

# THE SCANDINAVIAN FATHERLAND.

Prepared from Special Cablegrams.

## SWEDEN.

A railroad will be built between Hermosand and Sundavall.

The well known wholesale merchant William Svanberg, of Stockholm, is dead.

A new hospital has been built in the city of Umea.

Prince Eugen is staying with his parents in Christiania.

Many cattle have been killed by wolves in the vicinity of Osterson.

Many people are without work in Stockholm. Times are hard.

The laborers at the Svedala sugar factory have struck for higher wages.

The large iron clad Thule is now completed and will soon be launched.

Smallpox is raging epidemically in Gothenburg for a second time this year.

A railroad will be built between Hermosand and the Kramfors lumber yards.

A new large public school house will be built in the Katarina parish of Stockholm.

Dr. Arvid Wilhelm Brag, a prominent Swedish teacher, died at the age of 75 years.

Snow has now fallen in nearly all the northern provinces, and the lakes and ponds are all frozen.

Lars Peterson, a prominent merchant of Kalmar, committed suicide. He leaves a wife and nine children.

Mr. Helling, an architect and building master of Matsfors, has disappeared mysteriously. Foul Play is suspected.

Sven Mattson, of Fjellbohag, the parish of Edesele, died at the advanced age of 100 years.

J. Elos Svensson, of Lindsberg, near Kalmar, has made his way to America, leaving many angry creditors.

Their golden wedding was celebrated by Count F. von Rosen and his wife, both of Malmo.

Two suspicious cases believed to be Asiatic cholera have occurred at Charlottenburg and Laxa.

Even the liberal papers admit that a large proportion of the "common people," especially in the rural districts, are opposed to the general franchise.

Olof Sahlman, a prominent citizen of Ofra Elgestad, died the other day leaving a wife whom he had been married to 69 years.

The large country mansion Sparreholm in Sofermanland has been sold by Count F. Bonde to Mr. Emil Dickson of Fimmersta.

Mr. Berg, a noted temperance lecturer, has been permitted to speak on temperance in 185 different church buildings in Sweden.

The national clergymen's council held at Stockholm was an expensive affair, the total costs of the same exceeding \$10,000.

Three men were blown to atoms at an explosion at the dynamite works

of Vinterviken near Stockholm. Their names were P. A. Persson, G. Pettersson and J. R. Carlson.

At the iron works in Dalecarlia the wages of the laborers have been considerably reduced. The mine owners of Norrand have also reduced the wages of their employees.

August Strindberg, the famous Swedish author, has declared his intention of becoming a Prussian subject, and will probably take up his abode in Berlin.

An elder bush growing in the open air in a garden on Stiberggatan, Stockholm, began to blossom in October, while ordinarily that shrub blossoms in June, in Sweden.

Miss Stina Sablin a young society lady of Upsala and daughter of Prof. Sablin of the Upsala university, departed for India the other day, where she will work as a missionary.

About \$5,250,000 were sent from America to Sweden through the mails during the years 1887 to 1892. This, of course, only represents a small portion of the money sent during that period.

A fisherman at Taoum, Bohuslao did not die until he had seen four generations of descendants; that is, he lived to see his grandchild's grandchild. He tended to his pets until a few days before death.

The new stable, in which King Oscar's horses will be kept and fed, has just been completed. It is a magnificent building. The cost of it has been no less than 2,800,000 crowns or about \$900,000.

The large steamer Nordstjerman (the North Star), which goes between Stockholm and Noviland, ran into and sank a boat not far from Hermosand. Ten people of the boat were drowned.

The temperance people claim that a majority of the members of the Riksdag are in favor of local option. But this is of no practical value, inasmuch as a solid majority in the upper house is unequivocally opposed to any radical temperance reform legislation.

At a wrestling match in Gothenburg between the German champion Rosso and a Swede named Gustafson the German was easily defeated. Gustafson is a butcher by trade. It is hardly necessary to tell that the public went wild over his victory.

C. F. Lundqvist, who visited the United States last summer, celebrated (Oct. 21st) his 25th anniversary as a singer connected with the Royal Opera House. Lundqvist took "Amonero's" part in "Aida." He sang brilliantly and was called before the curtain at least a score of times. The audience packed the theater to the dome.

Scandinavian-Americans are not the only people changing their names. Out of an attendance of 67 at the Ekro high school ten boys changed their names during the fall term. Their old names were Andersson,

Carlson, Johansson, Pettersson; the new names are Viden, Elmer, Clarin, Thunborg, Lind, Thulio, Nystrom, Cedervall and Hedman.

The Swedish figures concerning intoxicants are far more favorable than e. g. those of England and Germany, where that article runs to the highest sum of them all, in England reaching double the sum paid for bread. As in this respect the tax is an important factor it may be mentioned that Swedish brandy (whisky, pays an excise of 50 cents and a fee of sale about 20 cents per gallon, while ale is free of excise.

The clergymen's council by a vote of 39 to 15, rejected the bill of Rev. Febr, proposing an amendment to the law regarding dissenters, by which amendment any grown person was to be permitted to sever all connections with the state church. The law now in force prescribes that no person can withdraw from the state church without giving the name of some church organization which he or she proposes to join. The practical working of this law is that free thinkers and atheists must remain members of the state church.

The Swedes are too strong for the professional foreign athletes who travel around and challenge everybody to wrestle with them, catch-as-catch-can or Greco-Roman. During the summer and fall the larger cities in Sweden have been visited by nearly as many strong men as Chicago but in almost every instance where these wrestlers or lifters of heavy weights have issued a challenge it has been promptly accepted, usually by some soldier or hard-working laborer, who has been glad to earn a little extra by conquering the foreigner, even if some special efforts were necessary to do it.

The number of births out of wedlock in Sweden is now a little more than 10 per cent of all children born. This is a very high percentage, but it seems chiefly to depend on a rather low matrimonial frequency, especially in younger years. It has been calculated that, if the number of marriages in Sweden were as high as the average stated for Romantic and Teutonic Europe the number of illegitimate births would not, as now, be 10 per cent of those born, but simply 7 per cent. This figure being about the average for western Europe.

The number of suicides in Sweden, as in most other countries, has essentially increased of late years. The number of suicides committed annually in each 100,000 inhabitants has been:

Period.	Average.
1851-60	6.37
1861-70	8.04
1871-80	9.68
1881-90	10.74

Curiously enough the frequency of suicide shows the greatest increase in old age, or after the fiftieth year. Among young or middle-aged married men the relative number of suicides is still about the same as sixty years ago.

## NORWAY.

Mr. V. G. Rogstad has been appointed mayor of the city of Trondheim.

The real estate owner Larsen of Kottnen has been elected a member of the Folkething.

The firm Silimon in Skotland has