

SCANDINAVIAN NEWS

Interesting Notes From Across the Ocean.

HAPPENINGS IN THE FATHERLAND.

Principal Events that Have Occurred in the Old Countries About the North Sea Within a Week or So Just Past.

SWEDEN.

The electric power houses in Gothenburg charge \$135 a year per horse power; but the Trollhattan electric power company proposes to knock this figure down to \$22.95.

New church buildings were dedicated at Kjöfinge and Asmundstorp.

The Vulcan match company of Tidaholm has erected a people's palace at a cost of \$25,000. The building contains a large hall, a library, a school kitchen, and other useful departments.

Stockholm can boast of the distinction of having what may be termed a "hair-pin fiend" in question its citizens. The dignitary in question has, for fifteen years past, picked up everything in the line of hairpins, and he now has just two bushels of that commodity.

Gothenburg, the cradle of the famous "Gothenburg system," has 18 saloons, or one for every 6,500 inhabitants.

An iron furnace in Austria will import iron ore from Norrland, although it has to be carried a distance of 2,600 miles. Iron ore can be obtained at a distance of 300 miles; but the former contains 80 and the latter 40 per cent of iron.

The Lund Weekly Gazette, which was established in 1775, and which has had among its contributors such men as Bengt Lidner and Esaias Tegner, has been gobbled up by Lunds Dagblad.

Enormous quantities of seaweed were thrown up by a storm along the beach at Bastad. The farmers of the neighborhood have hauled away hundreds of loads for manure, but still there is much left.

August Strindberg has completed the second part of his work, "Inferno," in French, the same as the first part.

The board of equalization of Stockholm has raised the taxes of some of the money brokers as much as 1,000 per cent.

A woman at Alsheda, Smaland, a number of years ago was completely paralyzed, with the exception of three fingers on one hand. But these fingers she is using to their best advantage, and she has just knitted a white bed-cover which would have been a credit to any able-bodied person. For years she has not been able to carry her food to her mouth.

Christina Stromberg has carried the mail between Sings and Grissleholm for 23 years. She has performed her duty as regularly as clockwork, no matter how severe the weather has been.

The prices of bicycles for the next season will be from \$60 to \$90 for the best grades.

The Swedish language is spoken by 6,400,000 persons—5,000,000 in Sweden, 1,000,000 in America, 325,000 in Finland, 38,000 in Norway and several thousand in Denmark.

The king has announced that the election of a new bishop for Lund will take place Feb. 2.

E. Danielson, one of the leading electricians of Sweden, will inspect the electric power houses at Niagara and in Switzerland in the interest of the great Trollhattan electric company.

Mr. Collander, member of the second chamber of the riksdag from Uddevalla and Strömstad, has officially been declared irresponsible, and as such he cannot occupy his seat in the riksdag. But no one can be elected in his place until the riksdag meets and officially declares his seat vacant.

The dreaded mumps and hoof disease has broken out among the stock of Count von Rosen, near Stockholm.

A strike is on at the Kockum dry docks, and the proprietors of the docks threaten to close up the docks until spring unless the employees return to work on the terms of the employers.

The Malmo brewing company has declared a 10 per cent dividend.

The foundation of a new church building has been completed in Ostermalm, Stockholm, and the church will be named for King Oscar.

The managers of Norriska museet in Stockholm have memorialized the king for permission to raise money for the museum by means of a national lottery. It is proposed to issue tickets for \$1,458,000.

NORWAY.

Of 196,000 qualified voters, 166,000, in round numbers, cast their votes at the last election. The conservatives and moderates received about 77,700, and the liberals 87,700 votes, giving the latter a majority of 10,000, as against a majority of 1,700 in 1894. It is now admitted that the liberal party majority in 1897 would have been much larger if the liberal party had not shouldered the universal suffrage plank. If this had been left out, the conservatives would not have been safe in a single one of the 114 storting districts.

A French syndicate has bought a tract of mining land near Kongsberg for \$30,000.

Mr. Hagerup, the premier of Norway, thinks it would be very beneficial to let the women vote to the same extent as men.

Two new floating docks will be built at Moss.

Byvingen, a few miles south of Mandal, is said to be the second strongest lighthouse in the world.

The candidates are preparing for examinations in theology.

Just as Bjornstjerne Bjornson and his wife were on the point of leaving for Munich, Germany, she took sick;

but she soon rallied, and they left about three weeks ago.

Many of the "mothers" who are tramping the streets of Kristiania begging, have rented the children in their arms, the rent ranging from 15 to 20 cents a day.

