

beauty, and should be a lesson, not for a day, but forever. It has the health of an ocean breeze.

Mr. Bland's reply, "Immortality and Deity," is disappointing, for he shows they have no real existence, as my questions intimated; and his final disposal of them and me as "careless, superficial and self-conceited," while he inconsistently pats me on the head as "well-intentioned," shows that spiritual pride and confusion of intellect are both unfavorable to sincere politeness.

But although our reverend friend's "Immortality and Deity" are airy nothings, to which no "local habitation and name" can be given, yet, like many evil imaginations, they are exceedingly dangerous to thousands who are rubbing their eyes in semi-religious twilight. Let us then try to answer those unanswered questions, and so shoo those ghostly spooks back into the "vasty deep" of nothingness from which our friend called them.

I. IMAGINARY IMMORTALITY.

The danger and difficulty was, that in the guise of "The Gospel of Evolution," in its first part an extremely good and able work, he had gone on to break down the barriers which Science had raised against the old "Deity and Immortality"—their consequent gods and devils, heavens and hells. This he did by throwing doubt over the certainty and conclusiveness of the facts, laws and results of Science, especially in Biology. He had ably proved that life and consciousness are the correlate resultants of natural processes which accompany and produce them, and that they end when those producing processes cease to exist. So far, well! But then he adds, Science does not say so "absolutely and conclusively." And now in his reply he repeats the same inconsistency, thus:

"I illustrate from the impossibility of producing sound in a vacuum and from the IMPROBABILITY of a mosquito's surviving its body's death, the SEEMING impossibility and improbability of man's POST MORTEM survival; and in thus doing, I go as far as Spencer, Huxley, Haeckel, Tyndall and other scientific men who have the RIGHT to speak, have gone, for none of these "absolutely and conclusively" AFFIRM that man's conscious existence ends with his body's death, that being an assertion which the facts—almost overwhelmingly strong as they are—yet do not warrant. And they do not warrant it, as I hinted, if for no other reason, because our scientific knowledge of man and the universe is by no means CO-EXTENSIVE with the ACTUALITIES and POSSIBILITIES of either."

Our capitalized words show some of the fresh notions of science in the above quotation, but perhaps the most fresh and innocent of

them is the idea that only certain scientists have "the right to speak," and unless they "affirm absolutely and conclusively" the laws of nature they discover and their consequences, nothing but an "improbability" or "seeming impossibility" arises from the discovery! To a scientist, the discovery of a fact or law of nature makes it absolute and conclusive at once; for him to "affirm" it to be such, would be to make himself ridiculous. This notion, also, that only some people have the "right to speak," and that they must "affirm" to make anything absolute and conclusive, is amusingly theological. The methods of Science bring a different air. He seems to mistake a discovery for a "revelation." But the serious matter is, that those capitalized words show that our reverend friend has really no confidence in the constancy and validity of the facts, laws and results of Natural Science, except as he invents a "Deity" back of them.

This view, his definition of Evolution and Deity will confirm later. But look at these quoted words now: "The production of sound in a vacuum," he says, "is an impossibility." But why? Because the vibrations of air (which are sound) cannot be where air is not. Yet, in the same sentence, he says that a mosquito's (or man's) survival of its body's death is only an "improbability" or "seeming impossibility." But why not an actual impossibility, as in the case of the sound? The consciousness of the mosquito he had proved to be only the continuous correlate and resultant of the vibrations and changes of its body. Why, then, is not the law of nature equally decisive against the sound in the vacuum and the consciousness and song of the mosquito? Our reverend friend answers, "because our scientific knowledge of man and the universe is by no means co-extensive with the actualities and possibilities of either," and so the sound in the vacuum must go out, and the soul and song of the mosquito may go eternally on! Why in one case and not the other? consistency asks. But Science won't wait for a reply, but says at once that the laws of nature are invariable and decisive in both cases and in every case, "absolutely and conclusively," and for all time; and that what we may hereafter know can only be an extension and confirmation of what we do now know, which can never be changed nor overthrown. What, then, are our friends' "actualities and possibilities," which may enable the sound to go on in the vacuum and the mosquito's soul to sing on in heaven after their producing correlates have wholly ceased to exist? Why, evidently they are the sheerest figments of

Continued on 5th page.

Remember, if you send us the names and addresses of 25 of your Liberal friends and acquaintances, we will make you a present of a copy of the Torch of Reason Song Book No. 2. This will only cost you a few minutes' work and a two-cent stamp.

Forstner's.

AUGER BIT

IS INVALUABLE TO

Carpenters and Joiners, for mortising, such as letting in locks, as it takes the place of chisel and gouge; to

Cabinet Makers, for inlaid work, dowselling, patching, removing splits and knots. In fact, no

Wagon or Pattern Maker manufacturer of pianos, organs, sewing machines, agricultural implements, sash, blinds, furniture, nor

Any Other Woodworker, should be without it.

