we discover it to be, its facts and laws, and the history, science and glorious and ever more glorious evolution of our race.

We meet that question squarely — here and now. Are not all compelled to admit that the ages of creations, miracles and "providences", special or other, are hopelessly gone, if they ever existed? Is not the knowable world, of which we are a part, proved to be a process of constant changes, which are discovered by us to be sequent, coexistent and concomitant — ever equivalently continuing and determining each other, without beginning or end, or knowable purpose, except as the human race may develop its own will and purposes on this planet?

We recognize the laws of this limitless, yet ever more knowable, world as the true basis of knowledge, thence of wisdom, thence of culture, thence of beneficent life, and thence of the realizable Heaven of aspiration. SCIENCE has become the only interpreter of our world since Bruno made known its new Copernican Astronomy in 1600 A. D., and sealed his announcement of its consequences in fire and blood. He then dated our new Era of Science and Man — making this our year E. M. 300. Now before that, what did mankind know, clearly know; — notwithstanding their millenniums of time, their god and gods and saviors and ghosts, and revelations and Bibles — all? — what did they REALLY and connectedly know? Practically a little empirical knowledge — in fact almost nothing! A few Greek minds gathered and carried it all, and even Aristotle, "the Prince of all those

who know", could not be admitted, except in the preparatory class, in any High School of today. The laws of Science were not; nor any conception of progress, which is the Sun of our world. Indeed, it is wonderful how, without some better knowledge of what "Earth, Water, Air and Water" really are, men and women ever got along and lived as well as they did. But millions of them perished out of sheer ignorance of the necessity and propriety of air and water, and the difference between protoplasm and the Earths. Prior to our New Era, 300 years ago, mankind, aside from a little misunderstood mathematics and astronomy, were the victims of Theological Babblement about this world which now discloses nothing but ignorance of it. There was no knowledge of correlation and law, and so, no basis or idea of progress.

Truth and Progress, in any real, true or scientific sense, are hardly 300 years old. Before that their world was simply a very small, three-story "tenement house". Its basement below the Earth's surface was the Purgatory and Hell, the Earth's surface was the place of "human probation", the valley of humiliation, or "the vale of tears". Therein our luckless race was to await a day of judgment, and a sudden drop into the Hells below, or flit aloft into the sky-parlor Heaven above. But in any event at some time this world was to end and stop, and so the idea of Progress, or of an "Earthly Paradise", was to them unthought and unthinkable. The result was that the condition of the human race was one of "sin and misery unspeakable," or equally miserable, childish and silly was the exaltation and rapture about a sky-Heaven above the "firmament" and "in the spheres," all of which the telescope now shows, to every one to be an illusion, of the old astronomy, and absolutely NON-EXISTENT.

Does this little old, stationary, four-cornered, three-story tenement, house-world, created and run by Gods and Devils, still exist? Then let us pray to and obey those Gods, exorcise and fight those Devils, tremble before their hells, and trim our wings for flight to their heaven. If not — not!

In a word, if the human race is still living in that old Theological World, let us pray and educate our young people for its environment, duties, obligations and joys — and if not, NOT?

Does that world exist? Science answers, No! Bruno brought the Heliocentric Astronomy of an Infinite Space to prick that old world bubble, and when the smoke from the altar of his sacrifice by Christians rolled away, a new world was plainly seen taking its place.

That new world is here now, and the Light of Science shows that it is exactly the reverse of the old; so

as to every important thing which theologians made the basis of life, work, hope, aspiration or education. As Prof. Lester F. Ward points out in the beginning of his "Dynamic Sociology", not a single item has escaped reversal. Inquiry shows that there was no "creation" of worlds of man; no "fall", nor "hood", no dispersion of languages nor races, — all of which were old Chaldean myths: no chosen Patriarch people, or Moses or old Jewish history or empire: no Christ as God or man, crucifixion or ascent to heaven: no miracle, no providence, no revelation, no day of judgment within his generation — as he was said to declare, nor since, nor is such ever possible or conceivable.

