

**A Lesson from Abroad.**

No American can read Mr. Albert Shaw's recent volume on Municipal Government in Great Britain, published by the Century Company, and turn from it to a perusal of his own daily press, without a poignant feeling of humiliation. In his own country what does he see? New York, by a spasm of civic virtue, has overthrown one ring, only to find all its energies enlisted to enable it to escape another. Brooklyn is for a fortnight an armed camp, its streets occupied alternately by a mob and by the militia, and its customary and necessary methods of transportation shut off by the combined greed of unscrupulous corporations and the lawless violence of apparently irrepressible roughs and hoodlums. Philadelphia barely saves itself from having a mayor imposed upon it by a United States senator who has no more right to choose a mayor for that city than for London. Detroit is seriously considering whether it will not abandon, in hopeless despair, all attempts at self-government, and ask the State Legislature to govern it. Chicago is still sore from the remembrance of last summer's municipal irresolution and incompetence, and humiliated by the domination of its liquor shops and its gambling hells on the one hand, and on the other by the rule of railroad corporations who kill more men per week in time of peace than the mobs kill in the time of war.

We cross the water. What is the record there? Let us take from Mr. Shaw's volume one chapter, and from one chapter a few silent and significant facts.

In 1838 Birmingham was governed, as some pseudo-municipal reformers would have our American cities governed, from without. A city charter was at that time granted. Household suffrage has been adopted. Practically all tax-payers and rent-payers vote. The people have taken the entire control of the municipality into their own hands. They administer it through a locally elected Board of Councilmen and Aldermen. Parliamentary interference is never courted and would not be readily brooked. The ablest men in the city render gratuitous service in the administration of the city's affairs. The gas was formerly supplied by private companies. The plant has been purchased by the city for \$10,000,000; the profits to the city are today nearly \$350,000; the price to the consumer has been reduced, and for the employees the eight-hours day adopted. The water was formerly supplied by another corporation. The plant has been purchased, for \$6,750,000, and the water-rates have paid the interest on the purchase, while the supply has been doubled and the cost to the consumer lessened. A sewage-farm was purchased, and the sewage of the city, which New York pours into its rivers to pollute them, and the garbage of the city, which New York dumps into its harbor to choke its great commercial gateway, are utilized. Parks scattered throughout the city have been provided, and public baths maintained, the latter being almost self-supporting. The street railways introduced in 1870 are owned by the city and leased to operating companies, at such rates as, first, to pay a good rate of interest on the cost of construction, and, secondly, to create a sinking fund adequate to pay the cost of construction in less than a quarter of a century. And every detail as to fares, character of service, and regulations respecting employees, is controlled by the municipality. The municipal debt is large—\$40,000,000—but the rate of interest is but little over three per cent., the profits are considerably more than three per cent., and the city, "as a corporate body, is the richer at least by two or three dollars for every dollar of the forty or fifty millions that the corporation has dared to borrow and invest." And what is more important, it governs itself; it has neither "ring" nor "boss" to rule it from within, nor legislature to tamper with its right of self-government from without; its gas-works, water-works, and street railways render adequate service to the citizens, for the citizens themselves determine what the service shall be. They deal justly with their employees, for the employees have always a remedy for injustice at the next election. And strikes, mobs, and military law are unknown.

There is nothing unique in the case of Birmingham. The facts are repeated, with slightly modified figures, in the case of Manchester, Glasgow, and many of the smaller towns and cities of Great Britain. It is clear that we have something to learn from the "effete" institutions of the Old World.

The reader will say that we cannot do in this country what they can do in England. Why not? Universal suffrage! Their suffrage is now nearly as universal as ours. Certainly the difference is not alone adequate to account for our incompetence. Foreign population? None of their population is American. If we cannot do what they do, it is not because we lack popular intelligence. Our public school system is both broader and better. It is because we lack popular virtue. We have not the English public spirit and civic virtue. From the poorest to the richest we are all poisoned by the same haste to get rich. Great corporations want to get the profits which belong to the people. The people think they can make more

