

AMERICA IN SWEDEN.

TRAVELS IN SCANDINAVIA ALONG THE TRACKS OF OUR COMMERCIAL INVASION.

(Special Correspondence of the Desert News by Frank G. Carpenter.)

STOCKHOLM, Sweden, Sept. 9.—I have come to Stockholm in the interest of our commercial invasion. This Scandinavian peninsula has about 7,500,000 people, but its inhabitants buy more goods than five times as many Russians or 15 times as many Chinese. Both the Swedes and Norwegians are thrifty money-makers and good spenders. They have wants and the money to satisfy them. The Swedes alone annually import \$125,000,000 worth of goods, and their exports approximate \$100,000,000. The country is financially sound and its paper is good.

STOCKHOLM IN 1903.

I am surprised at the wealth of this Swedish city. The people on the streets are well dressed, and not one man in a dozen has patched trousers such as you will see on the lower classes of London or Paris. The stores are filled with fine goods and the new buildings compare favorably with the best in Berlin. The new royal bank is a magnificent structure, the postoffice building is another and the new parliament houses facing the bridge which leads to the king's palace are grand. There are many new big business blocks and the

from Finland to Sweden, going in and out among islands. Entering the fjord which leads to Stockholm, we wound our way through islands which sometimes were so close together that the channel looked like a river, and we could see nothing but the wooded shores on each side. Then there would be a break in the islands and a beautiful bay bordered with cottages would appear, showing out of the evergreen trees. Now the islands were evergreen hills, rising from the water like the half-submerged Andes at the Strait of Magellan, and now they were apparently floating like those of Lake Titicaca, on the Bolivian plateau. We had all the beauties of the inland sea of Japan allied to those of the Thousand Islands of the St. Lawrence.

There were five hours of such sailing and then a turn of the boat brought Stockholm into view. The city floated, as it were, on the waters, the king's palaces being directly in front. On one of the hills nearer us was a big factory, which, I am told, chews up bales of American cotton and weaves them into cloth for the Swedes, and not far away were four mills which are fed on American grain. On one side were shipyards where the Swedish men-of-

YOLANDE OF SAVOY.



PRINCESS YOLANDE OF SAVOY.

Little Yolande, who is granddaughter of the Prince of Montenegro, is already a sufficient copy of her charming mother, Queen Helena, to delight the Italians. This is from a new photograph of her and shows the little princess in the act of demurely considering the politics of her doll empire.

whole city is having a substantial growth.

THE VENICE OF THE NORTH.

Stockholm is beautifully situated. It is sometimes called the Venice of the North, and in some respects it surpasses in beauty the Venice of the Adriatic. Rome was built on seven hills, Stockholm stands on seven islands, separated from one another by as clear water as that which flows from the mountains of Virginia. In front of it is a narrow fjord, which, island-studded, winds its way out to the sea, a distance of 75 miles, and behind it is Lake Malar, which is spotted with islands as thickly as is the St. Lawrence between Montreal and Toronto. I came across the Gulf of Bothnia

