

small, are still in use, but will have to be pulled down to make way for larger and better school houses. Rent is being paid for other places, and renting is ruinous policy.

New apparatus will be wanted. Other improvements are a necessity. Efficient teachers must be had and paid for their services. This city must keep abreast of the times, and come to the front in educational affairs. All this will require money, and that in no small amounts.

Now the question is, shall this money be raised and the schools be properly supported, and if so what is the easiest method for the taxpayers? We think there will be few if any of our citizens who will say, "Let the schools get along as best they may"; the desire will be to obtain the necessary funds so as to impose as light a burden as possible on the taxpayer. This can only be done by bonding.

The proposition is, to issue bonds for the amount of \$600,000, and out of it return to the taxpayers the amounts collected on special school tax under the assessment declared illegal by the courts. But if the people vote for these bonds it is not intended that they shall be issued all at once. They will be sold as necessity requires. They will bear interest at five per cent. per annum. Supposing they were all sold immediately, the interest would amount to but \$30,000 a year. Add to this another \$30,000 for a sinking fund, which will pay off the entire debt in twenty years, and the tax required will be but one tenth of one per cent. a year on the taxable property in the district!

Let the progressive citizens think of the great advantages and the slight burden, and we believe they will decide in favor of the bonds. But one will ask, perhaps, whether it will not be possible for the Board to assess other taxes and so pile up the burden until it can scarcely be borne. The answer to this is, the school law limits the annual assessment for all school purposes in the district, including interest on bonds and amount for sinking fund, to two mills on the dollar.

But how about the extent of the power of the City Council to issue bonds? That is yet to be decided. And the best way to test it is to vote for the school bonds, and when an attempt is made to issue city bonds beyond the limit prescribed by the statute as construed by leading lawyers, then an injunction will lie to restrain the municipal authorities and keep them within the legal bounds.

If the bonds are not issued, our school affairs will be crippled, our

children crammed into close and incompetent quarters, about \$10,000 will have to be almost thrown away in rents, and our school system will go limping and halting along in a miserable fashion, disgraceful to such a well conditioned people.

All things, considered, then, we are in favor of the school bonds, and we hope the legal voters will go to the polls on Friday, June 12th, and cast their ballots in support of improved education by voting "Bonds, Yes." As to the right of citizens to vote on this question, we will have something to say at another time.

#### LET THEM ALONE.

THE claims of the enthusiast Schweinfurth, who either imagines himself or pretends to be the Christ, are no doubt preposterous and deceptive. They do harm in unsettling the minds of foolish people, and are a burlesque upon true religion. But that is no justification for the mobocracy which his presence has excited at Kansas City.

Attacks with stones, threats of tar and feathers, and attempts at expulsion are not the methods of civilization or of Christianity. While the person who pretends to be the Savior does not violate the law he should be protected by the law, and he has as much right to stay in Kansas city as the most orthodox Christian in the place.

Such actions as those which have disgraced the Kansas City people only tend to excite sympathy for the individual attacked and thus defeat their intended object. The best way to treat such extreme fanatics is to let them severely alone.

#### THE CHILEAN SITUATION.

NEWS of a sanguinary character still continues to come from Chile. The revolution seems to be far from ended. The reports of a naval engagement which took place in the harbor of Chanaral a few weeks ago, have only reached this country during the past day or two. The "Magallanes," an insurgent cruiser, was lying in that harbor when three of the government warships steamed in from the north-east. They were the "Cindell," the "Aldea" and the "Lynch." The battle opened immediately. Though it was fought on the part of the "Magallanes" against fearful odds, yet she came out victorious. She disabled two of the government ships and succeeded in chasing the third out of the harbor.

During the fusillade a shell from the "Lynch" blew the yard arm of the

"Magallanes" into the sea. The flag was at the end of it. In a moment one of the gunners sprang into the sea and grasped the flag. Ropes were thrown to him by his companions, and the dripping banner again floated proudly from the gallant insurgent cruiser. This brave action on the part of the gunner inspired the crew to further heroism, and the result was that the government vessels were completely vanquished though none were captured.

In the harbor at the time of the battle was the merchant bark "Bertha E." All hands were on board watching the fight, when suddenly an explosion took place right underneath them. Before they could realize the situation the vessel began to sink. In a few minutes nothing was visible of her but the masts. The crew, however, managed to escape by swimming to the shore. The explosion was caused by a torpedo from the "Lynch," which was intended for the "Magallanes," but missing its mark, fell close to the ill-fated "Bertha E."

Chile achieved its independence of Spain in 1819. The present constitution was adopted in 1833, modelled after that of the United States. In name a republican form of government prevailed, but in reality it was a government by an oligarchy. A party which called itself Conservative ruled from 1833 to 1886. Its leaders were the Roman bishops and the heads of the wealthy Chilean families. They ruled with a rod of iron, but from 1850 to 1860 the government was in the hands of two men named Moutt and Varas, President and Prime Minister, who were true patriots. They gave the country a fair administration, and under them there was remarkable progress. They were succeeded by men of no virtue or honesty. Meanwhile a Liberal party was gradually springing up.

After the bloody wars with Peru and Bolivia were concluded in 1880 and 1883, this new party appealed to the country, under the leadership of Balmaceda, who in 1886 was elected President for a term of five years. He did not give satisfaction to even a majority of his own party. In some matters he was too revolutionary, while in others he was as tyrannical as the old Roman aristocratic regime. Many members of his party in Congress went over to the Mouttvaras Conservatives. In a short time his party was in a minority, but he exercised his prerogative as Executive, and vetoed every measure that came before him. The result was a revolution, and Balmaceda, whose term expires next September, is