

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.

The old Vestro manor is located on a low plateau in the northern part of Gotland, which island now belongs to Sweden. When it belonged to Denmark the manor was occupied by a family of Danish noblemen, and the castle is said to have been built by one of the Rosenkrantz. Near the sea are extensive beds of lime rock of the Silurian formation, and two-thirds of the 1,200 acres belonging to the manor are covered with valuable timber. A few days ago the property was bought by a Danish syndicate, and the lime rock will soon be quarried on a large scale.

The joint consular service committee of Norway and Sweden closed its first executive session at Stockholm, March 10. Baron Bildt, Swedish ambassador to Italy, immediately left for Rome, and Consul General Ameen was to leave for Spain in a few days. Dr. Sigurd Ibsen is to continue the routine work of the committee in Kristiania. Consul Christopherson had to remain in Stockholm a few days on account of sickness.

DENMARK.

The harbor department of Copenhagen has raised \$540,000 by issuing bonds. The money was furnished by capitalists in Copenhagen, Stockholm and Hamburg, and the loan shall be paid in sixty annual installments.

A literary Greenland expedition will leave for Greenland about the middle of June next under the leadership of Mylius Eriksen, for the purpose of spending a year and a half in exploring the west coast of Greenland at least as far north as Smith's Sound. The expenses of the expedition are partly paid by the state, partly by private individuals, and the results of the investigations of the expedition will be published partly as an illustrated book of travels, partly as a collection of Eskimo legends.

Copenhagen, April 8.—King Christian, who was born April 8, 1818, today celebrated his eighty-fourth birthday, surrounded by his children and grandchildren. The monarch, who is well preserved in mind and body, entered keenly into all the festivities. Sixty members of the royal families are already present at the palace and took part in the gaieties, which included a reception at noon by the king, a family dinner, and in the evening an entertainment. His majesty was the recipient of gifts from most of the royal personages of Europe. Extensive celebrations of the king's birthday took place throughout Denmark, including military parades and feasting.

The two houses of the rigsdag could not agree on the budget of expenses, and the bill was referred to a special joint committee of thirty members.

The city elections of Copenhagen resulted in a sweeping victory for the liberal parties along the whole line. The different liberal candidates received from 12,921 to 13,099 votes, and the conservative candidates from 6,926 to 6,991.

SWEDEN.

The government has at last presented to the riksdag the long expected bill for the extension of the voting franchise. The bill consists of a series of amendments to the organic law of the riksdag. Section 14 contains this provision: The right to vote belongs to him who owns real estate worth \$270, or who rents real estate worth \$1,620, or who has an income of \$216, these being the minimum amounts. The new bill does away with the property qualifications, section 14 of the new bill reading as follows: The right to vote, in the commune where he has his domicile, belongs to every man who has the right to vote on the public affairs of his commune, after and including the calendar year immediately succeeding the one in which he completes his twenty-fifth year; but to no one who owes, or who did owe, at the close of either of the two years next preceding, delinquent taxes to the state or commune; nor to anyone who has not performed the military service required by law. Each voter is entitled to one vote; but a voter who is, or who has been married, or who completed his fortieth year before the year in which the election takes place, is entitled to cast two votes.

A young boy at the Eka poor farm, Ljungby, was to take a big bull by water. But the animal became angry and assaulted the boy. Johan Jakobson, a 15-year-old boy, saved the bull, but was himself attacked and had six ribs broken. He, in turn, was rescued by another pauper three years older than himself, who was almost instantly killed.

It is three years since the Scandinavian society for combating "scientific cruelty to animals" sent a protest to the government against the practice of vivisection at the universities. The matter was referred to the universities, and they agree that the value of the information obtained by means of vivisection is so great that it is not advisable to abolish the practice.

Most of the leading newspapers of Sweden are hostile to the suffrage reform bill of the government, on the ground that it is too conservative to meet the demands of the people.

