

LUO LYRA.

(Harp of Freedom.)

BY JOHN PRESCOTT GUILD.

The Harp of Freedom take in hand,
From Oregon to farthest Maine,
Atune to truth throughout the land—
Sing out that MAN has come to reign!

REFRAIN—Luo Lyra, Lyra Luo,—
Sing the truth and thus set free.
Luo Lyra, Lyra Luo,—
Sing the people's jubilee!

Let creedlings chant their 'doleful sound'
Of God and Hell and mortal fear,
And rave the same eternal round
Of faith and fury, year by year.

We hail the truth, wherever found,
Among our friends, among our foes,
On Christian or on saner ground—
The plant is pure where'er it grows.

The Lib'ral University
Floats freedom's flag from highest peak,
And Freedom's People, sea to sea,
Here come to truth and learning seek.

Some tell us that the tuneful Muse
Cannot inspire the "Infidel";
That Reason's Sons retain no use
But brimstone-carting in hot hell.

For Harp of Freedom ne'er before
Was such a theme its chords to spring:
A college song, unthought of yore,
Where Superstition breaks no string.

When "saints" shall say we cannot sing,
That Poetry in us has died,
Then let the Luo Lyra ring,
And show the bigots how they lied!

Forever swell the joyous song,
And all the truth in freedom tell;
Let Freedom's Harp its notes prolong,
And every voice the chorus swell,

Luo Lyra, Lyra Luo—
Sing the truth and thus set free.
Luo Lyra, Lyra Luo—
Sing the people's jubilee!

CHEER—" 'Rah! 'Rah! 'Rah!
Zip! 'Rah! Boom!
Liberal University,—
Give us room!—Luo!"

NEWS AND NOTES.

Wanted, more oil for the Torch!

Beautiful growing weather in Sil-
verton.

This is the cherry season in the
Willamette valley. Aren't they
delicious?

An L. U. O. Picnic party made
a visit to the Geer ranch last Sun-
day. Good time.

Friends receiving sample copies
of the Torch of Reason are most
cordially invited to subscribe for
the same.

Prof. Wakeman is taking what
he calls the cherry cure. He seems
to enjoy taking his medicine im-
mensely.

One of the election judges was
heard to say that our L. U. O.
building made the best polling
place in the county.

Several of the L. U. O. students
attended the field-day exercises at
Salem Saturday. We were glad to
have our college colors displayed at
the capital city.

Students who want their grade
cards can receive the same by call-
ing at the L. U. O. office or by writ-
ing for the same and enclosing a 2
cent stamp for reply.

Many of the voters who came to
the L. U. O. building to vote last

Monday expressed great surprise at
the fine finishing work that our
carpenters are doing.

The drama, East Lynne, which
was presented to the people of Sil-
verton last Friday evening, was a
great success in every respect. Sil-
verton is proud of its home talent.

Parties who do not already be-
long to the Torch of Reason family
are most cordially invited to sub-
scribe for our paper and thus help
along the good cause of Science and
Humanity.

This week we are enabled again,
through the aid of our friend, Dr.
E. B. Foote, Jr., of New York City,
to send out one thousand extra
copies of the Torch of Reason. We
hope this investment will find us
many new friends and bring us
many new subscribers.

A prominent Baptist brother, of
Silverton, lost ten dollars on an
election bet this week. Some pil-
lars of the church seem to be get-
ting a little rotten, and some great
Sunday school workers would do
well to go to the "Infidel school"
and learn good morals and how to
become law-abiding citizens.

The W. S. S. C. will meet at the
home of Mrs. Lou Ames next Satur-
day afternoon at the usual hour.
A very interesting time is expected,
as the delegate, Mrs. Emily Wake-
man, has returned from the con-
vention of the State Federation of
Women's Clubs and will give her
report of the same. All ladies cor-
dially invited.

A prominent official of Silverton
thinks that if the women are allow-
ed to vote they should be obliged to
work on the road, do militia duty,
etc., etc. This would be quite
forceable argument if the gentle-
man was obliged to take his own
medicine, but the lazy "cuss" would
want to play lady himself, while the
"women" were working and fight-
ing.

The Waggoner Case.

