

with more efficacy at less expense, if the proper methods are adopted. A small saving in each of the departments will amount to a great deal.

Councilman Pendleton—I should like to inquire of the city attorney if the City Council has the power to lower the rate of taxation?

City Attorney Hall—It has.

Councilman Pendleton—This thing is assuming an unpleasant shape and if it is going to clog the wheels of justice by involving us in litigation, I think we should prevent it. I therefore move that we adjourn until Tuesday night when the matter can properly be disposed of.

Mayor Scott—The motion is at present out of order.

The question for reconsidering the adoption of the resolution then came up. The vote stood as follows:

Yeas—Parsons, Pickard, Spafford, Anderson, Kurrick, Lynn—6.

Nays—Pendleton, Heath, Tuddenham, Folland, Hyde, Hardy, Young—7.

Mayor Scott hesitated and appeared desirous of still continuing the debate, when Councilman Young requested that the result be announced.

Mayor Scott—I was hoping that things might so shape themselves as to give Mr. Pendleton an opportunity to change his vote.

Another delay followed and Councilman Young arose and said somewhat warmly, "Mr. Mayor, I do not wish to rush matters, but I insist that the result be declared."

Mayor Scott—Yes, yes, I was just waiting for—that is, I wanted to see if Mr. Pendleton would not change his vote.

Mr. Pendleton declined and the Mayor finally declared the motion for reconsideration lost.

Councilman Young then introduced the following resolution and moved its adoption:

Resolved, That the reduction of 20 per cent. in the assessed valuations of real property and improvements made by the board on the 17th inst., be declared to have been made, because in the judgment of the board the assessed valuations of real property and improvements, after just deductions on excessive valuations in special cases are uniformly 20 per cent. too high, and that the assessed valuations of personal property are, after corrections made, just and proper.

Councilman Anderson—The resolution is out of order.

Councilman Folland—Mr. Mayor, I claim that it is entirely in order. It is said that the real estate values are not rated any higher by the city assessor this year than last. I know that he has assessed my property thirty per cent. higher than last year and we have received no benefits from the city in the part of the city in which I reside.

Councilman Young—My only object in introducing the resolution is to show, in the event of a contest, the reason why the board lowered the assessment.

Councilman Anderson—I move to adjourn.

Councilman Lynn (reaching for his cane)—I second the motion.

The motion to adjourn was put by the Mayor, who was now becoming greatly excited. The yeas were completely drowned by the noes, but Mayor Scott seized his polished

stovepipe and was about to declare the motion carried when Councilmen Young and Hardy called for a division. The Mayor, however, announced the motion to adjourn carried, and left his seat and the council chamber.

## A GREAT FUTURE FOR THE JEWS.

[North American Review.]

When we see what great work the Jews of Europe have done despite the depressing influence of ages of restriction, injustice and oppression, what may not be hoped for the Jews of America? That the Jew is by nature as well fitted for the duties of a husbandman, or of a sailor, or of a soldier, or of an artisan, as for those of a trader or a money-changer, any Christian may satisfy himself by simply taking a concordance of the English under Elizabeth can be shown to have been by a concordance of Shakespeare. What was the command of the Lord of Hosts to the Jews who were deported from Jerusalem into Babylon? "Build to yourselves houses, and dwell therein; till your gardens, and eat of the fruit thereof." Have not the Jews of our own day faithfully obeyed this command ever since they found a refuge in New Jersey from those persecutions, "not religious," of 1880 and 1881, in the course of which Professor Rohling, of Prague, was not ashamed to charge Sir Moses Montefiore, then in his ninety-ninth year, with encouraging "the sacrifice of Gentile maidens at the Passover?" Has Mr. Goldwin Smith forgotten that this same atrocious calumny was levelled at the Jews of Damascus by a "consular officer"—not English, indeed, but French—no longer ago than in 1847? That the Jew is by nature gifted above many other races of men it does not become me to assert. But such is the concurrent testimony of the ages of Christendom, the very existence of Christianity being itself a witness to the assertion. Granting the Jew to be only the equal, intellectually and morally, of other men, what right or reason has any man to affirm of him that by a law of his nature his presence as a citizen, enjoying equal rights with other citizens, in a land of liberty and of plenty, must prove a blight, and not a blessing, to that land and to all its inhabitants, of whatever lineage and of whatever faith?

## BALMACEDA.

THE story of Balmaceda it appears, has, after all, a tragical termination. Report has it, that he shot himself, in his room at the Argentine Legation in Santiago, Chile, on the 19th inst. The news of his death was occasion in that city for brilliant illuminations and boisterous rejoicings. All hope of escape having vanished, Balmaceda, sooner than surrender himself to the Junta, committed suicide.

Balmaceda left a letter written to his mother, and also a statement to the *New York Herald*, in which he explains his attitude during the rebellion.

In it he says that he acted with the firm conviction that he was right all through the war. He complained of the treachery and mendacity of his generals, saying they were false to him. His heart was in his country, and he had hopes of making it, in truth, a real republic. He also states that the bad deeds attributable to his orders was not known by him until after they had been committed. He had hopes of triumph all along until after the battle of Placilla.

In his death statement Balmaceda makes one important admission relating to United States Minister Egan. He says if he had taken Egan's advice matters would be different. Egan advised him to make peace and retire from Chile, but thinking that he (Egan) was in league with the Junta, the advice was ignored. The *New York Herald* correspondent at Santiago says that Egan gave him marked assistance in obtaining copies of the last statements of Balmaceda.

A short time ago Major Alfred F. Sears of Portland, Oregon, returned home from a four years sojourn in Chile, and other South American countries. To the *Portland Oregonian* he gave his views on "the right and wrong of the Chilean trouble." He says the American press has not treated Balmaceda fairly, simply, because the press was not cognizant of the real situation in Chile. Major Sears, however, admits that brutality and ferocity are the most marked characteristic traits of Chilean character, and that one side is as guilty as the other, and remarks:

"If it were necessary to acknowledge and discuss the cruelty of Balmaceda it should be sufficient to say that he is a Chilean; to recall the history of the Chilean devastation of the Peruvian coast under Admiral Lynch; to refer to the conduct of Montt's men at Pisagua, where the breathing and moaning wounded were thrown into a common pit with the dead and covered with earth.

"Among the mercies of God for which we ought to be grateful, let us thank Him that we are not Chileans, and that the face of the earth is not blackened with only 3,000,000 of them; and, moreover, in these latter days they have been instruments to kill off 30,000 of each other."

In Chile during the past ten years the political situation was rather chaotic. There were three sections of what was called a Liberal party, and one conservative party.

The first section of the Liberal party, though willing to divorce Church and State, and to curb the power of the clergy, yet were opposed to extension of the franchise and to general education.

The second branch of the Liberals was composed of men who howled loudly for freedom, but afterwards voted at the dictations of priests and plutocrats.

The third wing of this party advocated universal franchise, entire divorce of Church and State, and the establishment of a general free school system. Of this branch Balmaceda was the leader and expounder. In 1886 he was elected President, but though able to control the different branches of the Liberal party at the polls, he did not succeed in maintaining them at his side after his inauguration.