

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.

DENMARK.

Prof. Hoffding, of the University of Copenhagen, has been engaged to give lectures on philosophical subjects at Upsala, Sweden.

A train was stuck in a snowdrift in Sjælland, Nov. 13.

A number of prominent Danes have started a subscription for a monument to Søren Kierkegaard, the author on religious and philosophical subjects.

The attendance at the regular fall meeting of the Inner Mission people at Harboore was not so large as on former occasions, and the preachers used a more moderate language.

Copenhagen had a snow storm on the evening of Nov. 13. But the next morning the white stuff was melted and washed away again.

Prince Christian has had a serious attack of scarlet fever.

The folketing has proposed an appropriation of \$1,500,000 for new field artillery. The motion was opposed by the social democrats.

FINLAND.

At the close of the Russian maneuvers, in which two battalions of Finnish sharpshooters took part, the czar krasnoarmeets with the army in the camp. A number of officers were decorated. The Duke of Madimir, who is a staunch friend of the Finlanders, proposed one for the brave and efficient army of Finland. But his words were followed by a painful silence.

The czar only moved his glass to one side. This incident has another proof of the fact that the Finno-phobes have succeeded in making the most of the Russian believe that the Finlanders are planning a secession from Russia and that the army of Finland is not to be trusted.

The protest of half a million Finnish citizens against the Russian conscription law moves slowly indeed. The idea of the signers was that the senate of Finland was forward to the czar. But Governor-General Bobrikoff instructed the senate to explain away its meaning by declaring it to be the illegal work of a clique of malcontents, and when the senate at last took the decisive step the senators informed the czar that they "could not avoid sending it" to his majesty. The people are bitterly complaining of a lack of backbone in the senate.

NORWAY.

Tromsø is said to be the smallest city in Europe that has an electric railway system owned by the municipality. The cost of the plant is about \$400,000. The Lofoten (waterfalls), which has 20,000 available horse power, is a part of the plant. The falls are located five English miles above the city.

The revised poll lists show that Kristiania has 57,742 persons that are entitled to vote at the city elections. Of this number, 21,429 are women. No less than 6,580 women were disqualified because they had not paid their taxes.

Rev. Lund, of Kristiania, recently preached a "practical" sermon in which he maintained that it would be better to do more work among the poor and vicious than to put up magnificent church buildings. "Open churches" in common houses, keep them open every day and connect them with the houses, reading rooms and compartments for writing letters, etc."

Alexander Holst and wife, of Alstahaug, celebrated their golden wedding November 5.

Signe Loh is said to be on the way to fame as a musician, and he is already regarded as one of the best musical directors in the country.

The latest expedition sent to Spitzbergen by the Tromsø Coal Mining Company struck an excellent seam of coal, and its extent is large. While mining for coal in the rock the men found petrified apples, pears, nuts, tropical leaves, etc.

The barque Inga, from Kristiansand, foundered on the east coast of England. Of a crew of fifteen men only one saved his life.

There was practically no frost in the country between Tromsø and Bergen before the first week of November. But by the middle of the month the cold at Tromsø was intense.

Sociology has been introduced as a branch at the University of Norway. Dr. Sigurd Isen having been appointed the first lecturer on the subject.

The Trinity congregation of Kristiania employs 9 deaconesses; keeps a "patching-school" where 180 children learn to mend their clothes; runs a labor bureau by which 180 poor women are enabled to earn \$1,500 a year; keeps a child care center, 20 babies are cared for; a children's asylum for 40 children; employs 50 children at a work-shop; owns a property in the country where 52 sickly children are kept 6 weeks each summer; and a kitchen where meals are served to sick and poor people.

The combined capacity of all the waterfalls located within thirty-five (English) miles of Kristiania is about 200,000 horse powers, the Glomsen furnishing 100,000 and the Drammen river 60,000 horse powers. If the flow of the water is properly regulated the capacity may be raised to 400,000 horse powers. No other seaport city of Europe has such an abundant water power as the capital of Norway.

Rev. S. M. Riser, the pastor of the Vefsen congregation, lost his life by a runaway, his skull being fractured when his head body was found, about six (English) miles from the parsonage.

