

that I, in common with other taxpayers, will immediately contest the matter in the courts by enjoining the city from making any transfer.

#### DISGRACEFUL DEMONSTRATION.

When the Mayor announced that the majority report was adopted the crowd of spectators made a bolt for the door and with clapping of hands and stamping of feet rushed wildly down stairs.

Mayor Scott, (addressing Police Sergeant Donovan,) suppress that confusion.

The officer promptly obeyed orders and quiet was soon restored.

#### VARIETY THEATRE LIQUOR LICENSE.

The matter of granting a license allowing liquor to be sold in the basement of the Variety Theatre came up for discussion.

A petition numerously signed by taxpayers and property holders in that vicinity asked that the application be refused.

Action was referred for one week.

#### RESOLUTION BY COUNCILMAN SPAFFORD.

Councilman Spafford offered the following resolution:

Resolved, That the committee on municipal laws be and are hereby instructed to prepare and report an ordinance further regulating the issuance of licenses to liquor saloons within certain parts of the city to be designated in said ordinance, and providing further that no license shall be issued for any place within—roads of any school, hospital, church or other place of public worship, and providing further that no liquor license shall be issued where there is a remonstrance presented, signed by a majority of the property holders on the face of the block where said license is to be used, against the issuance of such license, and provided further that no liquor license shall be granted at the same meeting of the Council at which the petition therefrom is presented.

Referred to the city attorney.

#### THE PAWNBROKERS' ORDINANCE.

The ordinance in regard to pawnbrokers was referred back to the committee on municipal laws.

#### APPROPRIATIONS.

The following appropriations were made:

|                      |          |
|----------------------|----------|
| Mrs. Merritt.....    | \$273 10 |
| A. J. Bart.....      | 392 60   |
| Da las & Hodges..... | 450 60   |
| Joseph Silver.....   | 57 00    |

Adjourned for one week.

#### LETTER FROM STOCKHOLM.

It is a matter of fact that the political air of Scandinavia has been very clear during the last two decades or since the last German-Danish war, when Sweden, ruled by Charles XV, was not very far from becoming an ally of her attacked sister kingdom. Well for her that she did not!

Some day, and, perhaps, one not very remote, she may need all the strength which she has been able to gather since her last war in 1814. The blessings of peace have been of the greatest benefit to the commercial and intellectual development of the country, and the Sweden of today is in a more prosperous state of affairs in every way than the Sweden of the past.

There is only one cause for anxiety, and that comes from the appearance of a cloud in the eastern political firmament. This cloud, although not yet of very large dimensions, is, however, black and heavy, and is regarded by many people as the fore-runner of a political tornado, now directing its mad course westward towards the Scandinavian peninsula.

But figurative language will not explain the situation; I must state the facts.

The tyrannical acts of the Russian despot in his endeavor to Russanize poor Finland are something that may set every true Swede thinking. The peace of Fredrikshamn in 1809 gave to Russia Finland, which had been connected with Sweden for six hundred years. The terms of the treaty of peace stipulated, however, that Finland was not to become a Russian province, but to retain its autonomy, though the nominal head was to be the Czar of Russia under the title of Grand Duke of Finland. The first Alexander ignored many of the agreements, but Alexander II was a good ruler, and asserted that the Finlanders were the most loyal of his many subjects. It was during his reign that the Finnish Landtdag was assembled for the first time.

But what does the present Czar care for the most loyal of his subjects? To Russanize them, to make Finland a part of his great empire is his aim. Will he succeed? Without doubt. Already the Russian language has been made obligatory in the schools, native Russians have been appointed to the more paying government offices, the refractory newspapers are being confiscated en masse, and the Finnish postage stamps will soon be "stamped" out, Russian ones of a corresponding worth going to take their place. The good financial reputation of Finland is also to be crushed, the marks being compelled to make way for the ill-fated rubels. Indeed, every encroachment of the Czar is a fearful blow at the Finnish civilization and nationality.

But it signifies more than that. It is a thunder-bolt aimed at the vital power of the Protestant people around the Baltic sea, and it may cause political dissensions within the czarism, dissensions, which, perhaps, will be obstacles to the aim of the assimilation.

The assimilation being more of an interior than foreign character will probably not call forth even a simple protest from the great powers.

The people of Sweden and Norway, however, do not look at the acts of Russia in the same light, but regard them as an indirect demonstration, a prelude to a war for the purpose of obtaining one or several harbors on the coast of Norway. The geographical situation of Scandinavia cuts off Russia from any direct connection with the North Sea, and it is a well-known fact that the Moscovite power desires to get possession, in some way or another, of the Norwegian harbors washed by the Gulf stream. Finland thoroughly Russanized, this aim will be the next of the Czar.

It is true that Russia can reach the North Sea by the Sound (the water between the Danish Seeland and the Swedish province of Schonen), but a confederated German-Swedish or Ger-

man-English fleet could, in case of war, easily prevent this. The German navy is fully able to compete with that of the Czar, and as to King Oscar, he asks every Riksdag for appropriations for new men-of-war. To be shut out from the North Sea is what Russia fears, especially as the great powers will not allow her to reach the Mediterranean or the Indian Sea. The immense realm of the Czar lacks admittance to the oceans, which would make Russia even stronger and more powerful than she is at present. A harbor at Lofoten or any other place on the Norwegian coast would help this need in some degree, Russia thereby being able, perhaps to keep her maritime connections, even if the navies of other powers should block and lock the gate of the Baltic—the Sound.

But if Russia can get her heavy foot on some small spot in northern Norway, then, sooner or later, she will probably imagine that she is in need of the whole peninsula.

The independence of Sweden and Norway is threatened accordingly at the present by no other power than their great eastern neighbor, and the movement now going on all over Scandinavia for the purpose of raising money for the matter of defenses is easily explained. Luckily for Sweden and Norway their relation to the German empire are the most friendly, and a war of Russia against the Scandinavian kingdom would without doubt mean a war with Germany also.

I have now tried to explain the political situation as near as possible! Nothing has been given but the real facts. To what has been said may be added the following dispatch, which has just been received at Stockholm and caused much excitement: "The 37th St. Petersburg division of infantry, including the 145th, 146th, 147th and 148th regiments, are to be stationed in the northern part of Finland, and the staff quartered in the city of Uleoborg. The custom house guard at the Swedish frontier is to be kept by a detachment of cavalry."

STOCKHOLM, Feb. 12, 1890.

#### THE OLD FOLKS.

The free entertainment given the old folks, widows, orphans, and deaf mutes in the Salt Lake Theatre Tuesday, March 3, was a decided success in every respect; it exceeded anything of the kind previously given. Before 1 o'clock, the appointed hour for opening of the doors, a large throng of people holding tickets of admission had gathered in front of the building, anxious to secure good seats, and during the following three quarters of an hour the spacious edifice was filled from pit to dome with old and young, presenting a scene of interest and grandeur seldom, if ever, surpassed in any community. The parquet and dress circle were filled with aged people over seventy years old who, silvery hair, care-worn faces and bowed forms reminded the beholder of severe and protracted struggles with the realities of life; the first circle was filled with widows between the ages of fifty and and seventy, the second circle with younger widows and the third circle with orphans and deaf mutes. Precisely at 2 o'clock Elder George