money for themselves by giving the public franchises to the corporations and earning money by individualistic enterprises. It is only under the spur of a tardy reaction against intolerable evils that such men as Mr. Schuren, Mr. Strong, and ex-Governor Pattison have been willing to offer their services to their respective cities. The remedy for municipal evils is not a lazy abandonment of the principle of self-government and a transfer of municipal administration from the city to the state. This is a way to widen and enlarge the corruption. The remedy is to return to local self-government; to place the responsibility of civic administration on the people of the city; to let the cities suffer the penal consequences of their own misconduct; to emphasize public spirit as a public duty, and to rebuke the neglect of it as a personal sin. It is for the city to reassume its legitimate functions; to regain possession of its streets; to furnish its own light as it furnishes its own water; to bring at once its means of transportation under civic control, and at the earliest possible date to own and operate them; and thus to give to its city authorities a work to do for the public which will be worthy of the ambition of its clear-thoughted, strong-willed public-spirited men.—*The Outlook.*

**The Tariff War**

All continental Europe is threatening to follow the lead of Germany in boycotting American beef. Germany was the first a few weeks ago to discover tuberculosis or Texas fever in American cattle, and excluded our dressed beef and live cattle from her markets. It is, however, freely assumed on this side that the removal of the discriminating duty levied by us on sugar imported from Germany and other countries that give a bounty to sugar producers would, as if by magic, free our cattle from all disease and open the German ports again. Germany has been followed by other European countries, until now all continental Europe threatens to adopt reprisals. Austria has directly protested against the sugar duty, but France, Belgium, and Sweden justify their embargo on our cattle and beef on the ground of disease. American cattlebreeders and packers are alarmed at the threatened loss of their foreign markets, and demand the repeal of our tariff duties injurious to continental Europe. The Republicans in congress, however, are reported as determined to permit no tariff legislation of any kind during this session, and the commercial war will probably continue.—*Literary Digest.*

It is a little strange that there should be any lingering belief in Europe that the United States ought to make its tariff to suit European exporters after the McKinley Bill. Tariffs in the United States are made to meet the conveniences of our people first, as our legislators understand them. They may make erroneous judgment as to what an enlightened self-interest truly calls for. But they prefer to exercise that judgment for themselves, nevertheless, and always will do so.—*Boston Transcript.*

The modern phase of protectionism is the international tariff war. France has retaliated for duties levied by foreign countries on her products. Germany and Russia continued a commercial strife until the demands of the growers of wheat and the consumers of bread compelled a truce. And now the United States find themselves likely to become the victims of retaliatory measures threatened by continental Europe. . . . And as it is the American farmer, the breeder of cattle, and the grower of breadstuffs or of cotton, who is our chief exporter, it is he who must suffer most by reason of this consequence of the tax levied for the greater enrichment of the sugar trust. . . . Commercial wars are less civilized and much less dignified than wars of arms inspired by international anger. The remedy and preventive of commercial war is in our hands. The existing tariff on sugar, imposed at the dictation of an impudent monopoly, is the cause of threats to close the ports of Europe against our agricultural products.—*Harper's Weekly.*

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**A Girl's Opportunity.**

"I wish I had not discussed that matter with Donald last night," said a young girl to herself, as she walked slowly home from her class; "he is so clever, and so much used to argument that instead of helping, I am afraid I only harmed him."

But when Donald came to speak of this matter, he said: "Our little talk finally decided me not to enter that scheme, Annie. I could talk down your arguments, but I could not feel willing to be engaged to that which a high-minded girl like you thought below your standard of right."—*Exchange.*

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**FARM AND DAIRY.**

This column is devoted to agricultural subjects, and the editors will be grateful to farmers if they will use it for the intelligent discussion of matters pertaining to their important calling.

**Exchanging Straw for Manure.**

It is hard to get it out of the heads of some farmers that straw has better uses than to be rotted down merely for its manurial value. They use it liberally as bedding, so as to save more of the liquid excrement which will otherwise be wasted. But after all has been used in this way that is possible those who grow grain have large stacks that they do not know what to do with. They can safely sell it, if for every load taken away they buy a load of manure. The manure may cost \$1 a load, while the straw ought to sell for \$5 to \$8 or \$10, according to size of load and quality of the straw. Yet in every case the load of manure has more of plant food than has the more bulky straw. It is not uncommon for farmers in some places to furnish straw for bedding to those keeping horses or cows in neighboring villages. It is a very good plan where the distance for hauling both ways is not too great. There are always some horses kept in village hotels, and it is worth while for farmers to make arrangements for exchanging straw for their bedding for the manure pile that they will produce, according to American Cultivator.