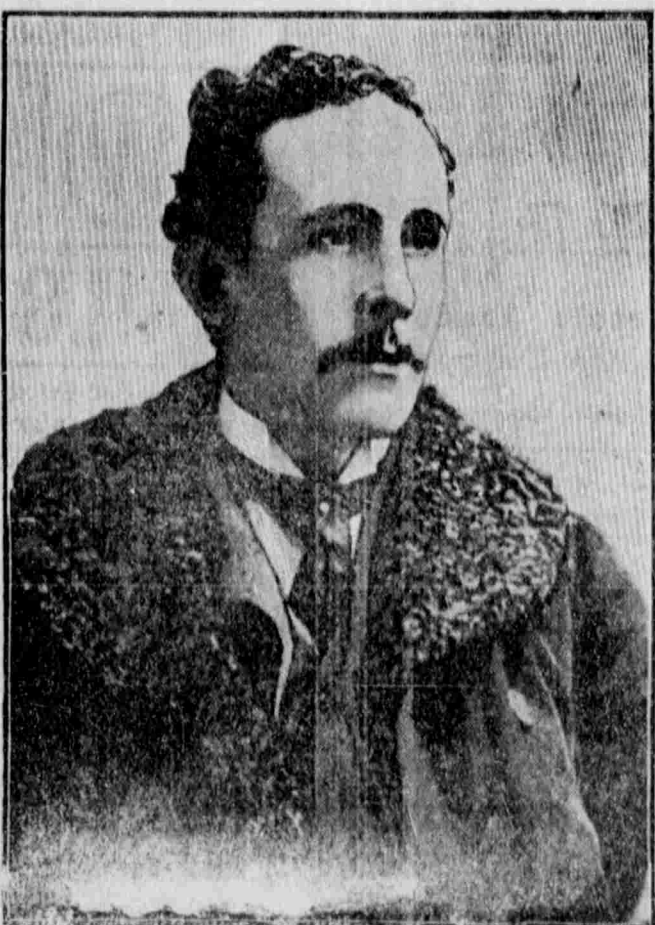
war are built, and right in front was the city, with its towers and spires extending high above the houses and shipping.

AMERICAN GOODS IN SWEDEN.

Landing at the quay I had no trouble in finding the tracks of the American invasion. There were barrels of flour from Minneapolis on the wharves, great boxes of fruit from California, side meat and hams from Chicago, lard from Kansas City and American machinery everywhere. I stepped out of my ship on the island of Stadon, where stands the king's palace, and crossed the bridge to the island on which the chief business blocks are.

Walking past the opera house I came to one of the biggest machine-tool stores

MARQUIS OF SALISBURY.



The new Marquis of Salisbury is variously discussed in Europe at the present moment. He seems by his elevation to be more or less removed from the sphere of active politics, but will probably show his hand later. His natural bent outside of foreign affairs is toward chemistry, philosophy and theology.



Photographed for the Desert News by Frank G. Carpenter.

NEW BUSINESS BLOCKS IN STOCKHOLM, "THE CLEANEST CITY IN EUROPE."

I have seen since I left home. It was full of great lathes, augers, cranes and boring machines. There were emery wheels and every kind of grinding and cutting tool.

I could see from the window that most of the machinery came from the United States, and I entered and talked with the manager. He was a Swede who spoke German. He told me that the store was owned by a German and that the chief branch of the establishment was in Berlin, with a minor branch in New York. He said that the best machine tools sold were of American make, and that they were better liked than any other. The most of his goods came in through Germany, being credited in the reports to that country and not to the United States.

THEY LIKE AMERICAN FOODS.

Leaving this shop I went on to my hotel, where I left my baggage and then started out for a walk. I found other machine-tool stores in different parts of Stockholm, and also other establishments which handle American goods. The McCormicks have an agency for their reapers and mowers near the Central station, American sewing machines and rolled oats are advertised on the bill boards, and American cameras are to be seen everywhere.

I entered a half dozen stores and re-

be so, but the stuff was cheap and natty. They put a big tariff on American goods and tried to keep them out of the country. We sent them, however, notwithstanding the tariff and they have made their way by pure merit. Our exports are still subject to a rigid inspection, and if there is any excuse they are discriminated against. Since the Spanish-American war our reputation has risen, and our goods have somewhat profited thereby, but the inspection is still rigid.

THEY EAT OUR HORSE MEAT.

A curious export from our country, for instance, is horse meat. This is sold at the butcher shops and is greedily eaten by the poorer classes. A ship load came in not long ago, but was thrown out by the inspectors. The American minister objected, and showed that the meat was as good as any horse meat could be, and the result is that we will probably have but little trouble on this score hereafter.

Horse meat is shipped in barrels. It comes chiefly from old horses and lame ones, as at the present high prices good horses could not be killed for that purpose. The meat has a reddish tint and looks not unlike venison.

AMERICAN PORK AND LARD.

