

**The Ingersoll Chair.—Letter
From Mr. G. J. Holyoake.**

Editor Torch of Reason:—

Dear sir:—Mr. Pearl Geer has written me one of those clear indigesting letters, such as I have read from his pen in The Torch, giving much information in a few words. It is satisfactory to English contributors to learn from him that the Chair fund is deposited "in a safe place and drawing six per cent interest," and that when the University Building Fund is well advanced special efforts will be made in America to augment the fund of the Ingersoll Chair. I have now the pleasure to send you two more subscriptions, one from Mr. Anderson, and one from my son-in-law, Mr. Marsh. Mr. Anderson is a most generous supporter of the Free Thought cause in every part of the world, where it can be aided. He has lately offered \$5,000 towards providing a Secular Hall in London. We are not so bold as you and do not attempt a Free Thought University, though much wanted in England. It was he who said, if the Ingersoll Freethought Chair was not standing on sufficiently firm legs, he would strengthen them by a further gift. Upon learning from me that it would be well to provide, in case of need, further support, he sent the following letter:—

London, S. W., Sept. 11, 1900.

Dear Mr. Holyoake:—

I have seen a late list of subscriptions to the Ingersoll Chair, but would much like to see our American brethren do more, so that the chair shall properly support the Secular doctrines which now move the world and assist in making all mankind brethren. I herewith send you another £5 and hope the movement will soon be put on a sound foundation—the best thing that we can do for mankind.

Yours,

GEORGE ANDERSON.

Mr. Marsh, always interested in, and aiding the essential duty of self-thinking, of which Ingersoll was the brilliant apostle, writes to me as follows:—

62 Pentonville Road, London,
Sept. 14, 1900.

My dear Mr. Holyoake:—

As you are sending Mr. Anderson's further donation to Prof. Hosmer, kindly enclose a cheque for £3 on my behalf also. So far, it is but a small amount that has been subscribed in so large a country and for so great a man. This will doubtless be reversed later on. Let me say that I feel to have been more than blessed by reading some of the late Colonel's delightful writings.

Most truly yours,
ALFRED MARSH.

Enclosed please find post office money order for £8. Mr. Charles

Watts and Mr. G. W. Foote, who were nominated with me by the University, will, I hope, send further contributions from Great Britain. It occurs to me that some enterprising craftsman in America, of the University way of thinking, belonging to the cabinet and chair making trades, who may not be able just now to make contributions to the support of Lectures from the Chair might be able to make the chair itself, and present it to the University as a tribute from workers, and admirers of Ingersoll. A stately, well designed chair, surmounted by a bust or medallion of Ingersoll, would be a distinguished possession of the University and adorn the Lecture hall. Such a tribute in the memory of the great Freethought orator is not beyond the resources, ingenuity and skill in design of the Liberal craftsmen of America.

Very Faithfully Yours,
GEORGE JACOB HOLYOAKE.

Esteron Lodge, Brighton, Oct. 6.

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Send for my price list of Watches, Chains, Jewelry, Silverware, Freethought Badges, Ingersoll Spoon, and my tract, "Theism in the Crucible," free.

Otto Wettstein,

Rochelle, Ill.

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