

eran church, although a number of dissenting sects have arisen, as Methodists, Baptists, etc.

General Nyquist, who visited Chicago and Metropolis in 1887, then only a Lieutenant Colonel, has been appointed chief of the staff of generals in the Norwegian army.

It has gone so far now, that some of the most radical papers cannot stand Bjornson's abuse of Sweden and the Swedes any longer, but find it necessary to protest against the so-called speeches of the demagogue.

Several "people's kitchens," which have been established at different places in Norway for the purpose of providing the working class with cheap and wholesome food, have not met with any decided success.

Parks and public gardens are now not unusual in Norwegian towns, being generally well kept. In this respect the capital ranks first, as it can bear comparison with many other larger towns, situated in more favorable latitudes.

The designs in the old Norwegian weaving resemble those of the so well known oriental works, and are executed partly on horizontal and partly on vertical warp. Generally the designs are geometric and are based on the lines of the square.

#### DENMARK.

Small-pox is raging in Copenhagen.

Holger Drachmann has written a new three acts drama.

Many officers in the Danish army have emigrated to Siam.

Grain is at present being sold cheaper in Denmark than for many years.

Prince Valdemar and Princess Marie are both suffering from influenza.

The Slagelse Lanbo Bank has declared a dividend of five per cent.

The large real estate owner Darling, of Horsens, died at the age of 87 years.

During 1893, 10,052 people emigrated from Denmark as compared with 13,642 in 1892.

"Cousin Jacques," Ernst Lundquist's great comedy, has met with great success in Copenhagen.

J. Jensen, the candidate of the moderate left, has been elected congressman from the Aarhus district.

Their diamond-wedding was celebrated by Prof. George Stephens, of Copenhagen, and his wife.

Captain Carl Emil Hedeman has been appointed governor of the Danish West India possessions. The salary of this dignitary is nearly \$10,000, and this, added to other expenses without any corresponding revenues, makes these possessions a heavy and continual drain on the national treasury.

The medium aid given by the city of Copenhagen to the poor in 1893 was \$80 for husband and wife, and \$55 for a single person. But very few received that much, the average being \$45 for husband and wife, and \$29 for single persons. About four fifths of those receiving aid were over 65 years old.

It is said that Jews began to emigrate to Denmark in the middle of the 17th century. Portugal and Germany being the birth places of the earliest arrivals. In 1726 the Jewish congregation at Copenhagen numbered about 65 families, and the whole number perhaps

was about 2000 at the close of the 18th century. The first correct enumeration was made in 1834, showing a total Jewish population of 4,064. From 1834 to 1890, a period of 56 years, the increase was exactly 16 persons. This small growth is due to conversions to Christianity and to mixed marriages.

The title of George Brandes's latest book is "Foreign Places and Persons." In the preface the author says: "One tires of always talking about books. Even he whose speciality is to express himself about black and white, has eyes as well as others, by which he observes the variegated visible world in landscapes, cities, plain and fine people, plastic art. Even to him nature exists; he is moved at the sight of the simplest phenomenon, such as the falling of the leaves in October, even he is impressed by the sight of a water-fall, a mountain range, glaciers in the sunlight, a Holland lake or an Italian orange grove. He, too has been in Arcadia."

The "household stores" movement which was completely buried last fall under the very weight of the mass of common people, again shows signs of life. The first movement was started in an ostentatious manner, and its originators were by no means loath to have the matter aired in the press. Not so now. The revival of the movement cannot be called a still hunt; but it is engineered by personal canvass. The capital stock is put at \$135,000, and no single person shall be allowed to own more than \$540 stock. The goods to be handled by the stores will be farm products, and if the venture proves a success the business will be extended indefinitely. The names of the real backers of the scheme are kept secret, but it is known that several rich land owners are in it. The following features of the plan appeal to the people: The new stores will reduce the cost of exchange of goods very materially so that those who sell to the stores get more, and those who buy from them get their goods cheaper than under existing conditions; the stockholders will receive reasonable interest on their investment; and the buyers will receive a part of the profits.

#### FINLAND.

During 1893, 11,000 people emigrated from Finland by way of Hango and Vasa.

Written for this Paper.

#### THE CALIFORNIA REDWOOD.

Almost everyone is interested in the redwood trees or the "big trees" of California. The lumberman stands before them and estimates his profits in converting them into lumber from which our beautiful redwood floors, doors and in some cases book-shelves are made. The tourist admires their gigantic size and feels that he has neglected a part of his duty if he fails to record the fact that one of the "big-trees" is 325 feet high; one that has fallen had a girth of nearly seventy feet, and its rings of growth indicate an age of about 1300 years. These and a few other like entries attest the nature of his interest.

Unlike the lumberman and tourist, who think only of the present, the botanist and geologist, standing before these trees, allow their minds to contemplate the past history of them, as well as to dwell on their present condition. In the

Tertiary age, the geological age immediately preceding the age in which we live, the redwood trees and trees closely related to them grew in almost all parts of the world. Remains of them have been found in Greenland as far north as 70°. Indeed vast forests of them were found within the Arctic zone. In Spitzbergen they flourished up to 78° north latitude. In Asia the redwoods ranged from the extreme north to the Himalaya mountains on the south, and from the Caspian sea on the west to the sea of Japan on the east. It seems to have grown in most parts of Europe and probably Africa. In North America remains have been found in several parts of Canada and from there south to southern Mexico. Even in far off Australia it is known to have grown, but it became extinct there, for some unknown reason, early in the Tertiary period. In Asia, Europe and North America the twenty-six species of redwood persisted until the Glacial period when all but two species became extinct, and these two are stranded on our Pacific coast. The two species are known to botanists as the *Sequoia sempervirens* and the *Sequoia gigantea*. The first still forms extensive forests and is the source of our redwood lumber, while the latter is distinctively known as the "big-tree."

The *Sequoia gigantea* was not recognized as a separate species until 1853. It grows in isolated clumps on some of the mountains of California, at an elevation of from 5,000 to 7,000 feet above sea level.

There is some interesting history connected with the botanical name of these trees, *Sequoia*. Se-Quo-Yah was the Indian name of John Guess, a half-breed Cherokee Indian, born in Alabama in 1770. With no aid whatever he invented an alphabet for his people, and taught it, to such as he could persuade to learn it by writing it on leaves. Before Se-Quo-Yah and his people were banished to New Mexico and Indian Territory in 1828, some missionaries to the Cherokees published a periodical in this alphabet and translated a part of the Bible, using this character. The Cherokees now have a considerable literature written in their own language. Se-Quo-Yah died in New Mexico in 1843.

When the botanist Endlicher prepared his synopsis of the pines in 1846 he was induced to dedicate the redwood tree to the greatest literary genius the red men of America ever produced. To make the name pronounceable he softened Se-Quo-Yah to Sequoia.

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L. A. McCann and Dick Dryden while out hunting last week about fifteen miles east of Evanston, Wyo., says the *Evanston Herald*, made a discovery that chilled them to the very marrow. Partly covered by the soil and partly sticking out of the ground they found two well preserved skeletons, and scattered about them old relics of warfare, flint locks, gun-barrels and an Indian pipe. The one skull, which was that of an Indian, showed a hole, undoubtedly made by a bullet. The blonde hair found on the cranium of the other skeleton indicated that its former owner had been a white man, and thus they rested side by side.