

With all due deference to Col. Ingersoll's opinion, we fail to perceive the logic contained in the foregoing, if indeed there be any. The allegation that God is not a perfect Being, that is, that He is not complete and never will be until constructed upon the Renanese or Ingersollian plan, may pass among admirers of irreverence and ribaldry, but not, surely, among even the more moderate freethinkers. It is a sentiment that shocks the Christian and must produce something like aversion in the minds of those who respect but are indifferent. The next sentence, about what is proved regarding the soul and what is not, is purely gratuitous—only the conclusion, or perhaps we would better say the assertion, of the materialists, an assertion in which they are disputed by thousands of men equal to themselves on all points of scholastic acquirements and personal cultivation, and infinitely superior to them in spiritual knowledge and respect for sacred things. Which of the two classes is the more likely to know regarding what Renan advances so brazenly and Ingersoll endorses so flippantly—the thousands or the two?

Proceeding further we will take the liberty of asking Col. Ingersoll how he is able to know that his fellow scoffer's heart asked for immortality, when the evidence is all the other way. Renan was an infidel, and, like most men of that class was more or less inconsistent at times; but surely he never did anything quite so self-stultifying as asking for that which he told the world could not exist, was not an entity in the grand economy of creation. Besides, the record shows that the Frenchman's heart was under very good control by his brain, and was not permitted to ask for what the mind could not or would not conceive of, thus dissipating another of the American's attempts to compromise the case with the Christian sentiment of the age, and we suspect with his own conscience too, if the truth could be known regarding his actual feelings.

The statement that Renan wanted his dream and was willing that others should have theirs, approaches the grotesque. It would have been a performance unworthy of an illiterate booby, let alone a man of letters, to have conceived the idea of depriving any people of their dreams, so the willingness in that regard attributed to him goes for nothing. If the Colonel seeks to shelter himself from the peculiarity (to be charitable) of such a declaration by saying that of course he speaks figuratively, that the dream spoken of is the hope, the impulse, yea, the knowledge of the heart that the soul lives and immortality prevails, he is in a worse position than ever, for obvious reasons. And then, how or by what means could either Renan or Ingersoll deprive anyone of even that dream, if they felt disposed to do so? To be willing for others to have it is a waste of words, utterly unworthy a man of even the Colonel's vast vocabulary.

"Such is the wish and will of all great souls." Very likely; but the Colonel only knows what is the wish and will of his own soul, and at latest advice he was not entirely sure that

he had such a thing. If he has found out that important fact we are glad of it for his sake—so glad that we cheerfully overlook the yielding to a custom which obtains among some less gifted people, of determining the rule and scope of others by themselves.

### A MOMENT FOR REFLECTION.

The election which has just passed proved in its concluding stages quite as exciting and noisy as the most enthusiastic partisans could have desired. In this respect it departed widely from its earlier promise, and must have been a disappointment to those who expected a calm, sober, quiet, non-sensational affair, with no appeals save to the intelligence and patriotism of the voters. It has not, indeed, been characterized by the bitter recriminations and the brutal personalities that have been conspicuous in other campaigns; but it went quite far enough in these directions to wound the sensibilities and disgust the good sense of the whole better element in the nation.

It is with sincere joy, therefore, that such persons see the great contest ended and sent to its place in history. Whether in its results the country will be benefited or otherwise depends altogether on the future, and even then to a great extent on the point of view. But that the country is relieved of a great strain, and will breathe easier now that the strain is removed, no one will for a moment question. All will rejoice that the blare and turmoil is over, and all ought to be anxious to see business resume its normal state, and animosity and hot partisanship relegated, if not forever at least for a time, to the rear.

In order that so desirable a condition may be quickly reached, it devolves upon the victors to exerce moderation and magnanimity in the hour of their triumph, and upon the defeated to display cheerful hope tempered with calm resignation. There should be no disposition on the one hand to gloat, or on the other to despond. The popular will as manifested at the polls is at best a fickle and uncertain quantity, and it behooves those launched upon a career of power and flushed with success to remember that their way may be brief and defeat as sweeping as that now administered to their opponents may be their portion next time. Under no circumstances can undue exultation and cruel jeers at the expense of the losers be justified. Surely those who are victorious can content themselves with the joys of success without being ungenerous, ill-mannered and un-Christianlike.

We would especially impress upon the Latter-day Saints the necessity of restraint and charity upon the present occasion. They have passed through a trying ordeal. Methods that cannot be justified by any right-minded person in his moments of reflection have been employed by both parties. The hearts of the people have been pained at many of the things said and done during the campaign. Men who have no love for the Saints and who would be pleased to see them torn by dissension, have rejoiced at the discord and the ill-feeling that some have sought to introduce—and which they have called a neces-

sary part of our political education. Such precepts have in too many instances found ready acceptance. Inflamed by party zeal, some have been willing to believe the worst that their political friends could say about opposing candidates or their friends; and while rumors have been growing into slanders, harmless words have been woven into base misrepresentations. Much of this is known to all our readers, otherwise we should not speak of it. The subject is unpleasant and we would far rather ignore than magnify it. One allusion to it is permissible, perhaps, if there is reason for the hope that we may never be required to refer to it again. Indulging in that hope, the News urges upon the people of Utah that they now put away ill-feeling, rancor, complaining and bitterness, and set themselves to the duty of cultivating forgiveness, charity, faith and unity. Their neighbors confess that they have furnished abundant evidence of their ability to comport themselves properly in political affairs; now let them prove to themselves and their God the more important fact that they are brethren and sisters in the same covenant, concerned with one accord for their own salvation and the redemption of the world.

### THE RESULT.

The smoke of the battle has now cleared away and we are given a clear view of the field excepting a few remote corners, the results in which will not be apt to change the outcome generally as herein set out. Altogether it is a great surprise to both the principal parties, to one because it got so much less and to the other because it got so much more than it expected. The greatest event in the way of an overturning was the result in Ohio, which was left to the Republicans by common consent and did not appear in the Democratic column in any table of computations prior to last evening; and when it was announced in the telegraphic columns of the News yesterday it was received with a great deal of incredulity, even by Democrats. Indiana going against the President was of course an unusual and unexpected event, but it has been held by his political opponents as fair fighting ground with chances in their favor all along, hence no such surprise was occasioned by its action. Next to Ohio comes California, which it was confidently believed would give a decided Harrison majority, but has, as it appears at this writing, gone for Cleveland; then come Illinois and Wisconsin in the order named, both of which have turned completely against the Republican party. Then Connecticut should be named, not because it went Democratic, for, notwithstanding it is classed as a doubtful state, it has done that three or four times in succession; but because it gives the largest plurality it has ever given for a Democratic Presidential candidate. All the other states on the Cleveland side are solidly settled, and altogether the showing made for him is the enormous total of 304 electoral votes. This leaves but 140 to be divided between Harrison and Weaver; of these the former is certain of the vote of