The barque Erato, from Kristiansand, Capt. Hansen, was wrecked at the northernmost point of Scotland. Nine men out of a crew of ten lost their lives.

There are two restaurants in Kristiania where the waiters take the "tips" given to the waiters by the customers. The system works this way: the waiters deduct their wages from the "tips," and turn the balance over to the proprietors. The first catch of "big herrings" of this season was made at Smølen, a few miles from Tromsø. The fish are big and fat.

Verdens Gang, the greatest Norwegian daily, was published every week day from Nov. 24, but that date it is published every morning.

The latest reports in regard to the quarrel between Björnson and the children of Premier Johan Sverdrup about certain alleged acts attributed to the latter by Björnson, indicate that Björnson has put his case too strongly, to say the least. Björnson's charges against the dead statesman ought to be taken with many grains of salt.

SWEDEN.

Six million dollars is mentioned as the price which the state may pay in case it is to purchase the iron mines in Norrland.

L. O. Smith, a well balanced business man who has seen a great part of the civilized world, says that in his opinion Sweden has a press the equal of which is not found in any other country.

The water in the Bra river, Skane, is very low, and what there is left of it is so contaminated that all the fish in it have died.

Sundeen, the thought reader, was blinded and placed at the helm of a steamer at Soderhamn, the captain placing one of his hands on one of Sundeen's. The latter maneuvered the steamer with ease from Soderhamn to Mariehill, blowing the whistle at the right time upon arriving at the latter place.

The city council of Stockholm has resolved, by a vote of 53 to 37, to petition the king to introduce in the riksdag certain amendments to the city charter, the main object of the proposed changes being to grant the council the right of electing its own chairman.

Archbishop Ekman recently preached in the Lutheran church in Berlin to about 500 Scandinavian immigrants of the Berlin Y. M. C. A. The Lokalanseger contained his picture and biography.

The name of the new Russian battleship number 20 of Sweden is the name of the rather un-Russian name of the ship. The name has an interesting history. Many years ago Russia captured a Swedish warship called Rattvisan (Justice). A new ship was named after it, and when it was wrecked the one just completed by the Swedes was ordered in its place. It will be noticed that the name has been slightly changed during these vicissitudes.

The naval department has requested a number of Swedish shipbuilders to make bids for the construction of several new torpedo boats.

The launching of the gunboat Tappert (valor) at Kockum's shipyard, Malmo, was attended by the crown prince, and the number of spectators was at least 10,000. There was no smashing of champagne bottles. Mrs. Palander of Vega pressed a button, starting the vessel from the ways, and she said in so many words that the name of it would be Tappert.

Erik Svard, of Singsaker, Undersaker, Jemtland, though 74 years old, served so vigorously in putting out the Jemtland fires last summer that the government, in addition to regular wages, has granted him a small bounty. Mr. Svard even performed work from which younger men shrink in dismay.

The Nobel prize for the best effort made to cure human disease will not go to any single man, but it may be equally divided between Dr. Behring, the inventor of anti-toxin, and Dr. Flinsen, the inventor of the red-light chamber for the treatment of skin diseases.

Col. Lindberg, who has been studying the South African campaign, recommends that the army of Sweden be better supplied than at present with able railway engineers.

It was proposed to raise a monument to King Magnus Birgerson at Jonkoping. This king, who died in 1280, was nicknamed Ladulas (Barnlock), because he successfully protected the farmers of his domain.

The friends of ex-Premier Brostrom have commenced to raise money for a souvenir medal in his honor. The medals are to be made of aluminum and silver, and the prices will range from \$1.50 to \$5.00. Possibly a few may be made of gold.

The Stenbock equestrian statue in Helsingborg will be officially unveiled Dec. 3, and since it was put in its place it has been carefully concealed from public view by canvas. But during a storm the canvas was partly torn away, and a premature glimpse of it was given to the public.

Olof Montagne, of Stockholm, has invented a life-saving pontoon which may easily be detached from a sinking vessel and used by the people on board.

Prince Carl is taking the Knappid cold water cure at Norrking.

