

The police force of Christiania consists of nearly 400 officers, a good showing for a city, which is not larger.

At a skating tournament at Ely, England, Henrik Lindahl, a Norwegian, succeeded in taking the first prize.

The wolves in the northern part of the country have been more numerous and dangerous during the present winter than for many years.

The government of the Stavanger district has granted an appropriation of 244,000 kroner for the proposed railroad between Egersund and Flekkefjord.

Bjorn Bjornson, the actor and son of Bjornstjerne Bjornson, will probably soon take up his abode in Copenhagen, where he will play at the Dagmar Theater.

The death rate has greatly decreased in Norway during the present century, the yearly number of deaths per thousand being at present only about 16.4.

A. P. Slotrem and A. J. Stinland, of Drøyen, and Nikolai Scerdel of Tjøto, were drowned, their boat capsizing off Mosjøen.

The Norwegian ship "Amund Tveten" from Haugesund was damaged during a storm off Yarmouth. Two of her crew were washed overboard.

In Norway it is only exceptionally that cookery and domestic work are taught at the girls' schools. To supply this deficiency in the education of the young ladies several families send their daughters—after having finished school—to a house-keeping school in the country, where they spend a time of six to twelve months.

DENMARK.

Esbjerg was visited by a large fire.

New gas works will be built in Herning.

The queen is again reported to be very ill.

A big sugar refinery will be built at Saxkjøbing.

Three fishermen were drowned of Langeland, their boat capsizing.

Paul Andersen, a prominent citizen of Asdal, died at the advanced age of 96 years.

The *Stiftstidende*, the well-known newspaper in Aarhus, celebrated its 100th anniversary.

Prince Komatsu of Japan has been appointed a Knight of the Great Cross of the Order of Dannebrog.

The Copenhagen Casino was forced to make an assignment of a part of its property the other day.

More Swedish-American papers were confiscated in Finland in 1893 than during any previous year.

The country mansion Edderun, near Mariager, was burned to the ground and many cattle were roasted to death.

The number of failures for the first ten months of 1893 was 469 against 533 for the same time in 1892 and 372 in 1891.

The standard time of Denmark was advanced nine minutes forty-one seconds in order to correspond with the time of the central European zone.

Th. Rasmussen, Swedish-Norwegian consul in the city of Korsør, is dead. Mr. R. was a Knight of the famous Order of Dannebrog.

Christian Krogh, the Norwegian author, recently wrote an article, comparing the latest literary productions of

Denmark and Norway, to the advantage of the former country.

Counterfeit 50 kroner bills are reported to be in circulation. Danish-Americans, who buy money in the United States for the purpose of sending it home to relatives in Denmark, have better to look out.

The Sorbonne of Paris has awarded the prix Meyrat to M. Tscherning, a Danish M. D., the title of his thesis being "Contributions To Ocular Dioptries." The medical faculty accompanied the prize with a lengthy explanation of the peculiar merits of Dr. Tscherning's work. "It is a work of wide range," says the faculty, "to which we call special attention of the learned world."

LET'S PLANT A TREE.

In a former paper I attempted to point out the relationship between forests and the water supply of Utah. While it is probable that the most important use of our forests is connected with the conservation of our water supply, it is by no means their only use. I have called recently on most of the leading retail fruit dealers in this city and made careful inquiries of them, in regard to the apple trade. I found that Utah apples retail for from fifty cents to one dollar and fifty cents a bushel less than the California and Oregon apples. And yet without exception they pronounced the Utah apples superior in flavor to the California apples and fully equal to the Oregon apples. The only reason given for Utah apples bearing a less price than imported apples was the fact that our apples are infected with worms, while the imported apples are comparatively free from them.

It is impossible to determine with any great exactness the percentage of Utah apples which are wormy. Apples from different localities differ widely in this respect. From my own observation, as well as from the statements of dealers, I think that the infected apples vary from 85 to 95 per cent. In one box of 256 apples, I found only 9 which were free from worms, but this was said to be an unusually bad lot. I can find no statistics which give, even approximately, the apple crop of Utah, but it is certain that a loss of from fifty cents to one dollar and fifty cents on every bushel of Utah apples is a very heavy tax on the Utah fruit grower.

Perhaps at this point some one who fully agrees with me in the above stated conclusion, asks what the connection is between Forestry and apple culture. The connection is a little roundabout but yet perfectly clear. Birds are the natural enemies of insects. At least this is true of almost all our of our song birds, and these birds find their only homes in the trees. Hence where there are few or no trees song birds are few or entirely absent. Utah has a sad lack of insect-eating birds, and this lack can never be fully supplied until the forest area is greatly increased. It is probably true that some of our injurious insects are night flyers and hence would escape destruction from most song birds, but there are a few night-flying insect-eating birds which would probably thrive here, did we have forests and they were once imported.

I have no desire to represent forests as a universal panacea, but I feel quite

sure that the experience of other sections of our country justifies the belief that insect ravages are greatly checked by the presence of birds. Insects multiply so rapidly that unless they are held in some restraint, there is grave danger that they will menace the interests of the farmer as well as those of the fruit grower. At the risk of repeating some thoughts advanced in a former article, I am going to condense some recent statements made by the eminent French geographer Elisee Reclus. Although his remarks refer to France, almost every word is applicable to Utah. Few countries are being devastated more rapidly than the French Alps. The mountains of this region are in general composed of very hard rock which alternate with other beds which readily give way to the action of water. The marls and the other friable matter are gradually washed away, and their fall precipitates that of the compact layers at the summit, which suddenly fall down, or glide slowly into the valleys. It is, however, the improvidence of the inhabitants, and not so much the geologic constitution of the soil, which is the principal cause of the devastating action of the streams. In the mountains of Dauphin and Provence, the slopes, most of which are now bare, were once covered with trees and various plants which kept back the surface water, which resulted from the rain or the melting of the snow, by absorbing a great part of it, and thus retaining the coating of vegetable earth over the beds of crumbling rock.

During the course of centuries the trees have been cut down by greedy speculators, and by unwise farmers who wish to add some little strips of land to the fields in the valleys and to the pastures on the summits, not knowing that when they destroy mountain forests they also destroy the land on which they stood. The rain or snow being now no longer kept back upon the slopes by the trees and under shrubs, descends rapidly into the valley, driving before it all of the debris torn away from the sides of the mountain. The tooth of the goat and the sheep helps to lay bare the roots of the herbaceous plants and brushwood; until bit by bit the whole of the thin coating of earth is removed, the bare rock is exposed, and deep ravines are hollowed out in the cliffs, and are traversed in the rainy season or in the spring by furious torrents which once did not exist.

The water which once slowly penetrated the earth, conveying fertilizing salts to the roots of the trees, now serves no other purpose than that of devastation. In some localities there is not a single green bush over a space of several leagues in extent. The stream in the valley is generally nothing but a scanty rill of water winding among the heaps of stones which have been carried down by the torrent itself in the days of its fury.

The devastating action of the streams in the French Alps is interesting from a historical standpoint, for it explains why so many of the districts of Syria, Greece, Asia Minor, Africa and Spain have been forsaken by their inhabitants. The men have disappeared along with the trees; the axe of the woodman, no less than the sword of the conqueror, has put an end to or