Well, my friends, it is worse than useless to cry over this old vanished world — worse than to cry over the tomb of Adam. It is hopelessly gone. All the Sun of Science can now do is to play over it the rainbows of myth, poetry, symbolisms, with tender memories and imaginations, while it cloudily floats away into Shakespeare's "dark Backward and Abyss of Time."

"Now, since these things are so," as our Ciceronian scholars say, it behoves us to turn our eyes to the dawning light of our New World, which entirely destroys, replaces and reverses the old. You have but a few minutes in which to do that — so here that New World is given on this upper wall of this our University daigramed into the "Tower of Science" and the "Temple of Humanity;" that is the True Classification of the scientific order and domains of the word and of the Epochs of man's history upon it, until now. Let this true structure of Science for ever take the place in your minds of that childish old babblement of "The Tower of Babel," and its immovable three-story Tenement with revolving "firmament." Thus at a glance you can see that instead of this old fixed world around the MEDITERRANEAN, we have our planet, the whole Mother Earth, in its rotation alternating "Paradise brightness of day with deep and dreadful night;" and then in its sweeping annual orbit about the sun it passes the twelve constellations of the Zodiac, and so gives the year, as the moon does the twelve months. As far as we can see we have the best, the picked, place in the Infinity of Worlds. We are in the centre of the Solar System, with its more than splendid electric sunlight, only 93 millions of miles distant, making our orbit diameter twice that, or 186 millions of miles, and our orbit circumference 558 millions of miles! What more of a splendid rotatory and moving OBSERVATORY in the infinity of space, suns and worlds than that could there be? But as if that were not enough we learn that our Solar System is piercing the Milky Way,

an infinity of suns, towards the star Lyra, at the rate of 10 miles a second, or 300 millions of miles a year! (See our astronomer, Newcomb, in McClure's Magazine, July, 1899.)

Nor is there any reason to believe (as the Astronomer Royal, Bairn, points out) that our sun will ever grow less on any "nebular hypothesis" on his travels, or that he will have to stop in collision because Lyra will ever be "at home" to receive him, or that Infinity will ever run short of space.

In view of the awful sublimity and infinity of these world views, which are the basis of modern Science, how childish to talk, except historically, about what the Egyptians, Chaldeans, Greeks, Hebrews or Christians knew? Science now builds and founds us upon Bruno's "Infinity of Space, Stars and Worlds." Let us rejoice in that conception of Infinity, for it is the guarantee of endless progress to our SUN and Earth, and to our race and INTELLECT! We shall never be run ashore, never exhausted. This Infinite Foundation of the TOWER OF SCIENCE realizes for us the Eternity of space, time and existence as our boundless Liberty!

Now coming in from the starry Infinite of Astronomy, the foundation of our Tower, we find our glorious planet, the Earth, as a Sun-planet. It forms the first story of our Tower, seen to be the Science of PHYSICS, or matter in bulk or masses, and the properties, qualities and laws thereof. From the fact that our Earths and elements are the same with, or similar to those of the Sun and other coelestial bodies, and are moving under the same laws, we find our material or first story of earthly matter, firmly resting upon and rivetted into that infinite foundation. We are coelestial because we are Earth-born! We, too, are born in Heaven! — what we have to do is to realize it.

After an outline of Astronomy in our curriculum, we are then ready for enlightenment as to this chrysaline, inorganic or colloid matter; and thereupon we discover the great DYNAMICS — motion, sound, heat, light, electricity, magnetism, chemical affinity, attraction and repulsion. How we wonder at, and then use them as the great MOTIONS and imponderable AGENTS of everything! The creative processes of the All!

CHEMISTRY then becomes the Second Story of our Tower of Science. There we enter the domain of the analysis, composition, affinities and properties of the elements of matter. The forms of matter we find extended from three to five; thus: solid, viscid, fluid, gaseous, ethereal: or concretely: earths, plasms, liquids, airs, ethers. The imponderable agents, forces or Dynamic powers, are the playful