

Yet men are just so infatuated, in the midst of those who profess to be Christians ; yes, *intelligent* christians !

Who would believe, were it not demonstrated, that in the nineteenth century 20,000 persons would be duped into the belief by ignorant uneducated men, that plates had been dug from the earth resembling gold, by Joseph Smith of New York—that an angel was sent to give him directions to translate it; and that it turned out to be a revelation from God, containing the origin of the American Indians, &c. which must implicitly be believed, on pain of endless misery !! Absurd as it is, many of all ranks and conditions in various parts of the United States, and some few in this Province, have believed the book of Mormon, and have taken up their march for the promised land, on the rich Prairies of Missouri.

With these facts before us, we are ready to exclaim :

“ Reason is gone to brutish beasts,  
And men have lost their senses.”

But the secret is found in a few considerations, plain and obvious to all who have examined such questions :

1. Men are governed more by passion than reason.
2. The general ignorance of the Bible.
3. Divisions amongst professors of religion, and the party strife existing among various denominations ; particularly the want of peace, love, and harmony, among members of the same communion.
4. And the zeal and union of those who have advocated the before-named absurdities.

We have now found the cause ; what is the remedy ?

*Answer :* Let every philanthropist commence studying the word of God ; and pursue it, with a desire to become acquainted with himself and his duty ; and in so doing, reduce the truth to practice ; then they will become christians, and continuing so to act, they will overrun infidelity and fanaticism, be united as christians, and the world will be happy !

We have no expectation that the world will thus conduct as a whole. We have, however, a few remarks for the disciples of the Lord as an inducement to persuade them to pursue this course, and so prove a blessing to the churches of which they are members, and the whole human family generally.

I am greatly indebted to the “ Baptist Advocate” and “ Primitive Communionist” for the greater part of the following excellent suggestions. Let the members of every christian congregation pay strict attention to the subsequent principles, and very seldom would their meetings be disgraced with petty broils and angry bickerings.

1. Remember that we are all liable to failings of one kind or other. Ps. cxix. 96—“ I have seen an end of all perfection.”

2. Bear with, and not magnify, each other's faults. Gal. vi. 1-2—“ Brethren, if a man be overtaken in a fault, ye which are spiritual, restore such an one in the spirit of meekness ; considering thyself, lest thou also be tempted. Bear ye one another's burdens, and so fulfil the law of Christ.”