

THE SCANDINAVIAN FATHERLAND.

Prepared from Special Cablegrams.

SWEDEN.

King Oscar's usual annual elk hunt will take place some day next September.

H. Lagercrantz, the commander of the Salvation army in Sweden, is lying at the point of death.

The entire cost of the defense of Sweden by land and sea runs to about 40,000,000 kronor a year.

Mrs. Maria Thorson, of Hagryd, celebrated her 100th birthday. She is in the best of health.

Sigrid Arnoldson, the celebrated Swedish songstress has been engaged for a concert tour through South America.

A large number of Swedish Americans are at present visiting in their native country, and more are expected to come during the summer months.

Miss Eva Rodhe, of Gothenburg, is a young lady who has developed a system of "sloyd," in many respects independent and highly thought of even out of Sweden.

The average import of cattle is about 2,300 head per annum, most of which are sent from Finland to northern Sweden. The import(?) is estimated at about 5,000 head per annum.

The railroad tunnels in Sweden are not numerous and are all very short, the longest being only 433 meters and passing through the hill upon which a portion of the capital has been built.

The manufacture of starch is still carried on in Sweden as a domestic occupation in those districts largely cultivating potatoes, but of late years this industry has gone over to the hands of factory owners.

When the Laplanders of northern Sweden kill a reindeer, every bit of it is utilized. The meat, blood and bowels are used for food, the skin is made into clothes and shoes, the sinews will furnish materials for thread, and the bones and antlers are made into handles, etc.

For the unfortunate epileptical children who are not received into any idiot institute or into any hospital in Sweden, a home has been founded at Vilhelmsro, near Jonkoping—peculiarly a "home" with subordinate school premises. This establishment is conducted exclusively by women, and receives neither state nor parochial support.

The Royal Military Academy in Stockholm is one of the foremost institutions of its kind in Europe. It has in view the promotion of military science. The native members are divided into two classes; the first consisting mostly of generals, admirals, and persons of the same rank (at present 47), and the second 120 at the most. The number of foreign members is not fixed (at present 16.)

Certain Laplanders in Sweden called the "forrest Lapps," will not bring their reindeer to the alps, but remain with them in the forest-belt all the year round, though they will move about with the reindeer in the same way as

the "alp Lapps." Besides, the "forest Lapps" will leave their reindeer to themselves during spring and autumn, and then have leisure to busy themselves with hunting and fishing.

Sailing is the most favorite of all sports in Sweden, and there is a large number of clubs devoted to the pastime around the long Swedish coast with its deep inlet and fringe of islands, as well as on the large lakes so common inland. The prevailing taste is no doubt inherited from the sea-faring ancestors of the Swedes, the Vikings, and Swedes have the character of good sailors over the whole world, as the New York Yacht Squadron can well testify. The Royal Yacht Club, which enjoys the patronage of King Oscar, is the first in Sweden, and numbers 354 members and 158 sails, large and small.

NORWAY.

Christiania has two female gymnastic clubs.

The Krag-Jorgensen gun will be used by the Norwegian infantry.

Norwegian horses are said to be the strongest in the world.

The average consumption of coffee in Norway per inhabitant is 6.73 pounds.

No free tickets or complimentary passes are given out by the railroads in Norway.

The geological maps published in Norway are said to be among the finest in Europe.

The number of female teachers in Norway has doubled during the last twenty-five years.

School homes for infirm children have been founded in Christiania, Bergen and Trondhjem.

The fee for a complete course in a so-called house-keeping school in Norway is 225 kroner (\$60.)

Norway has many large establishments or factories for the preparation of fish-products—guano and fish oil.

General Booth, of Salvation army fame, complains that the Norwegians like politics better than the Gospel.

The Salvation army people of Norway are "making money," and the number of soldiers is fast increasing.

Off the Norwegian coasts three species of seal are found, the so-called common seal, the ringed or marbled seal and the gray seal.

During the last century there were in Norway about 27,000 deaths per million inhabitants, while in the latest decade hardly 17,000.

Spinning and weaving are in Norway very considerable home industries, especially of the raw materials flax, hemp and wool.

The daily hours of attendance in the national schools is not to exceed six and in the infant schools not five hours a day.

So-called braid-lace making is practised by many women in Norway, both in a larger extent, and also as a home sloyd.

The Christiania university is one of the best institutions of its kind in Europe, and many of Norway's prominent men have studied there.

All railroad lines in Norway are protected by fences of strong horizontal wooden rails, three or four above each other nailed to wooden posts.

DENMARK.

American pork is meeting with more and more favor in Denmark.

The number of Germans in Copenhagen is on the increase.

Two new war-ships will be added to the Danish navy.

The number of Socialists in Denmark is increasing at a rapid rate.

Danish chocolate has the reputation of being the best in northern Europe.

The shoemakers of Copenhagen have struck for higher wages.

The woman suffrage question is fast coming to the front in Denmark.

Denmark imports her best horses from Sweden and France.

Denmark has five training colleges for the education of male and female teachers.

A craze for building sugar refineries seems to be going on in Denmark at present.

The government has granted a special appropriation for introducing sloyd in some girls' schools.

A new regiment will probably be added to the Danish army before the year is at an end.

Prof. Gertz has rendered a charming Danish translation of the apology of Socrates by Plato.

Attempts to acclimatize foreign fish in Denmark have been made, but have not met with success.

Peas are cultivated in Denmark on a very large scale. The yellow variety is the most common.

The Gyldendahl Pub. House is expected to turn out a new drama by Ibsen some time next fall.

The Thingvally Line steamers now also enter the harbor of Gothenburg for the accomodation of Swedish passengers.

Among the conscripts mustered in Denmark only 36 per cent were unable to read, according to the very latest statistics.

It is probable that King Oscar will attend the celebration of the silver wedding of the Danish Crown Prince and Crown Princess.

All the Danes, who emigrated to America in 1893, were able to read, and only one was found who could not write his name.

Each steamer of the Thingvalla Line which arrives at Copenhagen brings a large number of Danish Americans, who intend to spend the summer in "Hamlet's country."

The report of the Danish Health Culture Society presented at its annual meeting shows that the society is in a healthy condition, and is branching out in new directions.

The latest pamphlet published by the Danish Peace Union was written by Rev. Uffe Birkedal, and is one of the most effective appeals ever made by the friends of peace in Denmark.