Our surmise, expressed in a for-
mer issue, that the Marshall O.
Waggoner story is another case of
Christian fraud, seems to be cor-
rect, as the following correspon-
dence indicates. The story of the
library crucifixion as told by "God's
anointed," seems to have been
exaggerated nearly as much as the
similar stories of "holy writ." Here
are the letters:—

EDITOR TORCH OF REASON:

In your issue of May 24th you
ask for information in the case of
Marshall O. Waggoner, of Toledo,
Ohio. I have this to say: I
have been a resident of Ohio all
my life, and for the last 30 years a
Liberal and a resident of Columbus,
Ohio; and in all that time I never
heard of any such man as Marshall

O. Waggoner, until about a year
ago I saw it announced in some of
the papers that a noted Infidel at
Toledo had renounced his Infidelity
and burned his library. I at once
commenced an investigation of the
case, wrote to several editors of the
Liberal press, besides others, but as
yet have been unable to find any
trace of such a man in the Liberal
ranks. I called the Ohio State
Journal, of Columbus, to time on
an article it published in regard to
the matter, and I wanted to know
its object in publishing such notori-
ous subterfuges as that when there
was plenty of truth that could be
told. The editor, in a private let-
ter, begged off, saying it was just as
their reporter had told them. I
said perhaps his reporter had lied
to him; but he would not argue the
case with me.

The best that I can possibly find
out about Marshall O. Waggoner is
that he is a grand old, hypocritical
fraud, not known outside of the
Corporation of Toledo, crazy on re-
ligious topics, having belonged to
two or three different churches.
One writer says that he did not
have a library worth five dollars.
He has also had serious trouble
with his family. The whole thing
is a notorious fraud, gotten up for
religious speculation, to tell at class
meetings and revivals, without the
least semblance of truth in it. Tell
the editor of that good Christian
paper to write to me if he wishes to
know anything further about Mar-
shall O. Waggoner, and I will
settle his Infidel conversion and
library lies in a hurry.

Yours for truth,

JOEL M. BERRY.

National Military Home, Ohio.

EDITOR TORCH OF REASON:

I note yours in the Torch of May
24, "A Fraud or a Lunatic". M.
O. Waggoner, of Toledo, O., adver-
tised himself as a prominent Infidel,
owning a magnificent and very ex-
pensive Infidel library; advertised
that his wife died, and that he
"coached" the Infidel speaker at the
funeral in "bursts of fine, rhetorical
Infidel eloquence for the occasion";
that the night of the funeral he
embraced Christianity and con-
cluded to burn his costly Infidel
books, which he had been twenty
years accumulating without regard
to expense. After securing all the
notoriety he could by gratis adver-
tising of the burning in dozens of
newspapers (principally religious)
for five month, he caused to be tel-
egraphed to the Chicago Tribune
that he had privately burned the
books on the night of January 18.
When he began, in August, to ad-
vertise the burning, he did not have
ten dollars' worth of Infidel books
of every description, which I will
show if this is challenged. After
five months' advertising, accompa-
nied by pious comment by pious

editors, on January 18, 1900, he
made the most public display pos-
sible for him by burning a few
old books and pamphlets, not more
than a half bushel, in the furnace
of the Memorial United Brethren
Church of Toledo, and telegraphed
the Chicago Tribune that he had
"privately" burned his magnificent
and expensive Infidel library.

Mr. P. B. Reasoner, an intimate
acquaintance, was the guest of
Waggoner for several days while in
Toledo on business for the Ohio
State Fair after Waggoner had ad-
vertised the cremation and before
he had performed it. Mr. Reason-
er writes: "By request Waggoner
showed me all the books he propos-
ed to burn and all the Infidel books
he had. I took a list of them, and
my estimate is that the entire lot,
pamphlets and all, would not sell
for over five dollars."

Previous to commencing to adver-
tise the burning, Waggoner was as
little known outside of a limited
acquaintance in Toledo as Christ
was during the many years he is
supposed to have been working at
the carpenter's trade.

W. W. WALLACE.

Chicago, Ill.

Eclipse of the Sun, May 28.

True to the appointed time, the
light of the unclouded sun became
diminished; the protected eyes of
the beholder saw the curve of the
rayless moon outlined in black on
the sun, as it passes in solemn,
silent grandeur between it and the
earth.

As I looked, mind and heart
were filled with reverent worship of
Science and the men who, undaunt-
ed by the suffering which theology,
in its ignorance, inflicted, lovingly
questioned nature until she gave
no uncertain answer, making it pos-
sible to tell for all time to come the
hour and minute when the heav-
enly bodies will pass each other, thus
proving that the laws of the uni-
verse are uniform and changeless,
and are not subject to the capri-
cious, arbitrary will of an outside
person. M. M. T.

Atlantic City, N. J.

TO RAISE \$100,000.

This is Our Building Fund
Contribution Box.

Previously acknowledged... \$20.00

O. T. Glenn.....\$25.00
D. Finkelstein......50