

## NEWS AND NOTES.

Our Contribution Box is always open, whether we are having a Donation Day or not.

Please read the notice on this page entitled "A Liberal Offer." It has a new addition this week, and we hope it will have another next week.

Carpenters, painters and tinner have been working on the L. U. O. building the past week, and just as we go to press the last of the scaffolding is falling. Now for the porch and the inside work.

Just as we anticipated, the donations were not all in when we went to press last week, and we are pleased to print a good list in this issue. Probably this will remind others who have not contributed that it is "better late than never," and we shall be pleased to hear from them.

The later contributions for Donation Day are acknowledged in the "Contribution Box" this week. This amount, together with the sum acknowledged last week, makes the total amount received for this occasion, \$226.90. Let us thank you all once more for your kind consideration of this great enterprise, which, with these friends, is bound to succeed. We are no less grateful to those whose names appear in the contribution box this week than we are to those mentioned last week. We thank you, one and all.

We gratefully acknowledge the receipt of a complimentary ticket to an excursion from Chicago to Michigan City on Sunday, August 12th, at 9:30 a. m., from the foot of State street. This excursion is given by the Chicago Liberal Society, one of the few societies holding meetings through the summer season. This society deserves the hearty support and co-operation of every Liberal in the neighborhood of Chicago. You are welcome every Sunday morning, 11 o'clock, at the meetings in Corinthian Hall, 17th floor of the Masonic Temple, where Dr. T. B. Gregory will tell you something you need to know. Mr. G. B. Wheeler, 221 Vilas Place, the chairman of this excursion, will be pleased to tell you all about it and furnish round trip tickets for only 75 cents.

## A CHALLENGE.

The following appeared in the Tillamook Headlight and the Tillamook Herald, July 26:

## A CHALLENGE.

To the end that the great Universal cause of Truth and Right may be advanced, I hereby challenge any of the ordained ministers of the city of Tillamook to publicly debate any of the following subjects:

The Bible God is a myth. Miracles were never really performed.

The Bible story of creation is not true.

The Bible is not a good guide.

The sermon on the mount is not an infallible guide.

Christianity does not advance civilization.

Christianity does not advance morality.

We wish to meet our Tillamook opponents in a friendly way and discuss any of the above or kindred subjects on or before August 1st.

Will they accommodate us?

J. E. HOSMER, President L.U.O.

P. O. Box No. 106.

The above challenge we extend to any of the ministers of the gospel(?) of Jesus Christ in the world, and if distance, etc., prevents arrangements for our meeting, we shall be pleased to give our opponents equal space in our Torch of Reason. "Come now, and let us reason together."

## "The Dead Study of Dead Languages."

This was the happy phrase by which Thomas Paine described the stupid study of Greek and Latin in his day, chiefly to PREVENT the knowledge that would lead to the emancipation of the Peoples. The phrase occurs in the Extract on the second column of this paper, page 1, ninth line from the bottom, which, instead of "dead languages," should read "the dead study of dead languages." The omission was a printer's accident, and we take this way of calling attention to the omission and to the importance of the words themselves. We hope that all of those Extracts will be read and considered as proofs and illustrations of the constructive purpose of Paine's religious writings, which were the real basis of his Republicanism. To read Paine from that point of view is needful, but may be unusual, so we reprint for re-reading the most relevant paragraphs from the Age of Reason.

But nothing was more incisive than those words omitted. The use of study to prevent or misdirect learning, wisdom and progress is one of the most interesting chapters in the history of oppression by repression. Macaulay alludes to it as the principal means by which the progress of the Reformation was arrested by the Jesuits, who became largely the schoolmasters of Europe. The Protestants proved themselves ready adepts at the same game as soon as they became the educators, nor have they forgotten the methods to this day. It is because of that fact that our Liberal University is a necessary suggestion and means of the emancipation of education. The most illusory, or rather treacherous, institutions in these respects are those which are called "non-sectarian," in which no religion or morals are really taught, for the fear of offending somebody. These are simply monuments of impotence and indifference, if not of moral cowardice. Every man and woman worthy of the name, and who is