The smoking of cigarettes has become a veritable pest among the school children of Kristiania, and the papers are urging the parents to take vigorous measures to abate the habit.

The liberals of Kristiania are yearning for a chance to celebrate their victory by a great blow-out; but they have to forego that enjoyment because no suitable hall could be found in the capital.

Mr. Kjeltberg, an agent of the United States government, has just arrived at Trondhjem on his way to the Kjølen mountains to buy reindeer for the Klondike relief expedition.

For once the leading liberal paper and the leading conservative paper seem to have found a subject on which they can agree. They both favor the establishment of a philosophical chair in the University of Norway for Anathon Aall.

A dozen persons in different parts of the country lost their lives last fall by falling through the ice and drowning.

Prof. Katarinus Bang can hardly be said to give universal satisfaction at the university. His branch is Norwegian literature. A man who took the trouble to review the catalogues of the university found that for 28 years past the professor has lectured on literary culture in the 17th and 18th century exclusively, excepting a single year, when the literature of the 19th century was treated of.

The leading candidates for the position of bishop of Bergen are Jacob Sverdrup and Christen Brun. The former is a noted politician, and at present minister of public worship.

Some of the liberal papers are kicking because the king indorses laws passed by the storting in the following terms: "Given at the Stockholm palace." The kickers protest that the laws were "given" in a kraupria.

The funeral of a pauper far up in the northern part of the country is considered as an indication of the coolness of the Finn in charge, who in this case was a man. He was sent to the graveyard with the corpse all alone. But, being unable to manage the horse, he and the dead man were carried along at breakneck speed, and at the first turn of the road the wagon tipped over, throwing the two occupants to the ground. The coffin was splintered and the corpse exposed. But the Finn was unhurt, and fully equal to the emergency. He left the corpse, recovered the horse and wagon, got a hammer and nails, repaired the coffin, put the dead man into it and drove to the cemetery as though nothing at all had happened.

Fridtjof Nansen has bought real estate for \$9,000 on the beach at Barum.

Two hundred and fifty firms in Kristiania have signified their intention of sending exhibits to the Bergen exposition next year.

Big fresh herring at 11-5 cents apiece in Stavanger, and other fish equally cheap.

DENMARK.

A patient at the institute for the blind in Copenhagen has had an experience which perhaps has no counterpart in the annals of history. He is about 40 years old, and until recently lived in apparently enviable circumstances in every respect. He received a business education, and as a young man obtained a fine position in Copenhagen. About a dozen years ago his firm put him at the head of a branch office in Stockholm on a salary of over \$3,000 a year. He lived rather fast, and no one seemed to suspect that he was tired of life. This was the case, however, and last summer he fired a shot into his brain. The physicians saved his life, but the bullet had cut his eye-nerve, rendering him completely blind. He soon recovered from the immediate effects of the wound, and in order to be able to divert his mind from the unending night before him, he is now learning to read by means of the sense of touch at the institute.

Every member of the young ladies' senior class at the Copenhagen academy of arts failed to pass at a recent examination.

The gas works of Copenhagen had been in operation 40 years on Dec. 2.

It is not very reassuring to the meat-consuming citizens of Copenhagen to witness that the meat inspectors officially stamp as "good" what came from animals that died of old age or disease.

Erik Skram's latest book, "Agnes Vittrup," will soon be out in a second Danish edition, and it will also appear in German and Swedish.

The minister for foreign affairs has concluded a new commercial treaty with Portugal.

The recent revelations in regard to the sale of objectionable meat at the butcher shops in Copenhagen have served to call attention to certain peculiarities in the constitution of the official meat inspection. One of these is that distinction is made between country-inspected and city-inspected meat, though the official stamps of the two kinds of inspection are equally valid. The two kinds of meat must not be sold at the same time in the same shop, but one kind may be sold in the forenoon, and another kind in the afternoon; provided, however, that country-inspected pork and city-inspected meat may be sold at the same time, and that both kinds of lamb may be sold at the same time.

The rigsdag has been asked for an appropriation of \$100,000 for the preservation of the Helsingør monastery, which is at least 500 years old, but which has been sadly neglected for centuries past.

"Our Grandfathers' Songs" is a collection of ditties from the previous century, which is gotten up in a fancy edition suitable for a present. The book contains about a hundred ditties with music.

MINNESOTA STATE NEWS

A Good Showing.