AS A MACHINE BIT IT IS UNEQUALED.

It is the only round bit in the world that will bore a SQUARE HOLE and do all that any other bit will do.

PRICE

Set of five, different sizes, postpaid . \$2.60
Single bit, postpaid60

Address, LIBERAL UNIVERSITY CO.
SILVERTON OREGON.

SAMPLE copies of 100 different Leading Newspapers and magazines sent to any address upon receipt of 10 cents to pay for mailing. U. S. SUBSCRIBERS AGENCY, 126 N. Liberty St., Indianapolis, Ind.

The Free Thought Magazine

The ablest publication of the kind in the World. Sixty-four pages. Illustrated. Published Monthly. Price \$1.00 a year. For TWENTY-FIVE CENTS it will be mailed to any address THREE MONTHS. Address FREE THOUGHT MAGAZINE, 213 E. Indiana St., Chicago, Ill.



\$4.00 Worth of MAGAZINES FREE!

"SECULAR SCIENCE AND COMMON SENSE" points the way to the goal of your ambition. A magazine of Advanced Free Thought, Liberal and Modern Ideas of Reform and Natural Law. Devoted to practical demonstrated truths. Humanity is undergoing important physical, intellectual, and social changes. Progress demands the ridding of slavery's chains. This magazine is a stepping-stone to success in all of life's undertakings, as it develops power of intellectual perception so that latent and active energy will be properly directed, insuring a clear head in a sound body. Nothing like it or half so good and practical. This rare treat sent a whole year, together with samples of over 50 other valuable papers and magazines of \$5.00 value, for only \$1.00. Send at once as this offer is limited. Sample copy with an interesting book of over 100 pages free for 12 cents in stamps. Address

SECULAR SCIENCE AND COMMON SENSE
P. E. 532 Atlas Bldg, Chicago, Ill.

THE LIBERAL UNIVERSITY
SILVERTON, OREGON.
Founded on Science and Humanity. The Only Institution of the Kind. Write for Announcements. The Torch of Reason is a weekly journal of Progressive, Moral Secularism. Sample copy free.

WHAT WE HAVE TO SELL.

- University Number of Freethought Magazine
With Pearl W. Geer's portrait. .15c
- Epitome of Positive Philosophy
By T. B. Wakeman.15c
- Freethought: Past, Present and Future.
By T. B. WAKEMAN, with picture and life of the author. Price, 12 copies, \$1.00; each10c
- Emancipation of Education.
An Inaugural Address, by T. B. WAKEMAN, Delivered on the incorporation of the Liberal University. Price. 5c
- Photographs of the Faculty
of the Liberal University, suitable for framing. Price.50c
- Torch of Reason Song Book No. 2.
Price. 10c
- Freethought Magazine
for September, Ingersoll memorial number; October, with Wakeman's speech; November, with picture of L. U. O. faculty. Price.15c
- Forstner Auger Bit.
Price, any size.60c
- Liberal and Scientific Books
of all kinds. See advertisement elsewhere.
Send all orders to
The Liberal University Co,
Silvertton, Oregon

We believe that cards like the following copy, neatly printed and distributed all over the United States, will help us to build the Liberal University. Reader, how many can you distribute to good advantage? This will cost you nothing but a little effort, and may help the cause of Freethought very much



The Liberal University AT SILVERTON, OREGON.

- 1 It will help many young men and young women to a higher education who otherwise will grow up without its great advantages.
- 2 It will educate workers for the great forward march of Freethought and Progress.
- 3 It will forever silence the accusation that Secularists have never done anything.
- 4 It will hasten the time when Reason and Love will reign, and when superstition and hate will be forever gone.
- 5 It will give you an opportunity to build yourself and others a monument, while you yet live, that will do a million times more good than the most costly one of cold, senseless marble.

If all help a little, we can accomplish much. Will you help a little?

Six Tracts to Promote **Scientific Wisdom**

- In Place of Christianity:
- 1 Can Sins be Forgiven?
 - 2 Does Christianity or Science Promote Civilization?
 - 3 Is Religion or Science More Reliable?
 - 4 Evolution and Comparison of Religions.
 - 5 Does Belief in Miracles Benefit?
 - 6 Immortality or Annihilation?

JUST THE THING
to hand to your Christian friends. Send 2 cents for 6, or 6 cents for 25 tracts, to ELIZA MOWRY BLIVEN, Brooklyn, Conn., or send 10 cents for 50, either kind or assorted kinds, to

THE LIBERAL UNIVERSITY
Silvertton, Oregon.