Laborers are a drug on the market in Norway. The wages for the week ending Nov. 15 were from \$5 to \$10 a day, but now there are crowds of men who cannot get work at 45 to 55 cents a day.

In the evening of November 14 a snow-drift blocked all the street cars of Stockholm to a standstill for several hours. On the southwest coast a railway train was stuck in a snowdrift for three hours. In the southeast the downfall came in the form of rain. The damage done by the storm at sea was heavy.

Archbishop Ekman has promised to send a Swedish pastor to the Scandinavian congregation in Berlin, which has 1,600 members.

On certain conditions, the city council of Sundsvall has resolved to subscribe \$100,000 towards the building of the East Coast Railway.

The traffic at the state railway depot in Stockholm is constantly expanding, and the buildings of the administration now cover practically a whole block.

Millions upon millions of logs have been hung up along Dalelven (river) on account of low water.

In the neighborhood of Finnspong a stray bullet has become practically wild in the course of the summer, lost one of his eyes in a painful way, and the ram's horns were greatly curved, and the point of one of them grew straight into the eye-socket, gradually crushing and pressing out the eye-ball. The point of the other horn had grown an inch into the head just below the eye.

A lodge of Freemasons is contemplated in Exio.

The Shah of Persia has awarded a gold medal to J. L. Akersblom, the head of the custom-house service at Gothenburg.

U. S. MARINE BAND.

Famous Musical Organization Had Small Beginning.

Francis Scala, an Italian musician of Note, Was Its Founder, and Sousa Added to Its Great Renown.

(Special Washington Letter.)

CHARLES EGAN, born in Ireland, now grizzled and grey, served as cornetist in her majesty's service, came to this country when her majesty's band was organized, and was band leader of the Second Infantry during the civil war. For several years he has been a clerk in the surgeon-general's office, but still he revels in memories of his musical days.

"John Philip Sousa's father was a tuba player in the Marine band," says Mr. Egan, "and the boy heard nothing but music at home and music at the barracks. His mother was also a musician, a vocalist, and young Sousa was a born musician. I have watched his development with considerable interest and a degree of pride, for I was one of his instructors for awhile. He was always a good boy and always ambitious.

"In those days I also knew Francis Scala. I suppose that you never heard of him, did you? Well, he was the leader of the Marine band before the civil war, and for some time afterward. Sousa's father played in the band under Scala's leadership, and the present popular Sousa took many a lesson from Scala, who was in his day celebrated as a composer as well as a band leader. He was born in Italy and enlisted in our navy as a third-class musician while the old frigate Brandywine was in the bay of Naples, about 20 years before our civil war. Within a month after her enlistment he was playing the tuba in the band of the United States frigate. "Francis Scala used to be called the founder of the Marine band, and I believe that he is entitled to that distinction. When he arrived in this country in 1842 he enlisted in what was then known as the Marine band, and he soon became leader of the little organization. No provision had ever been made by congress for a Marine band, so that the ten members were enlisted as fliers and drummers. They played one fife, one clarinet, one French horn, two trombones, one bugle, one bass drum, one kettle drum and one pair of cymbals. That was the miserable nucleus out of which Scala developed the national musical organization which has achieved so much of fame during the past 30 years. The congress never gave any encouragement to his work, either. The appropriations were always niggardly, but little by little appropriations were increased so that Scala was able after a year to increase the membership of his organization, but the men were obliged to furnish their own instruments because no appropriations were made for that purpose.

"Do you know how many years it has been customary for the Marine band to give public concerts in the white house grounds? The people of this city come forth by thousands every Saturday evening during the summer season and promenade the grounds while the band plays, but they do not know to whom they are indebted for that custom. Francis Scala inaugurated these public recitals during President Tyler's administration. The first grand public recognition of the existence of the band was in March, 1845, when Scala led the procession at the inauguration of President Polk. Ever since then the Marine band has held the right of line on all such occasions. The great feature of that day was the playing of a cornet by Scala; an instrument which he had purchased on credit with long time for payment. Still, the band was a small read affair. The bass drummer could not read music, and he pounded his drum in obedience to the nods or winks of Scala, on whom he had his eyes riveted all the time when the band was playing or practicing.

