

porations, in which he is largely interested, he is also managing agent and attorney of the Union Paper-Collar Company, of New York, with a capital of three million dollars, and having under its control all of the legitimate paper-collar manufacturers in the country, consisting of twenty different corporations, ranging in capital from one hundred thousand dollars to five hundred thousand dollars each. Besides all of this, he has under his direction and supervision over one hundred important suits at law and in equity in the United States Courts, enough, of itself, to overwhelm almost any ordinary mind, to say nothing of such minor matters as being proprietor of a patent-medicine business, conducting four large advertising establishments for furnishing agents' supplies, managing a first-class insurance agency, which he established to avail himself of low rates in insuring his own property, and attending to his real estate, with other matters too numerous to mention, which are either directly or indirectly in his charge.

In the fall of 1867, Mr. Shaw purchased the *Maine Democrat* newspaper, which had been published for nearly forty years in the city of Saco, in his State, and removed it to Biddeford, erecting for it probably the most complete country newspaper printing establishment in New England, at an expense of nearly twenty-five thousand dollars. In January, 1868, he also commenced the publication of the *Daily Evening Times*, constructing a telegraph at his own expense to furnish the Associated Press news, but as the advertising patronage for such a sheet was not sufficient to warrant the enterprise discontinued it in the same manner in which it was started—on his own responsibility.

Notwithstanding all of this, however, he finds time to contribute, under a well-known *nom de plume*, to some of the leading magazines and papers of the day, with ample leisure to spare for recreation!

Mr. Shaw has served two terms as Mayor of Biddeford, Me., proving a most efficient officer and very popular with all parties. His inaugural addresses, extracts from which have been extensively copied by the press, exhibit a thorough knowledge of national as well as municipal affairs, and treat in a masterly manner the various subjects discussed. He has also represented his city in the Legislature of the State with marked ability, at once taking the lead of his party, which, although in a minority, by his shrewd management and the liberality of his course in relation to all matters of general interest, enabled him to hold the balance of power and secure the passage of many important measures which would otherwise have been lost. As a speaker, he is above the average, being ready in debate, quick to analyze the subject at issue, logical and convincing in his arguments, and with experience would readily become distinguished as an orator. As a writer of both prose and poetry he early acquired much distinction, but the absorbing cares of business have prevented the exercise of a faculty which he undoubtedly possesses in more than ordinary perfection. His treatises on the various manufactures and arts evince much talent, as do also his political and statistical writings; his paper on our frontier and sea-coast defenses, considered in connection with the strength of the maritime nations of Europe, and their policy towards us, being the most exhaustive and elaborate of any production on the subject, and replete with a vast amount of valuable statistical information, as