THE TORCH OF REASON, SILVERTON, OREGON, AUGUST 30, E. M. 300 (1900.)

civic strongholds of Christendom.

liament and palace, in humblest Independent Thinker. homes and most honored places, that only by the reign of peace are the true interests of humanity conserved, that war is a curse and EDITOR TORCH OF REASON: though sometimes a seeming necessity, never necessary if men are willing to be unselfish and live the larger life of love and brotherhood.

But how unlikely are such thoughts seriously entertained, even in what are known as the religious circles of society. Here comes a bishop of the Methodist Church, Earl Cranston, lately returned from a tour around the globe, who, beholding the coveted prize of the Orient for the greedy appetite of Christianity, avows that a war by which Heathendom would be subjected to the civilizing influences of Christendom, is justified at any cost, either of filthy lucre or the sacrifice of human life. Christianity is dying at home, therefore it must be strengthened and expanded abroad. If the clergy can arouse the enthusiasm of a crusade, it would be the most fortunate event in the material growth of Christendom which has occurred since Peter the Hermit hurled all Europe against the Mohammedan stronghold and sought to rescue the Holy City from the grasp of Ahti-Christ. No doubt every pulpit in the land would thunder with "patriotic" outbursts, stirring the multitudes to martial fervor, if they discerned the possibility of evangelizing all Asia with a Bible saturated with human gore and the prayers of a thousand cannon thundering at the gates of Pekin. This is the mission of the gentle Jesus; this the way "Christian" leaders since the days of Constantine and Charlemagne have ever disseminated the Bible and the tenets or Christianity. Every letter and syllable of the Creed is myriad-dyed in the blood of human sacrifices. The established church, alas, craves war, yearns for it, for without conquest she becomes moribund and threatens to offend the nostrils of civilization with the putrid corpse of Ecclesiasticism. But there is a new day and a new religion. . . . Peace, peace everywhere, not the peace of crim- to the Liberal Subscription Agency, inal resignation, not the peace of 128 Locust St., Ottawa, Kas., and annous sceptre over the weak and and magazines.

to come; and today it looks as poor, not the peace of cowardice though the dream of peace would and fear, or of cringing sycophancy; be shattered for years and gory but the peace of Truth and Right, battlefields would incarnadine the and Justice and Love-let this peace be everywhere proclaimed In such times there is but one re- from hut to palace and work-bench course for the lovers of peace. They to the thrones of reigning dynasmust send round the globe the ties-and ere long the forbidding ceaseless current of peaceful clouds of horrid war will roll away thoughts, exalting the glory and and the Angel of Peace, blessing emprise of the reign of peace and the world, will appear amid the declaring everywhere, in valley and glorified heavens, to enlighten, enmountain height, in school room noble and uplift a terrified, downand at the merchant's desk, in par- trodden and benighted age .-- [The

" If."

Why don't you suggest our renewal? We have lost track of the time, yet something tells us it is time to pay up. Enclosed find \$1 for renewal of the Torch and \$1 for the Contribution Box. One giving, brings to mind a little incident that took place in one of our eastern citiee. A pretentious sort of a young fellow walked into the private office of an influential business man, and, claiming a relation through Adam, asked the man to give him a start in the world. The man quietly handed him a nickel, remarking, "There; if all your relatives do the same, you'll not need more." If all the Freethinkers will only send in the dollars, you will soon have the

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A shoemaker found fault with an oil-painted slipper in one of the paintings of a celebrated artist, but showed the greatest ignorance in criticising the other parts of the painting. Hence has arisen the oft-quoted saying, Let the cobbler stick to his last, and let every one attend to his own business.

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### Non-Political.

EDITOR TORCH OF REASON:

Again I find the hand pointing to the subscription notice, and I promptly respond. Enclosed find P. O. order for two dollars, one dol-lar for renewal of subscription and "Vanguard", Elgin "149", "150", "181" or the "Otto Wettstein Special", all 21 one dollar for July 20th, Donation Day. It is rather late for Donation cases or in best 20-year filled gold screw Day; however, it is better late than never. By the way, I see your more. All prepaid, paper is not mixing up with politics. I would advise you to say as \$13; 16 jewels, adjusted, \$16; the "Otto little in that respect as possible. Let other papers attend to representing and misrepresenting political problems. We, as individual and mine accompanies all filled cases, Freetbinkers, will vote as we feel in duty bound to do. Hoping the above correspond with me. I can posi-Liberal University may prosper and be a stepping stone that all Liberals will be proud of,

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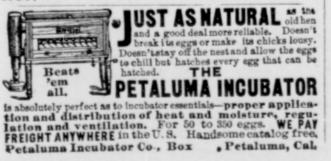
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