On Jan. 1, 1898, the two years will have expired which constituted the term of the agreement made by F. H. Peavey with the newspapers of Minneapolis. It will be remembered that Mr. Peavey offered to duplicate the savings of seventy-five newspapers to the extent of \$1 every three months for one year, and to guarantee interest on the deposits for two years, the sums deposited not to be drawn out in that time. The plan proved very popular. The seventy-five newspapers started in briskly and were further stimulated by an offer of the Minneapolis Journal to add to Mr. Peavey's gift by an additional dollar. Mr. Peavey's desire to encourage in the boys a habit of saving has borne good fruit. Of the seventy-five boys who accepted his offer two years ago, sixty-eight are still fulfilling the conditions of the agreement. Under the agreement the seven boys who dropped out forfeited the sums advanced by Mr. Peavey, but they were at liberty to take their own money.

Poultry Exhibition.

In the rooms of the St. Paul Commercial club, members of the State Poultry association and other interested persons met and completed arrangements for the annual show of the association, which will be held in St. Paul Feb. 7 to 12 inclusive.

Five silver cups, valued at \$150, will be competed for, and in addition to this, cash prizes aggregating over \$1,000 will be given. To assure the payment of the prizes, the Commercial club, chamber of commerce, and the jobbers' union will jointly subscribe \$600 as a guarantee fund. Special prizes will also be donated by business men of the city.

Ripe Old Age.

Bazille Suprenet, aged 109 years, died at St. Gabriel's convent, in Little Falls. He was a Canadian Frenchman and was born near Montreal in March, 1788. He was hale and hearty until three days before his death, and often expressed the belief that he would live 20 years longer. He said that his father lived to be 98 years of age and his mother 91. He had no relatives living that he knew anything about. His only son was a carpenter and went to New York in 1841, and he has not heard from him since.

A Midnight Scare.

The steel tower and tank of the Marshall water works collapsed one night and the entire structure, 110 feet high, fell in one heap. The collapse was due, no doubt, to the formation of ice from water trickling through a hole caused by the tank being pierced by a rifle ball. Three people, sleeping close by, narrowly escaped, the head of one being bruised by falling ice. The crash was attended by considerable noise, and many people awoke, thinking an explosion had occurred.

Good Deeds.

As a result of the generosity of L. Elsing & Company, of the Golden Rule Department store, over 350 presents were distributed to friendless little children, the inmates of several orphan's homes in St. Paul. A large tally-ho with Seibert's band and a general Santa Claus, and loaded down with presents, made the rounds of the charitable institutions, and gladdened the hearts of many of the little souls who otherwise would probably have spent an uneventful Christmas.

Three Tons of Twine Daily.

The state prison binder twine factory is now turning out 6,000 pounds of twine per day. On a ten-hour run the factory has a capacity of 18,000 pounds of pure manilla and 24,000 pounds of sisal. A great deal of raw material has been purchased and the factory will remain in steady operation. Many orders for twine for next season's delivery have already been booked.

News in Brief.

There were 400 homes erected in Minneapolis during 1897, at an average cost of \$1,500.

Joseph Krinzer, sentenced to prison, while on his way to the depot in Minneapolis, attempted suicide by throwing himself in front of a street car. He was rescued.

James Ferguson, a Hennepin county prisoner serving a reformatory sentence, died at the prison of consumption.

Funds are being raised for a monument to the late Rev. C. C. Salter at Duluth.

Joseph Koenig, of Mankato, committed suicide by taking strychnine.

Judge Lochran has granted an order restraining the sheriff of St. Louis county from interfering in the transfer of the Duluth water works to the city.

Nora E. Poolester has been commissioned postmaster at Champlin.

M. Graham's department store at East Grand Forks was destroyed by fire.

George M. Gilmore, one of the oldest residents of Faribault, was found dead in bed, having been suffocated by coal gas escaping from the furnace.

Harry Allen, living near Kokato, celebrated Christmas by pounding his wife, and was fined \$25 or 30 days in jail.

Henry Derks, indicted for assault upon a 10-year-old girl, was found guilty at Marshall of attempted assault and sentenced to a term of 18 months.

President McKinley has pardoned Junot D. Buxton, of Minneapolis, a former banker, who was sentenced to Stillwater in September, 1896, for three and one-half years for embezzling government money while acting as cashier of the postoffice.

A contract for 300 feet of the new dam in the Mississippi below the present Pillsbury dam at Minneapolis has been let. There will be 1,800 feet of the dam when completed and it is expected to develop 3,000 or 4,000 horsepower.

The University of Minnesota has been left out of the intercollegiate base ball league.

CURRENT TOPICS.

RUSKIN'S 64 books bring him in \$20,000 a year.

The railroads of the world carry over forty million passengers weekly.

