

the doubtful sneers which at first greeted us in coster society; the hard words and the sublimated Billingsgate heaped upon us, and occasionally the times when we had to "put up our fivers" and contest our right to buy and sell among those where ostracism had been complete; of the luminous chaffing their "Lucky Gu'vnor," as the costers dubbed me, had to accept on their account and his own; of the depths of misery and degradation unfolded during this brief period of genuine low London life; of the wonderful excursions taken by river, rail, and our own spanking new cart which we soon secured by exchange and a moderate extra payment; of the gradual evolution of these folk into non-gambling, non drinking, fairly respectable man and woman; of their inexpressible pride when, after all debts and the like had been cleared away, there was issued to the pair, who almost breathlessly and altogether simultaneously exclaimed "Gor bli me, but 'ere is a go!" by the officials of the Post Office Savings Bank, No. 27 St. Paul's Churchyard, a huge deposit-book, with "£5. 5. 6" to their credit. And I am proud to add that, though Becky has not been able to follow the cart with her cheery voice and pleasant ways quite all the time, for reasons which kindly-hearted mothers can well understand, within a year's time the credit in this same deposit book has been increased to a round thirty pounds, and that within this humble Bell Lane coster's home, the lusty voice of a youthful Slumpsy Jem is heard. When I happen in upon the two, as I often do of an evening or a Sunday, I am allowed to toss the coster son and heir about quite recklessly the while Jem, Sr., bulges his eyes and never ceases his "Gor bli me, but 'ere's a go!" and Becky, all frizzes, feathers and sunshiny smiles as stoutly asserts, "Strike me lucky, but hits ekeal wor'nt born!"

EDGAR L. WAKEMAN.

The Ostföten, the large Swedish Linköping paper, still defends the position of the Norwegian Lift in no uncertain terms. A recent editorial closed with the following paragraph: "Fortunately, indeed, would the people of Sweden be if they were in the same political situation as the Norwegian people! What an unheard of difference between the majorities of the parliaments and the government of Sweden and Norway! The struggle in our brotherland deserves the closest attention and sympathy of every Swedish Democrat."

There seems to be a certain restlessness in Swedish politics at present. There seems to be a feeling even among the higher classes that important changes are apt to take place in certain lines, and those who formerly stood immovable as rocks show slight signs of moving. One of the most conspicuous manifestations of this feeling is perhaps the organization of societies, the very names of which proclaim them to aim at comprehensive social reforms. Suffice it to mention three of these societies, "The Future of Sweden," "The Rights of Sweden" and "The Swedish National Union." They are not necessarily progressive—some of them even antagonize what many look upon as reforms—but they all show an unusual stir of a political nature.

### AN OPEN LETTER.

It is not without pleasure and appreciation that the writer of this open letter undertakes to answer a criticism on "the future farm" from the chief of the Utah Agricultural College and Experimental station, from a man possessing the great qualifications that make him worthy to be entrusted with the training of hundreds of our most talented young people of both sexes; expected in their time to take an effective hand in the future development of our farming and rural population, the advancing culture and well-being of our commonwealth. But it is not alone with pleasure I take notes on this criticism on "the future farm." It is also with a feeling of duty, awakened, when, in connection with farming interest, more or less observed, we see factions of monstrous proportions, of perilous aspects, and of national concern, rise up in our republic; the same story over and over again, as almost all nations have undergone, again and again repeated; the subjugation of the producer (and in particular the farmer) under the increased financial and commercial pressure of the consumer.

In the very start there are then two main points in view, for the future farm:

1. The agricultural economy; and
2. The preservation of the fruits of that economy for the main benefit of the toiler himself.

#### THE FINANCIAL AND COMMERCIAL SUBJUGATION OF THE FARMER UNDER MODERN FEUDALISM.

Within the known history of the world, all nations, that have raised up and fallen—have gone through about the same stages, from prosperity to ruin, and by the same causes.

In forming the successful nucleus to a commonwealth, it must have contained virtues enough for that accomplishment, else it could not have effected its beginning; and must contain, at least, the same ethical-religious qualifications that make its continuation possible.

It is a marked fact that very few historians have satisfactorily analysed and pointed out what constituted a successful nucleus to a prosperous commonwealth. We are convinced that it would be very interesting for earnest students of history to find out, in fact, what caused the rise, prosperity, decline and fall of nations in the past. Sacred history is more or less misunderstood; and profane history is very unreliable and mixed with trash; making it necessary for the student to hold on to his points, and, so to say, gain his information by reading between the lines. Profane-historians are always laboring under the difficulty of uncertainty in their premises; and the same fellow them in their conclusions. But it may be safe to set down as a maxim, that commonwealths form themselves agreeable to the supreme law of the golden rule; and nothing less can or will hold a republic together. And under that supreme law, old and modern feudalism must go!

Note A—The incentive, the desire for domineering power, aristocracy, is of course nothing less than unholy ambition, seeking illegitimate power

over fellow men. It is like a cancer-worm that eats up and destroys. The endurance by which nations have withstood its venomous effects, has given it the appearance of a legitimate belonging to the national body; and which has blinded students of national welfare. It might not be a problem of difficult solution, if the teachings of our Great Master and the aims of aristocracy did agree in any shape or form.

The fallen nations of the past! Look at them—historic pictures of woe, misery and destruction. But now at this time, on this continent, will aristocracy and its concomitants have to retreat? Will it be tolerated very long? Has its timeglass run out? Are its days counted? Will now soon fraternity and brotherhood take the lead?

It would be an anomaly if the doctor cured the sick in order again to give him to the serpent for destruction. The national interest now more than ever is raised in favor of the farming industry. And it is not the calculation, that the proceeds of advanced farming industry shall be used as a prey for aristocracy to feed upon.

Note B—Are there not to be found a certain rate of so-called statesmen, who consider aristocracy a necessary element in the state, and a state necessity; and therefore now recommend the advancing monopoly systems, as a proper stepping stone for that purpose?

Permanent standing obtains by true merit, and finally reveals itself by inherent victory; while untrue merit falls to the ground when its false pillars tumble. True merit grows in acknowledgement and strength, when the raging billows of opposition beat against its solid foundation. The secret is: the father will be able to guide and rule when tyranny and oppression can rule no more.

Not long ago it was advanced as a political axiom, "that governments which are not able to protect their citizens in their constitutional rights, are failures." It would be of interest to know how to define when such negation had set in, because all governments fail, more or less, to protect their citizens in their rights. And the very imperfections of all human doings almost necessitate failures; and our law codes are therefore calculated to meet the necessities consequent upon the general shortcomings of humanity. But there lurked beneath a design to put up a standard, in prospect, where there should be no failures. The undercurrent in the faultfinding proposition, was it not to get the people beneath the power of Caesarism? It even proposed to put the nation under dictatorship.

If ever it could be imagined that the devil was heard laughing, it might be when listening to the vicious reasonings of those gifted liars, converting lies into popular truths, and succeeding in making an outwitted humanity put the crown of merit upon the heads of deceivers; then the laughter ascending from the pit is said to have been fittingly represented by Paganini when he conjured demons by his violin. And then if it could be successfully demonstrated in our days that something was lacking to keep up our political machinery, and that some-