The great American hog is here, with his four feet outspread and his nose in the trough. Our pork is the food of the common people. They like our bacon and side meat, for the fat is firmer than that of the Swedish pork, and it cooks more crisply. The laboring men prefer it to the native article, and they will not consent to a substitute. It is an indispensable part of the diet of the

Stockholm, the Venice of the North, Whose Stores Are Filled With American Goods—"Old Glory" as Hat Trimming—Machine Tools and Agricultural Implements—The Demand For Our Horse Meat, Bacon and Lard—Do the Swedes Love Us?—The Smorgasbord and Its American Relishes—How American Patents Are Pirated—A Chat With a Swedish Export Official.

the best axes used in the great lumber industry come from America.

Sweden is now importing heavy machinery from the United States. It recently bought 21 American locomotives, and it is likely to import others. It is buying considerable mining machinery, especially for the large iron mines which are being opened up in the far north, and the heavier kinds of agricultural machinery, such as reapers and mowers, are in steady demand. Altogether there are many things made of iron which we ship to this one of the chief iron and steel making countries of Europe.

THEY COPY OUR GOODS.

Indeed, our hardware and machinery are so good that they are copied, even to the trademarks, by both the Swedes and the Germans. These people are pirates and a patent means nothing if it is not taken out in their own country. I was shown gas radiators at Brussels which were exact copies of the American article. They had been made in Sweden and were sent to Belgium for sale.

The American importer who was handling them said he had built up a trade in American stoves, but that he could sell these cheaper and could make more money out of them. I see here in Stockholm, pitchfork marked American forks. They are made in Sweden, however, and are sold at a less cost than we can export them. If they break it will be a discredit to the Americans and not to the Swedes, as they are called American forks. The Swedes have no law against the home use of foreign trade marks, but their laws provide only that foreign goods shall not be sold as Swedish goods. In Russia I found the merchants sell-

ing at the stationery stores, and American desks are in demand, notwithstanding this is one of the chief wood manufacturing countries of Europe. What we should like to have is a reduction in the American tariff, and we should not object to a reciprocity treaty.

FRANK G. CARPENTER.

MR. ROCKEFELLER'S MONEY.

There are occasional signs of anxiety for fear that Mr. John D. Rockefeller will get all the money there is. Mr. Rockefeller has not lately seen fit to publish his estimate of the value of his possessions, but sanguine guessers rate him nowadays as pretty nearly a billionaire, and the most conservative computers believe he has more than half a billion. It would be impossible to say what is the total wealth of the United States, but the assessed valuation of the several states for 1902 amount to about thirty-five billions. Even if Mr. Rockefeller has a whole billion, there is something left for the rest of us. But his fortune, they tell us, is probably increasing as much as \$50,000,000 a year, and is not unlikely to double within 10 years. Already his financial power is enormous, so that he could influence stock values very materially if he chose, and at times, make or unmake ordinary millionaires by mere whispers at the telephone. Malevolence is not attributed to him, nor is he felt to be a mischief-maker, but the feeling is that his business abilities are so surpassing, and his judgment so unapproachably sound,

MAY BE AN EMPRESS.



Owing to the unpopularity of the Grand Duke Vladimir and his wife, it is now considered that the law of succession may be changed in Russia to make it possible for Grand Duchess Olga to succeed her father on the throne. From the czar's three other uncles there would probably be no opposition to such a scheme. Grand Duke Alexis is unmarried and has shown no inclination to take a bride; Grand Duke Siedgus, although married, is childless; Paul is exiled from Russia, owing to a reckless life, and Vladimir is hated by the people.

ing machines marked as American models. It is the same here as to clocks. The little nickel-plated dollar kind are to be seen everywhere. They came in first from America, but are now only a cheap German imitation, which makes its way on the reputation built up by our goods.

THE SWEDISH EXPORT BUREAU.

Stockholm has an export bureau devoted to pushing Swedish trade all over the world. In a chat with one of the officials I was told that the prejudice against Americans was fast passing away. Said this man:

"There are so many Swedes in the United States that we look upon it as our sister country. When we buy of you we feel as though we were trading with our brothers, and in general we are disposed to favor American goods. On the other hand, you are our competitors as to certain things, and in those we have to fight you."