The biscuit trust has been completed. It has a capital of \$30,000,000.

The Chinese are said to have used clocks 800 years before the Christian era.

ANTHONY HOPE charges \$450 for a magazine story, reserving the copyright.

A BALLOONIST a mile above the earth commands a field vision 96 miles in radius.

The number of the electric lighting stations in Great Britain has now reached 122.

ZOLA'S first 14 books returned him \$220,000, and in 20 years he has made at least \$75,000.

WILLIAM W. THOMAS, JR., of Maine, has been appointed minister to Norway and Sweden.

KANGAROO tails for soup are shipped from Australia to London, where they sell for \$3 per dozen.

The skeleton of a man over nine feet tall was dug up in a mound near Maple Creek, Wis., the other day.

TENNYSON is said to have received \$60,000 a year from the Macmillans during the last years of his life.

SCIENTIFIC men say that the hair from the tail of the horse is the strongest single animal thread known.

MISS ELLEN TRESSEY, who was bridesmaid at Charlotte Bronte's wedding, has just died at the age of 83 years.

THERE is a cloak in Brussels which has never been wound up by human hands. It is kept going by the wind.

A NEW TESTAMENT jammed in a switch made a train on the London & Northwestern railroad jump the rails recently.

It is said that cold weather increases the consumption of bread, 20 per cent, more being eaten in frosty than in mild weather.

It is estimated that there are incandescent lamps aggregating over 400,000,000 candle power in use in all parts of the world.

It is told of two men of Brewer, Maine, that one of them ate a bushel of peaches and the other ten pounds of grapes at one sitting.

The pearl fishing season in Ceylon only lasts 23 days, and during that time 11,000,000 oysters are brought to the surface by the divers.

SIXTY years ago the first electric car was run, but the first commercial line was not built until 1881, when a line near Berlin was opened.

WHEN cotton thread was first made 840 yards of it weighed one pound. Hence it is No. 1. A pound containing twice that number of yards is No. 2, and so on.

A COLORLESS ink for writing upon postal cards, etc., is made by mixing together water and sulphuric acid, the writing becoming permanently visible when heated.

If Chinese children do not obey their parents, and the latter whip them to death, the law has no punishment for them, as obedience to parents is the cardinal virtue.

An expert declares that he knows of at least 600 counterfeits of the old marks which are now hanging in private galleries in the United States, all purchased at high prices.

Mrs. HUMPHREY WARD received \$40,000 for "Robert Elsmere," \$30,000 each for "David Greive" and "Marcella," \$75,000 for "Sir George Tressady" and \$15,000 for "Bessie Costrell."

If two tuning forks of the same pitch are placed facing each other, the one sounding, the other silent, in a few seconds the silent one will be giving out a distinctly audible note.

MR. MOODY is believed to have beaten all others, as more than \$1,200,000 has been paid in royalties for the Gospel hymns and tunes issued by him in conjunction with Mr. Sankey.

ABOUT 4,000,000 false teeth are manufactured annually in the United States, while one ton of gold and three tons of silver and platinum, to the value of \$100,000,000, are used in stopping teeth.

GREEN rests the eye, the resting of the eye opens to the rest the nerves, and the refreshment of the eye is as necessary to comfortable life as the renewal of the other bodily forces by food.

THE largest congregation in America is that of St. Stanislaus Kostka, in Chicago which has 30,000 communicants. The number of attendants at the several Sunday services frequently exceeds 15,000.

RACINE, Wis., has passed an ordinance requiring all lighting, telephone and other companies using poles in the streets to paint them a distinctive color, the color being decided by the city authorities.

THE Brazil nut contains from 15 to 24 seeds, which all germinate at one time. The most vigorous one gets first through a small hole at the top to the open air and thereupon it strangles and feeds upon the rest.

A pig's tail is said to unerringly indicate the condition of the animal. If it hangs loose it shows that the pig is not well, and that the food should be changed. If it is coiled tightly the pig is healthy and happy.

Ready for Him.

"Did you tell that western customer of ours that you would draw on him if he didn't pay?"

"Yes, and he wrote back that if I thought I could draw any quicker than he could just to come out there with my shooting tackle and make a settlement."—Detroit Free Press.

He who knows the weakness of his own wings is sure of successful flight.—N. Y. Independent.

What Does This Mean?

A perusal of the history of railway transactions during the past four years shows us that this period has been the most disastrous, from a financial standpoint, of any other of the present decade. Under the circumstances it would almost seem as though the further development or improvement of railway facilities must cease. Yet, strange to say, many notable instances prove that the contrary is true. In numerous instances first-class roads, despite the hard times and general business depression, have made very decided advances, not only in the improvement of the material condition of the roadway itself, but likewise the equipment and service. And the public has been a great gainer by the public spiritedness of the roads.

