

portend other serious eruptions. The hills and valleys near the volcano were almost completely covered with lava and ashes. To the southeast of the eruption geysers had spouted forth, and the snow being melted by the heat had formed muddy streams. An inspection of the craters was rendered futile by the showers of ashes, and they could not be approached within thirty feet.

From the Issaikyo side there could be seen two large craters and seven or eight smaller ones, one of the former being round in shape and of an area of about 300 square feet, while the other was about 600 feet in width. The journey thence to the Azuma hot springs was rendered unpleasant by the melted snow and showers of stones, and on reaching the place the solitary house of the district was found to be flooded and the only furniture a basket and lid of an iron pot. The house appeared to have been unoccupied for a long time. For miles about the ground was honey-combed with the dents of falling stones, which with numberless sparks were thrown up hundreds of feet at the second eruption with a tremendous noise.

It was in Fukushima prefecture eight years ago that the terrible eruption of Bandaisan occurred destroying several hundred lives and burying miles of fertile country under a deluge of mud and rocks. The extraordinary feature of this eruption was that the whole mountain-side slid down into the valley and thus changed the entire aspect of the country. After the disaster there was much trouble in locating property, as all the boundaries were moved.

THE FAR NORTH.

CABLEGRAM.

STOCKHOLM, June 17th.—[Special.]—W. W. Thomas, the Swedish speaking man of Maine, is as yet the minister of the U. S. to Sweden and Norway, and another minister plenipotentiary is authority for the statement that he will be his own successor. A very "high" personage is said to have carried forth this wish in some diplomatic way to another high but more democratic gentleman that Thomas be retained. The man of democratic principles is said to have answered that Thomas will probably be retained by reason of his ability, popularity and general fitness for the position. Nothing is said which goes to prove that consideration has been taken in regard to anything else.

SWEDEN.

Prince Carl, of Denmark, arrived at Stockholm the other day on the Danish war ship "Dagmar."

"Sick Love," a novel by Hans Jæger, which was recently confiscated in Copenhagen, has now been confiscated in Stockholm also.

Twenty-seven Swedes living at St. Petersburg have donated and sent over 2,000 crowns to the Swedish defense society.

It is believed that the year 1893 will prove a famine year for Sweden, as an incessant drought has existed during April and May.

B. Lundquist, the Swedish journalist, who has been traveling in South America for some years, departed for New York from Rio Janeiro the other day.

Lieutenant E. A. Sundbaum, made an assignment "à la fin de siècle," the other day. His assets were two cents, while the liabilities amounted to 118,000 crowns, (\$30,000.)

S. A. Hedin, the most prominent member of the lower house of the Swedish riksdag, will probably resign. If so, it will be nearly impossible to find anybody who can fill his place.

The board of health of Stockholm has asked the aldermen for an extra appropriation of 50,000 crowns, in case of cholera paying a visit to the capital during the present year.

The most severe electric storm that ever visited the city of Falköping and neighborhood raged a few days ago. Seven farm houses were struck at about the same time and were burned down.

A Swedish authors' society has been organized in Stockholm, the aim of which will be to take care of the financial interests of the writers. Count Carl Snoilsky, the famous poet, has been elected president of the society.

Rolf Bosæus, a young engineer, and the only son of Rudolf Bosæus, the mayor of Arboga, died in Stockholm the other day. He arrived home from America last year. One of his sisters takes the part of a Dalecarlian girl in the Lapland village at the World's Fair.

Edwin Bowallius and Gunnar Linnell, two young Swedes who have been living in western Africa for several years, arrived at Stockholm the other day for the purpose of staying in their native city a couple of months and getting thoroughly rested.

New and very large guns have been ordered for the Oscar-Fredriksborg, the strong fortress defending the entrance of Stockholm. The guns will not be manufactured by Krupp, as was intended at first, but by the Finspong gun works in Sweden.

Count Wilhelm Moerner, of Morlanda, who is living at Boisdorf in the neighborhood of Bonn, Switzerland, was recently elevated to a Prussian count under the name of "Von Moerner." Count Moerner, was born in 1831, was formerly a lieutenant of the Swedish Södermanland regiment, but has devoted himself to the art of painting during the last years.

Notwithstanding the World's Fair in Chicago, many American tourists have already arrived at Stockholm. A party of five from Boston and ten Gothamites made their appearance the other day. They will travel extensively in Norway and Northern Sweden, and expect to reach the Avasaxa mountains June 23, where they will behold the wonderful view of the midnight sun.

Their golden wedding was celebrated by Farmer Jons Nilsson, of Hoerby, and his wife. The golden wedding day was also the birthday of the 80-year-old husband and the 72-year-old wife. The venerable couple received many letters and presents, especially from some of their children in America. One son living in Oregon sent home 500 crowns.

Sigrid Arnoldson, the famous Swedish songstress, who is regarded by many to have a more melodious voice than Christine Nilsson ever possessed, will visit America in the fall, and sing in the most prominent cities of the United

States. She will make her first appearance in Chicago in October, and will probably be heard in Minneapolis and St. Paul in November. Her contract calls for \$1,000 for each performance and free expenses.

NORWAY.

Christiania will have electric street cars.

Alex. Kielland's new book will be published about August 1st.

The king and queen have sent 5,000 crowns to the suffering people of Vaerdalen.

During the big fire which raged in Trondhjem a few months ago, five people were roasted to death and several injured.

All the radical papers continue to discuss the consular question, and several of them attack King Oscar in such vigorous language that it seems peculiar that they are not confiscated.

The Russian paper, *Noskovskija Vedom*, is complaining that the Russian Laplanders are much troubled by their Norwegian neighbors who ruin their fishing and cut down their forests. "This" says the paper, "is the result of the great mistake of conceding two bays to Norway in 1826." The journal concludes by advising the Russian authorities to take immediate steps in order to protect its subjects.

DENMARK.

Carl Berthelsen, a rich merchant of Aarhus, celebrated his 25th anniversary at the head of his business firm by donating over \$7,000 to different benevolent institutions.

Czar Alexahder and the czarina will pay their usual yearly visit to Copenhagen in July instead of August, as was intended at first.

WASHINGTON LETTER.

WASHINGTON, June 23, 1893.—Uncle Sam is having a wrestle with a local combine, which though comparatively small is worked upon the same principles that govern the big trusts throughout the country, and the result may be interesting to the entire country. The government departments use four or five million pounds of ice every season, and the furnishing of it is given out by contract to the lowest bidder. This year the five or six local ice companies formed a combine and raised the price of ice to private consumers, and when the bids for furnishing the government were opened it was discovered that they proposed making Uncle Sam pay about double last year's price for his ice. The bids were all thrown out and a new advertisement for bids published. A Philadelphia company made a bid at a reasonable figure, but before it was accepted withdrew it, because it had been notified that the local combine had taken steps which would prevent its being able to get a vessel loaded with ice towed up the Potomac river to Washington. So the matter now stands. The present contract expires the first of July. It has been suggested that the government use one of its own tugs to tow vessels loaded with ice for the departments at Washington, but nothing has