The adoption of the government suffrage reform bill would, by one fell sweep, hurl a score of Social Democrats into the second chamber of the riksdag.

The Swedish Granite company, of Stockholm, is to furnish 340 cubic meters of red granite for a monument to Kaiser Wilhelm I. in Hamburg.

The Svappavaara O. J. company has offered to sell its holdings to the government, but the company has put no price on the property. If the government does not accept the offer the company will endeavor to borrow \$900,000 for developing the mines.

The refusal of Rev. Carlsson, of Normlasa, to confirm a class of young people caused a scism in the congregation, and the feeling between the two factions was far from pleasant. A short while ago some lady missionaries came to the place. They made good impression from the start and the church was opened to them. In the course of a few days the ladies succeeded in convincing the opponents of the pastor that he was right, and like brave little men and women they admitted that they were mistaken, asked forgiveness and were received with open arms by the pastor and his party.

A farmer in the parish of Nashtun was fined for cruelty to animals, but refused to pay the fine. In due time the authorities appeared at his home. To avoid arrest he crawled up into the chimney, and so stubbornly did he hold the fort that they had to break down part of the chimney and pull him out by main force.

At Fredroyd, Smaland, are very extensive beds of a kind of slate which may be ground and pressed into slabs and bricks of extraordinary durability. A slab made in this manner was saturated with water, frozen and thawed out twenty-five times without showing the least change.

The government received seven bids for the construction of a balloon steamer for the navy, all of the competitors being Swedish firms. The contract was let to the Lindholm iron works at Gotenburg, the bid of \$19,000 from that firm being the lowest. The highest bid was almost twice as large.

The old story about the members of Andre's north pole expedition having been killed by Eskimos has been revived and rehearsed by certain American and European newspapers, but the fake did not create the intended sensation because the Scandinavian readers were too well informed on this subject.

A number of representative temperance men of Smaland recently expressed themselves in favor of "schooled detectives" as a means of combating the blind pig nuisance.

The liberal fusion party, being dissatisfied with the suffrage reform bill of the government, has appointed a committee to draft a more liberal bill. Still another bill is said to be contemplated by members of the second chamber of the riksdag.

NORWAY.

The Haafjellet iron mines in Ofoten have been sold to an English syndicate for \$340,000. Iron ore has been found in 290 places within the territory covered by the deal.

The Norwegian stone exporters who are doing business in Sweden held a meeting in Fredrikstad and resolved to reduce the wages of their employees in Sweden. The reason given for this step was that the demand for dressed stone is abnormally small in the foreign markets.

Rev. Thorvald Klavness of Kristiania has been engaged to lecture at several places in Sweden.

A young people's friend who does not want his name published has donated \$270 to a religious society (Lutheristelsen) for the distribution of religious tracts among boys and girls who have just been confirmed.

Verdens Gang is in favor of prohibiting the growing of tobacco in Norway, on the ground that it pays better to raise something else. Sogn is the center of tobacco growing.

A new syndicate is about to build a factory for the preparation of peat fuel at Stensrud, near Ljan Station. The peat is very clean and the product to be turned out by the factory can be burnt in stoves and engines used for coal or wood.

All stores will be closed in Kristiania from 8 a. m. to 1 p. m. on the seventeenth of May.

The reports from the great fishing grounds are highly encouraging. The total catch of codfish for the week ending March 15 was 5,500,000 fish, and the total for the whole season was 15,500,000, or 3,000,000 more than last year.

Georg Brandes made a blunder when he suggested that Lugne Poe, the French author, ought to receive a Norwegian decoration, on account of his untiring efforts to popularize Ibsen's plays in Paris. We are informed by a good authority that Lugne Poe was made a knight of the order of St. Olaf in 1899.

MINNESOTA NEWS.

Butter Industry.

There are at present in Minnesota about 700,000 cows, producing annually 50,000,000 pounds of butter, representing a value of about \$11,000,000. Eighteen thousand families in Minnesota are supported by this industry. It yields more than the total barley and corn crops, double what the potato and crop yields, and it gives employment to more men than any industry of the state.