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the custom of having the Marine band play at public receptions. In those days the public receptions were not attended by so many people, because the population of Washington was small. Gen. Taylor would send word to Scala to bring a player and a couple of reed instrument players as accompanists; and that small coterie would make enough music in the great east room to satisfy and gratify the president's guests, whereas nowadays naught but the grand orchestration of the big band will satisfy public expectancy and demand.

"Scala once showed me an old-fashioned daguerrotype which was the fore-runner of all kodak snap shots. It was taken by an artist whose name I do not remember, and it showed Zachary Taylor in a big old-fashioned barouche beside William W. Corcoran, who was famous as a millionaire philanthropist during the latter part of the last century. Gen. Taylor rode to his inauguration in that conveyance beside the richest man of that day, and there was no cry of plentocracy. The old daguerrotype shows that human na-

ture was just the same in the good old days as it is now.

"During the Fillmore administration Scala's Marine band performed a public function which added greatly to its fame. Louis Kossuth, the famous Hungarian patriot, came to Washington and was received by a procession with Scala's band at the right of line. There were then 16 pieces, and they played so well that the newspapers gave room for considerable comment, partly because the courtly Kossuth complimented the band and personally spoke to Scala, thanking him for the playing of national airs. Still there was not much fame coming to the patient founder of the band until Buchanan's inauguration. Scala's band on that occasion played a march of his own composition, which he dedicated to Miss Harriet Lane, who presided over the social functions of her uncle's administration. That march had a large sale, for those days, and Scala's fame enlarged.

"Scala told me that Miss Harriet Lane keenly realized the advantage of good music and extended her aid to the band in many ways. It was by reason of her patronage that the band membership was increased to 25, and she was the first to give the band a permanent home in the White House. She was the first to give the band a permanent home in the White House. She was the first to give the band a permanent home in the White House.

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Ann Odelia Diss de Bar

A MODERN FEMALE CAGLIOSTRO

The Number of Her Victims in All Parts of America and Europe's Legion

Now Under Arrest in London, England

WHILE it is true that mankind is so constituted that a religious belief is a necessity of his nature, and it may be possible to determine a person's character conversing with him upon religious topics, that he is professing a believer in the doctrine of some particular religious sect proves nothing regarding him, as early training, possible material advantages or the easy accessibility of some church edifice may be a matter of course, causing hardly a ripple on the surface of his thoughts. On the other hand, among the very worst classes, so-called, those who have no outward connection with any church or creed, reflections of a deeply spiritual nature may be heaving up great tidal waves of discontent with self and its attitude toward things of a higher nature and, flowing back, carry out with them the wreckage of better perceptions and aspirations, submerging them in the gulf of the lowest forms of selfishness and wickedness. Between these two are found the average people, those who ponder and strive to live out their convictions, and this class may be subdivided almost indefinitely. The present tendency seems to be toward investigation. This has led many to go beyond the teachings of the old theologians. Some have found subject for life-long study in the light of the meaning of the Word shown in the writings of various philosophers. Others find satisfaction in Christian Science and other suggestive cults; while a still larger number drift from one sect to another, mental butterflies, flitting here and there for a moment and soon away. Many of the latter are caught and impaled on one of the many dangerous "I am it" societies, where they whirl around a belief in their own divinity, most fatal to spiritual life. Thousands are caught in the coils of some of the numerous money catchers who manu-

facture religions calculated to prey upon the weaknesses and vanity of their fellows for the purpose of robbery.

During the last few years deep sorrow has existed in her old Kentucky home, caused by one of the most infamous of the latter class, the notorious Ann Odelia Diss de Bar. Many stories are told concerning the origin of the woman, among which is her claim to be the daughter of King Ludwig of Bavaria and Lola Montez, a dancer. Her respectable parents are named Salomen, and at one time the New York police received a sad and earnest request from her mother to place her in an asylum for the insane. A few years ago, as Countess Landfeldt, the woman penetrated the most exclusive circles of Baltimore. Leaving behind her a trail of unpaid bills, she then went to New York, where she met and hypnotized (the word is used for lack of a better which the language seems to need at the present time) the noted lawyer, Luther R. Marsh, who had just lost his wife and

as those for which the couple are now being tried in London, but the names of so many prominent society people were involved that the matter was hushed up. In nearly all her masquerading she has "been making a religious racket," has posed as some great spiritual helper or prophet and by her personal magnetism appealed to her most devoted admirers in a manner which has made her a religious belief can hardly comprehend. She has degraded the highest in their natures to the lowest opposite extreme, a correspondence of Heaven and hell.

