

## Obituary.

The friends of Freethought and Liberalism in Oregon and beyond the state, will learn with regret of the death of Mrs. Maria West, at her home at Scappoose, on the 10th instant. She was well known for her own virtues and energetic character as a woman and a Liberal, and also as the respected widow of William W. West, who died in 1895, and left a name and character as a man and a friend and advocate of Liberal views, which his wife well sustained to the day of her death. Indeed her last request was almost that of her husband: "Let a Freethought lecturer conduct the funeral exercises." Accordingly President John E. Hosmer, of the Liberal University, went to speak the last words for the deceased. This he did willingly, although he was obliged to leave his classes at the University and journey about one hundred miles from Silverton to Scappoose, near Astoria.

At the funeral a large assembly of relatives, friends and neighbors gathered at the house, and followed the procession some two miles to the cemetery where the final address was made.

President Hosmer knew of, and for whom he was speaking. He recalled how she was of solid New England stock and character, having been born of a respected family in Vermont 68 years ago. When a babe in arms she was moved to the Ohio reservation, where she grew up. It was not until 1861 that she removed to this state. She was twice married. Of two children by her first husband, one still survives. By her second husband she had six children. All of them were present at her funeral, all ready to rise up and bless her for the life she had given and made a blessing to them.

The way she has done so, was by being and living as a consistent and persistent Liberal from her youth up. In her words, character and action, her late husband and all the family found in her their best support in all Freethought works and hopes. She had a veracity of feeling as well as of intellect which would not brook falsehood, deception and antiquated nonsense, even in religion, the most sacred and important matters of life and death, where so many seem to think the truth is not requisite. After President Hosmer had sketched out the life and the triumphant womanhood of the deceased in her words, works and continuous immortality he closed with the following:

Our marvelous and beautiful world is all alive with rich and mighty meaning, and by communication with nature we are enabled endure with the highest hope all

the strange changes of our human allotment, assured that though we as individuals may pass away, the race and the universe will still go onward in their development. Men may come and men may go; flowers may fade and warm hearts cease their throbbing, and generation after generation go down to the sepulcher of ages, but none of the glorious attributes of humanity shall ever cease to be. All that is great and good and noble and beautiful in human nature is secure from the mouldering touch of time. No disinterested deed, no generous impulse of the heart, no kind word spoken but what shall survive the stars. Let us then live hopefully, with malice toward none, and die without fear, in the full assurance that he who most conscientiously and faithfully performed his duties toward his fellow creatures here on earth, according to his ability, has done well; and that they whose lives are just and honorable, no matter how humble or obscure they may be, do leave behind them traces of golden light, which future generations may follow with gratitude and gladness.

Lives of true ones all remind us  
We may make our lives sublime,  
And departing leave behind us  
Footprints on the sands of time."

With morn, with noon, with  
night; with changeless stars and  
changing clouds; with grass,  
with trees and birds; with  
leaf and bud; with flowers and  
and blossoming vines; with all the  
sweet influences of nature, we  
leave our dead. Farewell.

Lay me low, my work is done,  
I am weary, lay me low,  
Where the wild flowers woo the sun,  
Where the balmy breezes blow.  
Where the butterfly takes wing,  
Where the willows drooping grow,  
Where the spring birds chirp and sing,  
I am weary, let me go.

I have striven hard and long  
In the world's unequal fight,  
Always to resist the wrong,  
Always to maintain the right.  
Always with courageous heart,  
Ever striving truth to know.  
Brothers, I have done my part,  
I am weary let me go.

## Prejudice and Principle.

Continued from 2d page.

need of the Secular Union and of the Liberal University to teach the "Church of Christ" how not to spend other people's money, but to "render therefore unto Caesar the things that are Caesar's (the governments) and unto God the things that are God's.

I believe that Oregon, with its daughter, Washington, has more true Liberalism in it to the square mile, than has any state in the American Union. Not only that but it seems to be practicing more Liberalism in proportion to its population of professed Freethink-

ers, than all the other states of the Union. There must be something in the air that inspires the sentiment of Secularism and of Liberalism, to make the state so bristling with "Secular Churches" and Secular Sunday Schools," and to build up the beautiful and busy Liberal University, Oregon, "the only school of the kind in the world," one which teaches truth for authority, not authority for truth, using no "thus saith the Lord" to determine morals, any more than to demonstrate mathematics.

Wisdom cries aloud in the Willamette Valley and her voice shall be "heard 'round the world" as the voice of virtue and peace. This Secular School is no sectional school, not a School of Oregon, but a School in Oregon, and so it appeals to the Liberals of the world for assistance.

There is now prepared the way of "LUO," and the youth are flocking to Silverton, the paradise of real learning, to return and go abroad as missionaries by true righteousness, with the Torch of Reason in hand to light the world to the glory of man, instead of groping to "glorify God."

"'Rah! 'rah! 'rah! 'zip 'rah! boom! Liberal University! give us room!" Luo!

Prepare a room for me,  
I am coming soon, to see.

Please sing to the tune of "Cornation.

All hail the power of human love,  
We'll fix our faith on facts;  
Let every heart all hate above,  
Reveal that love in acts.

We are not dazed by mystery,  
To Gods no homage pay;  
But draw from every history  
A lesson for today.

Say not, inate depravity  
Will man forever curse,  
Or that by moral gravity  
We slide from bad to worse.

Such law of condemnation, so,  
Would but the sin prolong;  
And make of all creation, too,  
A multiplying wrong.

Great Nature's Constitution may  
Not ever be impaired,  
And each life's evolution, aye,  
By certain rule is squared.

We stand by sights convictions, then,  
We dare to use our brain,  
Careless of false restriction, men,  
And vote for Reason's reign.

From highest halls of science, down  
To lowest grades in school,  
We labor with defiance frown  
To break the bigot's rule.

In all the real's immensity,  
One principle obtains,  
So govern each propensity  
As Reason's law ordains,

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