The factory product alone of butter and cheese for the year 1900 was \$8,500,000, which placed the industry next only to the flour mills and the lumber mills in point of value of annual production. From 1890 to 1900 the increase in the value of the dairy product of Minnesota was over 300 per cent, and from 1895 to 1900 the increase in the product was 125 per cent. At the present rate of increase the next state census will show an increase never equalled by any industry of Minnesota. There is a capital of \$4,000,000 invested in the creameries of Minnesota, and these creameries distribute \$8,000,000 a year to their patrons.

Beet Sugar.

The Minnesota Beet Sugar company has just closed contracts with farmers in eighteen counties for the raising of sugar beets this year. The contracts cover 5,000 acres.

It is estimated that about 75,000 tons will be raised, which will be the greatest output since the factory was established at St. Louis Park.

The company made arrangements with 1,500 farmers last year, but the number has this year been increased to 2,000. These farmers live in the following counties: Hennepin, Wright, Sibley, McLeod, Carver, Meeker, Nicollet, Le Sueur, Rice, Dakota, Blue Earth, Randall, Washington, Wabasha and Steele.

Unique Attraction.

The convention of the National Educational association to be held in Minneapolis in July will have its excitement and unique features. Miss Estelle Reel, general superintendent of Indian schools, with headquarters at Washington, D. C., is making preparations for one of the most unique features ever shown at a convention in this country. She will have an Indian band of twenty-six boys; an Indian baseball club; an Indian girls' mandolin club. The ball team will be composed of members of the band. There will be eleven girls in the mandolin club. It is expected that the little Indians, all of whom will come from Chamberlain, S. D., will prove a great drawing card.

Suicide.

Mrs. Peter Anderson, of Breckinridge, committed suicide by hanging. She was discovered hanging to a rope which she had fastened over the joist in the ceiling, and had been dead for several hours. Her husband was committed to the Fergus Falls asylum about three years ago, and is considered incurable. Mrs. Anderson had worried about her husband, and last month had complained of being sick. She had made her living and that of her two children by taking in washing and working about town. She left a boy and a girl, aged 14 and 5 years respectively.

A Bad Fire.

Fire, started by tramps, swept the Minnesota side of the river opposite La Crosse for three miles, burning buildings, tons of stacked hay, and everything in its path. The total destruction of River Junction was prevented by the arrival of two C. M. & St. P. engines. The crews started counter fires, which checked the big conflagration within a few rods of the town. The loss is estimated at \$5,000.

The leaping column of flames was magnificent, though awful, sight, and thousands gathered to watch its progress.

A Protest.

The Perham people are protesting against the collection of pike eggs on the river in that vicinity, claiming that the lakes through which the stream flows will soon be short of fish if the eggs are taken out. A large quantity of wire netting is to be stretched across the river to corral the fish, but it has been intimated that the residents will make several openings in the wire.

News Notes.

A Great Northern engineer will look over the ground with a view to extending the road to Roseau, Minn. The people up there have been trying for many years to get railroad connections.

St. Paul tailors are insisting that customers not only pay for their clothes, but that they pay promptly. All tailors' bills are due the first of the month following purchase, and this rule will be enforced.

The first carlot of strawberries to reach Minneapolis this season was received from Alvin, Texas, a small town in the southern part of that state, and were shipped by refrigerator express at a cost of \$440.

Dr. Thomas Howell, formerly of Winona, has been elected superintendent and resident physician of the Worcester, Mass., city hospital.

A bruised toe, which had bothered Charles Olson, a saloonkeeper at 13 Central avenue, Minneapolis, for years, resulted in his death.

John Ryehlicki, St. Paul, stood up from a meal, raised his hands over his head, and fell dead before the eyes of his brother's family. He had lived with his brother at 709 Farrington avenue. The family had sat down to dinner, and before the meal was finished the deceased arose from the table and with an exclamation of agony, raised his hands and toppled over on the floor. He was dead in a few seconds.

