

## THE SCANDINAVIAN FATHERLAND.

Prepared from Special Cablegrams.

## SWEDEN.

The city of Gothenburg has a population of 110,474.

Mrs. Edla Petersdotter, of Roasjo, celebrated her 103rd birthday.

The city of Oscarshamn had a big fire. Several houses were burned down.

A railroad will be built between Vönäs and Umca, continuing the northern trunk line of Sweden.

Miss Nelly Hall, a so-called divine healer, who has spent several years in the United States, has returned to Sweden, where she is now lecturing.

Count Chamberlain Th. Nordenfält, the famous gun manufacturer, who has taken up his abode in Paris, is at present visiting in Sweden.

The wife of a soldier by the name of Saefs, of Ossby, was killed with an axe by farmer Nils Anderson, who is sixty years of age. Anderson who was arrested, is probably insane.

The bridge across the Angerman river is the longest and highest of bridges in Sweden, measuring about 1,200 feet between abutments with the rail 153 feet above low water level. The whole structure, which rests upon steel trestles in five spans and is erected without fastwork by overhang from each end, weighs 625 tons.

Fort Carlsborg, which is situated on a point jutting out between Welter and Lake Bottensjön, is one of the fortresses on which dependence is placed and which is regarded as a tower of strength in the event of an invasion. The building of the fort was commenced in 1821, but is not yet completed. When finished it is intended to garrison 20,000 men and is in fact the chief arsenal of the kingdom.

## NORWAY.

Mrs. O. Nilsen, of Rorby, died at the age of 99 years.

The machine factory of Joensberg was totally burnt to the ground.

Minister Birch Reichenwald will probably be appointed mayor of Christiania.

A person who wants his name withheld, has donated 10,000 kroner to the Norwegian federation societies.

The missionary, Ole Ellertsen, who has spent much time on the island of Madagascar, died at Marseille, France.

The Norwegian ship Frey was totally wrecked on the western coast of Scotland. One of the crew was drowned.

The Norwegian army is being furnished with 20,000 Krag-Jørgensen guns, which are being manufactured in Luetich.

Julius Jacobsen a wealthy wholesale merchant and the most prominent citizen in Fredrikstad, died at the age of 65 years.

The composer Edw. Grieg's "Per Gynt Suite" has been played at a giant concert in Monte Carlo with tremendous success.

The funeral of J. Jacobson, the

wholesale merchant, who died recently, was one of the largest and most solemn funerals ever held in Christiania.

## DENMARK.

Rev. E. Henriksen, of Faro, died at the age of 83 years:

Scarlet fever is raging epidemically in the parishes on the Fyen island.

Professor J. F. Johnstrup, of the Copenhagen university, died at the age of 76 years.

The Edsberg farm on Seeland was burned down, and many cattle roasted to death.

Sven Anderson, the famous Swedish sculptor, intends to take up his abode in Copenhagen.

Judge Krabbe will probably be elected congressman from the Kulundborg-Sainso election district.

Princess Louise will be married to Prince Fredrick of Schanburg-Lippe. The ceremony will take place in the latter part of March.

Julius Payer, the leader of the first Austrian Hungarian expedition to the north pole, will undertake an expedition to Greenland in January, 1896.

Vilhelm Herold, the celebrated singer, has returned from Paris to Copenhagen, where he has been engaged by the Royal opera company of the latter city.

Mrs. Emilie Roed, widow of the late Professor Roed, the famous Danish painter, died at Copenhagen. Her daughter is widely known as an authoress.

Captain Holm, of the Danish navy, who is widely known as a successful Greenland explorer, has received the large gold medal of the Danish Geographical society.

## LETTER FROM STOCKHOLM.

Stockholm, Jan. 19. [Special.]—The Swedish Riksdag was opened by King Oscar January 17. In his speech from the throne the king uttered that the country's relations to all foreign powers were the most friendly, but that the Riksdag nevertheless would be asked to grant large appropriations for the army and navy. But there are things and propositions of much more importance, which will be laid before the Riksdag of 1895.

First of all comes the union question, which, on account of the Norwegian Storting's way of procedure in regard to the foreign budget—refusing to grant any means if the legation to Vienna be not withdrawn—must be the object of discussions and resolutions. This circumstance will make it impossible, what nevertheless seems to be desired in certain quarters in Norway, namely the restriction of debates to the question of the consular system, which, according to what the Riksdag of 1893 wrote to the government, stands in such connection with diplomatic affairs, that the question of the dissolution of the mutual responsibility in regard to consulates

seems impossible to be made an object of trial, but at the same time the management of the diplomatic affairs must be taken into consideration.

The question concerning duty on articles of food must again be brought forward and the unfortunate tariff strife started anew. How sharp and violent the conflict will be, depends upon the moderation and strength of the parties concerned. A final increase of the duty on grain can undoubtedly be expected. How much the friends of the tariff in the Riksdag will differ in opinion will soon be seen. It seems probable that the question of the right proportion between the duty on grain and flour will here play an important part. Evidently both a reduction of duty on flour and an increase of it on grain will be proposed.

A proposition concerning life insurance of laborers will in due time be brought before the Diet. This question deserves attention, and one can be assured that it will be carefully considered on all sides, not only in regard to the result which is contemplated, but also regarding the practicability of the means by which this most worthy end will be attained.

That railway strifes will come to occupy and excite the minds of many in the Diet is evident. The purchase of the west coast trunk line was rejected last year by a small majority, but it is likely that, after a more reliable investigation, the question will again be brought before the Riksdag.

If the government intends to consider the far more important question of the reform of the banking system by giving the Bank of the Realm the sole right of issuing paper money, is as yet unknown. It neither must nor can be long before this most important matter will be finally regulated.

Of the greatest importance is Sweden's management of her forests. This has latterly attracted special attention, and more than one proposition for the proper care of private forests has been made in both speech and writing. Besides it has been questioned by many whether the state's forests are rightly cared for and put to the most desirable uses. The question is so complicated and difficult that not even those at home in the subject seem to have come to a fixed opinion. About one thing, however, all agree, that the safety of Sweden's future economy necessarily demands, that the resources of the forests be used only in such a way that the supply may never be exhausted.

Whether any proposition of the government with reference to municipal or political right of voting can be expected to be laid before this Riksdag is unknown. In all probability it will not take place because the preliminary investigations require much time. Perhaps the position of parties is not at present stable enough for the taking up of a question of so great importance.

"Little Eyolf" was given for the first time in Christiania last Tuesday, and was received with the greatest enthusiasm. The various parts were well taken. After the last act Ibsen was twice called before the curtain, being greeted with a storm of applause and tantes by the orchestra.

Two thousand letters from America were some time ago stolen by a mail car conductor on the Svensbro-Tidaholm railroad. However, the letters were.