abreast with THIS age, knows perfectly well that human life, and therefore education, must be presided over by God and his theologic priests or servants, or by MAN, in the interests of Science and Humanity; that the object and ultimate of the first is the old mirage dream of a "Heaven" of "celestial mansions;" the object of the other is the healthy, hearty, useful life on this earth as the beginning and anticipation of the "Earthly Paradise," which, as sure as the law of Evolution, we are here to realize. Every intelligent man is now called upon to decide whether his life and service is to be devoted to spook ghosts, and a mirage dream, with their Shamans and Fakirs, or to the Human World of Science and MAN, which is the present reality, and our and their inevitable human future on this earth. The idea of putting spooks and dreams at the head of modern education! Paine was entirely right in his day about the "classical studies" and the use made of them, which ended in the "industrious ignorance" of Latin versification, which drew the sarcasm of even the old Tory, Dr. Sam. Johnson.

THEN the Science of Linguistics was not. Now it is the backbone and largely the substance of Human History and Social Evolution. By words the Philosophy of the World has been worked out and unconsciously recorded by the race. In their words they have preserved their true Genesis and handed down to us the reins, by which we are to drive the coursers of time onward into the Future.

MATHEMATICS are the keys to the objective world and its sciences—from the stars—up to Man.

LINGUISTICS, the modern Science of Language, places in our hands the keys which unlock the past, make intelligible our present, and open to our entranced sight the glorious transformation scenes of the Human Paradise.

Of all of the Emancipations of Science, that of language—its origin, contents, laws and results, is only equalled in interest and utility by the progress of Astronomy. Would that Paine could have foreseen something of that!—which the students of L. U. O. may soon hope to begin to see. T. B. W.

## A Liberal Offer.

A good friend of the L. U. O. has offered to donate Two Thousand Dollars in cash to our institution if other Freethinkers will raise it to Five Thousand.

Let us fill up the contribution box!

LATER—Mr. R. C. Burtis of Michigan adds one thousand dollars to the above offer. At this rate we will soon be able to go ahead with our building. "A friend who helps quick helps double."

STILL LATER.—A friend in Silverton offers fifty dollars on the above plan. The amount already received and acknowledged in the Contribution Box, goes to help make up the balance of this fund, which now lacks only \$1552.35 of being complete. Can't we, by a special effort, reach this amount before September 1st?

## The Ingersoll Chair.

The amounts subscribed and paid in for the Ingersoll Chair are set forth below. This sum is actually in the hands of our treasurer to be safely invested, the income only to be used.

	£	s.
Mr. George Anderson, England	5	0
Mr. Alfred Marsh, "	3	0
Mrs. E. Holyoake Marsh, "	10	
Mr. Robert Applegarth, "	10	
Mr. J. M. Gunson, "	1	0
Mr. Arthur Ginton, "	1	0
Mr. Sidney Ginton, "	1	0
Mr. John Leach, "	1	0
Mr. Thos. Allsop, "	2	0
Mr. W. Holyoake Byron Smith, "	5	0
Miss Phipson, "	1	0
A. H., "	10	
Dr. G. Sworn, "	1	0
Mrs. Holyoake Smith, "	1	0
Miss Julia C. Smith, "	1	0
Mr. T. R. Mudie, "	1	0
Mr. A. Sumner, "	5	
Mrs. Daniel Baker, "	1	0
Herbert Spencer, "	2	0
Mr. Jas. Wallace, Scotland, .....	1	0
L. P. Maxam, Mich., .....	\$10.00	
Geo. N. Hill, Boston, Mass., .....	5.00	
Eva Ingersoll Brown, N. Y., .....	50.00	
Prof. Daniel T. Ames, Cal., .....	10.00	
Benj. Duval, Col., .....	1.00	

## Contribution Box.

## TO RAISE \$100,000.

## This is Our Building Fund Contribution Box.

Previously acknowledged	\$170.75
Donation Day contributions	207.80
John Wolfe, Mt. Morris, Ill.	2.00
Warren Penwell, Pana, Ill.	1.00
W. Marquardson, Scipio, U.	1.00
H. Allen, Silverton, Ore.	1.00
J. Diamond, Coburg, Ore.	5.00
V. Higgins, Pt. Isabel, Ohio	5.00
J. McArdle, Omaha, Neb.	25
G. J. Moser, Buffalo, N. Y.	1.00
S. W. Wetmore, " "	1.60
E. C. Jones, East Lynne, Mo.	25
M. M. Dawson, New York	1.00

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