

their own minds, they were acting in accord with an invitation of the organ of "Liberal" corruption, which used these words:

"It is an occasion when every Republican should use his own mind, and use it with as serious intent as he ever did in his life."

For thus utilizing their own mental capacities instead of bowing to the dictum of the rule or ruin clique, this is what these gentlemen received:

"The Republicans who thus undertake to sell out their party are in the position of the devil when he offered the kingdoms of the earth for a little worship. They had nothing to trade and neither had he."

Why is this slanderous cry of desperation raised by the source from which it issues? It is that the reign of terror of the *Tribune* clique may be perpetuated, and the freedom of law-abiding citizens trampled in the dust. For this purpose the old anti-"Mormon" bitterness, which has been subsiding toward obliteration, may be resurrected and the progress of this Territory impeded.

We are at the defiance of all men to correctly assert that the *News* is the organ of either of the national parties. Its position is independent and our motto is "truth and liberty," which are intimately associated. This journal reserves the right to defend the liberties of all citizens, no matter to what party they may belong, and to criticize attempts to stifle the free expression of any class of people, without reference to creed or political inclinations. And in regard to aiming to be truthful, we are pleased to be able to say that many honorable men in this Territory, who are not in unison with our general views, have frequently asserted that the *News* stands second to no journal in the West.

#### A SENSATION THAT IS NOT IMMINENT.

WE do not enjoy the distinguished honor of an intimate acquaintance with Undertaker Skewes of this city, but we are compelled to say that, notwithstanding the grave and mournful duties of his calling, he still possesses a fine vein of humor when he takes his pen in hand to write a few lines. An undertaker's journal published at Rochester, N. Y., recently contained a specimen of Mr. Skewes' delicate satire; and lest this light of our fellow townsman should be hid under a bushel from the admiring gaze of his friends at home, we reproduce it in all its bright and shining originality. It would seem to have appeared in response to a remark of our cotemporary, the *Herald*; to whom we trust the incident will prove a

warning that the man who is waiting to bury you is the last kind of a man that you should try to joke with. Listen to Mr. Skewes' artistic and spontaneous effervescence:

"THAT MORMON CREMATORY."

To the Editor of the *Casket*:

There is absolutely no truth in what the Salt Lake City *Herald*, March 11th, says concerning the crematory that the "Blue Church" (Mormon) contemplates building. It was simply used as a home thrust at our present "city heads" (Gentiles) who some time ago sold one of the public parks for a railroad depot, and the Latter-day Saints raised a kick about it, as they always do about everything, unless it is to marry five or six women and build up God's kingdom on earth; then they are right there with both feet; so in order to be funny, they made the remark concerning the Eighth Ward square that if the council would sell the same, they, the Mormons, would build a crematory to cremate us Gentiles, I guess, but you may rest assured that they will never get that square.

CHARLES H. SKEWES.

Salt Lake City, Utah, April 6, 1891."

Apart from its literary merits, we fancy that the foregoing will be widely enjoyed by the numerous and susceptible class of "us Gentiles" who have been in daily and nightly dread of unwilling and ante-mortem incineration. Let white-winged peace brood over all again—Mr. Skewes feels that the danger will be averted.

#### WHO WILL BE THE LEADERS?

NOTWITHSTANDING the fact that the nominating conventions to choose candidates for the Presidency do not occur until June of next year, newspaper and politicians' utterances are already full of predictions as to the standard-bearers from the respective national parties who will be called to lead their followers into the approaching campaign. As to the Democracy, it appears at this time certain that save for the violent antagonism in the Empire State, ex-President Cleveland would again receive his party's nomination. But the warfare between the Cleveland and the Hill forces in New York is so bitter that there exists a strong doubt whether Mr. Cleveland could obtain the solid support of his own State in the convention. To fail in this would be, it is urged, an overpowering evidence of his weakness and would render him totally unsuitable as a leader to marshal the Democratic hosts to hoped-for victory. Of his opponent, Governor Hill, it is enough to say that outside of his own State his popularity is not recognized. His skill as a political manager may not be doubted, but the methods by which he has acquired and retains so firm a hold upon the Democracy of his State, are not such as to arouse throughout the nation the enthusiasm which would be desirable

for a candidate whose fight will necessarily be a difficult one. Leaving the two New York men out of consideration, the crop of possible candidates scattered over the country is most promising. Pattison of Pennsylvania, Palmer of Illinois, McPherson of New Jersey, Gray of Indiana, Vilas of Wisconsin, and many others come in for more or less prominent mention.

On the Republican side, however, there seems to be a settled conviction that the choice lies between two men—President Harrison and his brilliant secretary of state, James G. Blaine. That the former has grown immensely in public favor since he set out upon the nine thousand mile journey which he just ended, his keenest critics must admit. He is looked upon as conservative and safe, and with a rare faculty for surrounding himself with counselors whose popularity gives his administration great strength with the people. And if the inopportune announcement that Mr. Blaine was not in the race, coming from a journal in which the President's son is a partner, seriously set the tide of sympathy against him, the noisy foolishness of ex-Governor Foraker in singling out Mr. Blaine for approbation to the evident exclusion of the President, turned that tide in large measure back again. Mr. Blaine is conducting himself with customary discretion; and if it is conceded that President Harrison is not to be blamed for the blunders of his son's newspaper, it must also be claimed for Mr. Blaine that he cannot be held accountable for the political idiocy of his would-be friends.

Undoubtedly the best thing for all the aspirants would be to keep their little boomlets as much as possible in check. A whole year must elapse before the choice is made, and in the meantime many a blossoming hope will be chilled in death, and some that are half buried today will burst into a glorious resurrection.

#### A NEW POLITICAL ERA.

ONE of the most memorable political meetings that ever took place in Utah, if not the entire Rocky Mountain region, was held in the Salt Lake Theatre, May 20th. Its results cannot fail to have a marked effect upon the future history of this Territory and upon the actions of all classes of its inhabitants. The question before the meeting virtually was this: Shall the old antagonism over purely local issues, and between purely local organizations, be perpetrated, or shall Utah become politically as other territories and the states of the Union are? The voters