

THE SCANDINAVIAN FATHERLAND.

Prepared from Special Cablegrams.

SWEDEN.

Strong fortification will be built at Vaberget, near the city of Varberg.

Lieutenant C. H. Schultin, one of the ablest and oldest gentlemen in the Swedish army, died at the age of 87 years.

Queen Sophia has donated 10,000 kronor, which she received as a Christmas gift from the king, to the Sophia Asylum of Stockholm.

The government has asked the Riksdag to grant an appropriation of 11,000,000 kronor for the building of three new iron-clads of the first class.

The number of Laplanders in Sweden has decreased during the last decade, and it seems that the peculiar people is gradually dying out.

Mrs. Karin Jansdotter, of Lasserud, near Carlstad, will soon celebrate her 103rd birthday. Her eyesight is not very good, but otherwise her mental faculties are all right.

Most of the Swedish manufacturers, who were represented at the Chicago Fair, have declared themselves well satisfied with the result of the sale of exhibits.

Johannes Elmlblad, the Swedish singer, has met with great success wherever he has appeared in Germany and Austria. Mr. Elmlblad is at present connected with the Royal Theater at Prague.

The inventor of the revolver was J. Offrell, a Swedish clergyman of Elfskarleby. Probably very few people know this. The first revolver was manufactured by Rev. Offrell in 1839.

Fritz Kramer, the famous hotel owner in Malmo, is dead. All American tourists, who have visited Sweden and Malmo, have probably stopped at the Kramer Hotel, which has the name of being the best of its kind in Scandinavia, if not in Europe.

Mr. Gustaf Waman, a citizen of Warren, Pa. for more than sixteen years, arrived at Wimmerby, his native city, a few days before Christmas. Mr. Waman, who was a very wealthy Swedish-American, was suffering from consumption, and died Jan. 2nd.

The Swedish-Americans are a very generous people and usually remit large sums annually to their poor relatives in the old country. Last year, however, the amount of money sent home was several hundred thousand kronor less than in 1892, for which the hard times in America undoubtedly were responsible. The emigration from Sweden to the United States was much smaller in 1893 than in 1892.

The home consumption of wheat is annually 38 kilograms per inhabitant (12.5 bushels), or at the present state of population (4,900,000) 6½ million bushels in round numbers. To this must be added a half a million bushels for sowing, making in all above 7 million bushels. The home supply consequently meets but little more than half of the demand. Germany, Denmark and Russia mostly supplying the rest,

though indirectly much wheat comes from America.

A great many mercantile undertakings in Stockholm as well as in the provinces are carried on by women. From olden times women have had the right to sell haberdashery, imported from abroad, and this right was further confirmed in 1749. Since freedom of trade was introduced in 1845, they have also taken up other branches of trade. At present they principally do business in millinery, outfittings, woodwork, perfumery, tobacco and victuals. Some of these businesses are large, and the principal ones in their neighborhood. A married woman may, however, not carry on trade without the consent of her husband.

Probably no American, who has visited Stockholm within the last decade, has neglected seeing the great Northern Museum, formerly entitled "The Scandinavian Ethnographical Collection." The whole of this magnificent collection has been brought together solely, it may be said, through the efforts of one man, Dr. A. Hazelius, who in 1873 opened his museum to the public. It has been his aim to present a picture, complete as far as possible, of Scandinavian life and culture during past centuries. Dr. Hazelius labored, especially at the commencement, not so much to illustrate the life of the higher and wealthier classes, but endeavored principally to show the conditions under which the peasantry existed, and the collection fully carries out his design. By means of arranging in the museum interiors of peasant-cottages in which stood war figures dressed in national costumes, he succeeded in awakening a great general interest in the collection, and probably few enterprises in Sweden have received such public support.

NORWAY.

Infant schools were established in Norway in 1858.

Alexander Kjelland, the author, is writing a new novel.

Prof. F. W. K. Bugge has been appointed bishop of the Christiania diocese.

The annual number of divorces granted in each 100,000 inhabitants was during the decade 1882-1892 5.02.

Farmer Elling Ellingsen, his wife and two children were killed by a snow-slide at the Gjeldvold farm in Borge.

According to the latest information Dr. Nansen, the explorer, left Chabarowa, on the Norwegian coast, last August.

Ludvig Munthe, the Norwegian painter, has been appointed a professor at the Art Academy of Dusseldorf, Germany.

The inland trade of Norway has increased during the last years, and is now favored by good means of communication.

The consul and wholesale merchant, Christian Johnson, of Christiansund, is dead. Johnson was probably the largest exporter of stock-fish in Norway.

The city council of Christiania has been asked to grant an appropriation of two million kroner for a direct railroad between Christiania and Bergen.

The first step towards raising the level of female education was the procuring of competent female teachers. For the intellectual development of such, several training colleges are now to be founded in some of the larger cities.

The teaching of needle-work in Norway has undergone a favorable change, even if it has not reached the high degree of development as in Sweden. The method of needle work, which is used in the schools has been partly taken from Germany and partly from Sweden.

DENMARK.

The Danish population in the United States is estimated at about 300,000.

The Middelgrundsfort will be strongly fortified during the winter.

Helsingfors, the capital of Finland, has now a population of 61,000 people.

Copenhagen can this year celebrate its 450th anniversary as the capital of Denmark.

Ex-minister E. G. Lotze, the most prominent and wealthy citizen of Odense, is dead.

Prince Komatsu, of Japan, has now left Stockholm and Copenhagen, where he has been visiting, for Berlin.

The Danish export to Sweden represents a value of about \$12,000,000 a year, while the import amounts to \$10,000,000.

Mrs. A. M. Christiansen, of Frederiksborg, who died a few weeks ago, donated 11,000 kroner to charitable institutions in her native city.

The wholesale merchant La Cour, who died a few weeks ago, donated 80,000 kroner to charitable institutions in Odense and Svendborg.

"Lycko-Pers Resa," the revolutionary play by Aug. Strindberg, the famous Swedish author, was given at the Casino Theater in Copenhagen, and scored a success, which set the whole city talking.

It has caused some surprise that a considerable number of ladies of the most select aristocracy of Edinburgh, order their finest toilet articles from a Copenhagen milliner, Th. Wessel & Wett. A few days before Christmas seventeen superb robes were sent in one consignment.

It is now settled that the Hamburg American Packet Company will run a new line between Copenhagen and New Orleans. The first steamer will leave New Orleans March 30, and arrive at Copenhagen about April 18, and thence forth one steamer will be run each way once a month.

Dr. Ostrup, the Danish scientist, has just completed a remarkable journey, which conclusively proves that "blood will tell" in horses as well as in men. He is an archaeologist and linguist, and in order to study carefully the eastern dialects in their transition from one country to another, he traveled from Damascus to Copenhagen, a distance of 5,000 miles, on horseback, taking eighteen months to make the journey. He rode one horse clear through, and the animal is in perfect condition. It is of pure Arabian breed, chosen by himself, and personally reared and cared for