Her latest exploit has so disquieted London as to cause the arrest of the Jacksons, now known as Laura and Theodore Horos. They founded a religious order known as the Theocratic Unity and Purity league, one of the most outrageous and indecent societies ever known. Advertisements similar to the following appeared: "American gentleman of good character, aged 35, of refined tastes, wishes to correspond with a good woman, 18 to 25 years of age, with a view to matrimony. Money no object." From among those who replied, one was each time selected. Laura, who posed as Theo's mother, fondled the neophyte lovingly. Theo called her his dear little wife. She was induced to subscribe to the most dreadful oaths, to the breaking of which fearful penalties were supposed to be attached, owing to the "blast of will" set against her by remaining members of the community. She was also enjoined to parting with whatever jewelry or property she possessed. One of the witnesses in the present sensational trial testified that she was led to believe that Theo was the son of God. It is to be hoped that the English law will prove more efficient than our own in preventing the outer world these beastly prey who travel under the cloak of so-called religion.

Edward Julian.

ILLINOIS PUMPKINS.

Treated by a Process That Renders Them Superior to the Canned Article.

A new use has been found for the pumpkin, which promises to be an innovation in southern Illinois. An apple evaporator at Noble is being used for the drying of pumpkins, and the product finds ready sale on the market, says a Florida (Ill.) correspondent of the St. Louis Republic.

The pumpkins are cut into long strips, and dried very much in the same manner as apples. These evaporated strips are then pressed into cakes, which are ready for the market. This dried pumpkin has been tested by bakeries and hotels in the city, and is pronounced superior to the canned article. It is claimed that 90 per cent. of the pumpkin can be evaporated.

In this section of Illinois the pumpkin grows to an enormous size. A specimen weighing 70 pounds was on exhibition in this city a few days ago.

The growers are receiving three dollars per ton for the fruit, and many farmers have grown a ton to the acre in their corn fields this season, despite the unprecedented drought.

feeling desirous of obtaining messages from the other world, fell easily into the hands of the adventures, who was masquerading as Princess Editha. The ascendancy which she gained over Mr. Marsh led to one of the straightest cases ever told before the New York courts.

The lawyer had one of the most extensive practices in the country, and as an attorney for large corporations and individuals of great wealth, transacted millions of dollars worth of business. His reputation for keenness in legal matters was great. Diss de Bar delivered a series of lectures on Spiritualism, and she and her "family" became installed in the house of Mr. Marsh, which she referred to as the "Temple of Youth," where costly bric-a-brac, old marbles and fine paintings were manufactured by the hands of old masters, long since departed this life. With her at this time was a fine-looking personage called Gen. Diss de Bar, and her two children. When it became known that Mr. Marsh had deeded his house and other property to this woman, his friends, without his knowledge, instituted suit and the Diss de Bars were lodged in the Tombs. The trial and later developments proved how her great personal power had been exercised on all classes of people, from those of great wealth and intelligence, to the poorest and most ignorant. Her greed and love of power would allow her to pass on one by

one by one.

BRIEF MINNESOTA NOTES.

Will Battle, of Bathgate, will put a skating rink on Le Sueur. All the metal polishers of Minneapolis have struck for nine hours a day. Alf. Pillsbury was elected commodore of the Minnetonka Yacht Club. Solomon Williams was acquitted of the murder of James Morris at Walker. Harbor A. Olson wants to run over by a threshing engine and crushed to death at Madelia.

Two pickpockets were arrested while playing their craft at the Masonic fair in Minneapolis.

Three cases of small pox have been discovered at Two Harbors. One is exceptionally mild.

Lillian White, of Minneapolis, died while in bed with her sister. The fact was kept known for some time.

John Norton, an old man who has been living alone in a little house in St. Charles, was found dead.

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