"There are many branches in which American trade might be increased," the official went on. "One of the chief is in the importation of the American shoe. There are shoes sold here at \$5 a pair which do not equal the American machine-made shoe which sells for \$3 or \$3.50. We have a tariff on imported shoes, but notwithstanding that you could sell your shoes at a profit."

"There is also an opening for all sorts of Yankee notions and small machines, for foodstuffs, and all sorts of little things. American locks are used here, American lead pencils are to be ob-

that he can't help feeling and improving chances to make millions more. To discuss him is as little of an impertinence as to discuss the comet. He is a force, 44 years old, moving through the earth's atmosphere, and believed to be rapidly increasing in weight and velocity. Persons who fear they are in his orbit and may be pinched may find some relief in considering that even though his fortune increases very rapidly, its growth may long be fed by the increase of wealth in the country. If wealth in general stops increasing, and Mr. Rockefeller's wealth keeps increasing, then the pinch may be felt.—Harper's Weekly.

UNDERGROUND MARVELS.

Particulars have just been published of a wonderful series of underground caves in the Stalden district of Canton Schwytz. The existence of these places had before been vaguely known, but they have now for the first time been fully explored by a party which went down provided with 5,000 yards of rope ladders, acetylene lamps, rugs, and provisions for eight days. They were underground for two full days, penetrating for a distance of 2,500 yards through vast halls brilliant with stalactite and other crystals, and with other great recesses branching from them. There were also found swift subterranean torrents, powerful enough to work great industrial undertakings.—Tid-Bits.

FEARS ASSASSINATION.



Among the epidemic of troubles the eastern crowned heads in the Balkans at this time, none feels his position more keenly than does King Peter I. He is surrounded by an army of whose loyalty he is doubtful and spies of mercenaries through whom the hand of the assassin may reach him momentarily.

The most interesting spot in Europe at the present moment is depicted in the above photographs, showing the entrance to the Sublime Porte, the Sultan's favorite charger, and the Sultan himself, precisely as he looks today. Judging from the alarming dispatches, now being hourly received, the Sick Man of Europe and his surroundings are likely for some time to hold a prominent place in the public eye.

lumber camps, and is used almost everywhere on the farms. Not long ago there was a discussion in parliament concerning American pork. Some of the members wanted to increase the tariff, but they were warned by others that American pork was the food of the Swedish workingman, and that if they took it away they would drive the men who eat it out of the country. If they wanted to keep the workingmen of Sweden in Sweden, they had better let them have American pork than have them go to the other side of the Atlantic to get it.

THE SWEDES AND THE YANKEES.

I have since learned that their love is doubtful. The Swedes take American goods because they are the best. Other things being equal, they would rather buy of the English, Germans or French. They do not like the enormous emigration which has been going on to our country, and they apparently do not like us. Until within a few years a jealousy and suspicion seems to have existed as to all things American.

Indeed, it has been almost impossible to introduce our goods into Sweden. When the Swedes were told that they were cheaper than the same things made in Europe they replied that this might

Sweden, caviar from Russia, half a dozen salads, bread and butter and four kinds of brandy and gin. Sweden and Norway are famous for their salmon fisheries, but nevertheless the Columbia river and the Alaskan salmon sell right here along in competition with the home product.

IN A SWEDISH GROCERY.

I am surprised at the American goods sold in the grocery stores of Stockholm. I made some memoranda, in one the other day. Upon one shelf were small sacks of American flour, on another American hams and upon others canned stuffs from fish to fruit. There were peaches, pears, plums and apricots, as well as canned tomatoes and other vegetables. There were cans of chicken and turkey, and of bacon, tongue, ham and corned beef. Sweden raises plenty of oats, but our rolled oats and cracked wheat are selling here.

AMERICAN VS SWEDISH STEEL.

This country has some of the best iron of the world, and it makes some of the best steel. It people buy carpenter's tools from the United States, and



IMPERIAL GATE, SUBLIME PORTE.



SULTAN, FAVORITE HORSE OF THE SULTAN.