**Evaporated Fruits.**

The evaporation of fruit is one of the many industries that have grown so enormously in the past few years. Having its beginning on the Delaware peninsula, it has gradually extended over the large fruit belt between the Atlantic and the Pacific. Large evaporators must be located where an abundance of fruit can be secured at a reasonable price. Unless this is done the business cannot be made successful. But large evaporators mean acquired business skill in this particular pursuit. The party in charge must understand it thoroughly, keep posted in every detail and be a close observer of all markets. A correspondent of The Country Gentleman says:

Were I to instruct a party just going into business, I would say buy the best machinery attainable. If a large factory, use power machinery. It saves time, help and prevents one of the many expensive outlets that arise in this particular business. From 5 to 7 pounds of evaporated fruit can be made from 50 pounds of choice apples. Raspberries will make about 10 pounds per bushel. The question, Shall I put up an evaporator? should be well weighed and calculated. Several important and necessary points must be considered. Is the locality suitable? Can fruit be purchased at a price to make it profitable? Can help be readily secured? With these questions answered in the affirmative, it is safe to proceed, as you will always be sure of a market for evaporated fruits.

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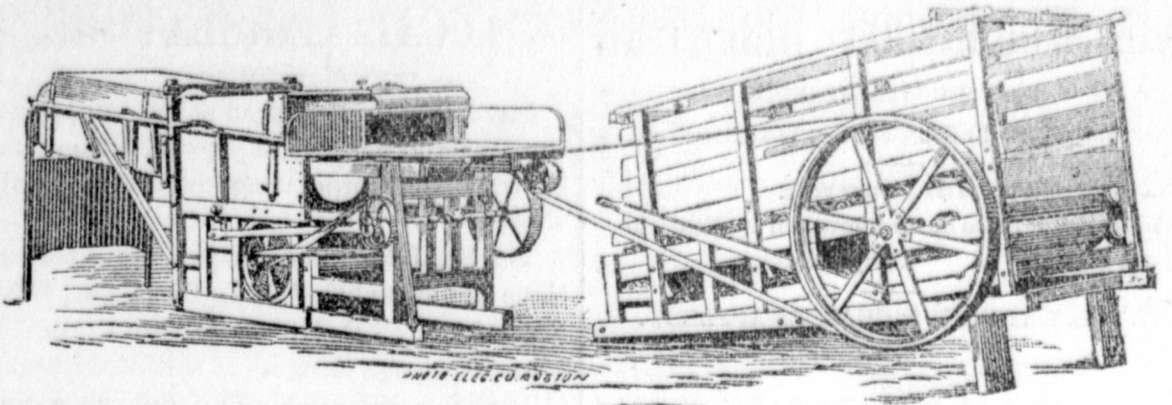
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To the Britton Mining Company of New Brunswick, and all others whom it may concern: TAKE NOTICE that there will be sold at Public Auction in front of the Post Office, in the Town of Woodstock, in the County of Carleton, Province of New Brunswick, on TUESDAY, the FIFTH DAY of MARCH next, at ELEVEN of the clock in the forenoon; the lands and premises hereinafter mentioned, that is to say: "All that moiety or one half all the mines and minerals whatsoever or under the piece of land situate in the Parish of Wakefield, in the said County of Carleton, and described as follows: Commencing on the west side of the Canada Road where crossed by a certain brook at the line between Mrs. Bishop's and one William Britton; thence running southerly along said Canada Road about eight rods to road leading to said William Britton's house, thence along said last mentioned road twelve rods, thence Northerly and parallel to said Canada Road eight rods or to said Brook thence down along said Brook in its centre to the place of beginning." Together with all and singular the buildings, improvements, privileges and appurtenances to the said premises belonging or in anywise appertaining. The above sale will be made under and by virtue of a power of sale contained in a certain Indenture of Mortgage, bearing date the twenty-fourth day of October, A. D. 1890, and made between the said Britton Mining Company of New Brunswick of the one part, and the undersigned of the other part, default having been made in the payment of the moneys secured.

Dated at Woodstock, in the county of Carleton, this twenty-ninth day of January, A. D. 1895.  
DONALD MUNRO,  
Mortgagee.

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