One of the most notable cases of railway development is the Nickel Plate Road, which seems to have forged right ahead with its improvements and has exhibited an unrelenting determination to give the public the best possible facilities, in spite of the hard times. And how well this determination has succeeded in its laudable efforts, the excellent condition of its system bears ample evidence. Yet the secret of this success is obvious. The people have responded very generously to a generous effort to give them the worth of their money. That is all. The people's money has enabled the road to better its facilities in every respect. It has had the cooperation of a mutual and reciprocal character. The liberal patronage accorded the road has brought a handsome return to the people in the shape of improved facilities for travel, yet at the same time at lower rates. And now, it seems, the Nickel Plate Road is still engaged in further efforts to serve the people well. It has a high-class roadway to begin with. It has an excellent equipment to go with, and a safe, fast and reliable service for the detection of its payable. All in all, it offers a most attractive menu to travelers bound east or west in the shape of its "Peerless Trio of Fast Express Trains"—George A. Benham, Special Correspondent.

Hadn't Thought of That.

"Some time ago," says an insurance man, "a man asked me to accompany him home, as he had some things there to be insured. When we arrived at his home he showed me 100 boxes of cigars, which he wanted insured. There were 100 cigars in each box, making 10,000 in all, and were valued at ten cents each, so I insured the lot for \$1,000. A few days ago the man came to me and asked for the insurance money. 'You've had no fire at your house,' I replied. 'No, but I've smoked them,' said he, 'and according to the paper, I am entitled to the money as it reads distinctly that if the goods are consumed by fire money is paid on consumption. As far as technicalities were concerned he was all right, but I knew him very well, and I knew that he had a very stern manner. 'All right, sir; you'll get the money; but, according to your own confession, I will proceed at once to make a charge against you for insurrection.' 'Well, I'll be hanged!' was all he said, and the room shook violently after he banged the door!"—Philadelphia Record.

Yukon Gold by the Pound.

St. Paul, Minn., Dec. 21, 1897.—The General Passenger Department of the Great Northern railway received today a consignment of gold dust and nuggets from the Seattle Chamber of Commerce, the total weight being 27 pounds, 11 ounces, having a value of \$6,865. The precious stuff ranges from a nugget of 1 pound, 6 ounces, to flakes not unlike the scales of gold fish, and grains of cracked or crushed wheat, and comes from Bonanza Creek in the Klondike district, Birch Creek, Miller Creek, and Eagle Creek in the Circle City district, and Minook Creek in the Tanana district. The gold will be displayed here for a few days, and then go east to the general agencies of the road for exhibition. It is the largest quantity of the yellow metal from Alaska yet handled outside of the banks and mines.

Some people think that when a man is bald-headed he ought to quit going with the girls.—Washington Democrat.

The only thing you own after you die is what you have given away.—Farm Journal.

Time counts, health gains. A quick, sure Cure—St. Jacobs Oil for sprains.

When a man makes a fool of himself, he generally does the job well.—Ran's Horn.

Gentle treatment. St. Jacobs Oil soothes the aches and cures it. It fades away.

The absence of soft water is some men's excuse for drinking hard.—Chicago News.

Don't snap in two. Limber up. St. Jacobs Oil will cure lumber sure.

FOR CROUP,

asthma, bronchitis, or whooping cough, there is no remedy so sure and safe as Dr. Ayer's Cherry Pectoral. From the first dose its healing influence is manifest. The sufferer who has been kept awake by the cough falls into a refreshing sleep, and awakes strong and refreshed. Dr. Ayer's Cherry Pectoral is acknowledged to be a specific for all pulmonary complaints. Physicians praise and prescribe it. This standard remedy for coughs, colds, and all diseases of the throat and lungs, is now put up in half size bottles at half price, 50c.

"One of my children had croup. One night I was startled by the child's hard breathing, and on going to it found it struggling. It had nearly ceased to breathe. Having a part of a bottle of Ayer's Cherry Pectoral in the house, I gave the child three doses at short intervals, and anxiously waited results. From the moment the Pectoral was given the child's breathing grew easier, and in a short time it was sleeping quietly and breathing naturally. The child is alive and well to-day, and I do not hesitate to say that Ayer's Cherry Pectoral saved its life."

C. J. WOODRIDGE, Wortham, Tex.

Ayer's Cherry Pectoral.

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