Martin Ream, janitor in the high school building at Preston for eleven years, hanged himself with the bell rope in the school building some time during the night after drinking the contents of a two-ounce bottle of chloroform. His feet touched the floor and the body was cold when found. Mr. Ream was 72 years old and a veteran of the rebellion.

John Humburg, of Spring Park, Lake Minnetonka, was lured into Fish Lake, Minnetonka, by two men, cooked almost into insensibility, and robbed of his gold watch and chain and \$30 in money.

ROUND ABOUT THE STATE.

A new brick yard is to be started at Moorhead.

Andrew C. Pingree, a Minneapolis teamster, fell dead in his kitchen.

A. W. Thompson was elected mayor of Preston, without a dissenting vote. Prof. Aaker has asked to be relieved of his duties as principal of Concordia college, Moorhead.

A terrific wind and dirt storm raged for two days at Rochester. Early sown grain is being uncovered, as the soil is very dry from lack of rain.

A strange disease has infected cattle near Richmond, and many farmers have been heavy losers, one having lost 200 head.

Mrs. C. A. Stickney of Clear Lake, has a narrow escape from death. She got bottles of medicine mixed and took a teaspoonful of acetone.

A suit involving 8,000 acres and \$150,000 has been begun at Winona. Albert H. Hayes and others bring action to recover money alleged to be due them through maladministration of the estate of George B. Hayes.

The electricians employed on the new Carnegie library building at Duluth have gone on a strike.—The local officer of the Wisconsin Central has received orders cancelling all their rates on lumber from Duluth to inter-trunk territory.

A traction engine, together with a team of horses, went through a span of the approach to the South bridge crossing the Red river at Moorhead. George Miller of Fargo was probably fatally injured, and Louis Larsen was hurt about the head.

The regents of the state university have made Dr. Norman Wilde acting professor of philosophy and psychology. At the close of the school year he will step into the position made vacant by the resignation of Professor F. J. E. Woodbridge.

At Henning an attempt has been made to burn the village hall there. The fire was discovered and extinguished before any great damage was done. A lighted fuse showed that the blaze had been started by incendiaries.

State institutions of Minnesota contained 6,235 inmates on March 1, according to reports to the state board of control. In addition there were on parole from Red Wing training school 388; from the St. Cloud reformatory, 93; and from the prison, 38.

Word comes from South Stillwater of the death of Hilda Thompson, the 8-year-old daughter of Thorvald Thompson. The little one's clothing caught fire from a bonfire.

George Bren, an unsophisticated visitor from Polk county, fell asleep in a Nicollet avenue saloon, Minneapolis, and was "touched" for \$90. He was so mixed in his story that he could not furnish the police with any clues.

George L. Hageman of Cottage Grove has shipped to Chicago seven carloads of fine fat beef steers. Their average weight was 1,460 pounds and the price was \$6.75 per hundred.

Andrew Carnegie has just notified Clint L. Luce, president of the local library board, that he will give \$12,000 for a library building at Albert Lea provided that city guarantees \$1,200 a year.

George Rice, night operator of the North-Western road at Stockton, reports that he was chloroformed by two strangers early in the morning. Eighty-five cents had been removed from his clothing while he was unconscious.

Commander C. F. Macdonald of the Northwestern district of the Grand Army of the Republic, has issued orders for the district encampment, to be held in St. Cloud June 24, 25 and 26.

Frank L. Rouse is suing Matilda Iverson in the district court of Hennepin county to recover presents said to have been given during an engagement which was recently dissolved at the request of the young lady.

The Citizens' Telephone company, at Faribault, which was owned and operated by local capitalists, has been sold to the Northwestern Telephone company.

R. Hunziker, proprietor of the Farmers' restaurant at Austin, jumped from a second-story window, while in a delirium, and broke both legs. He lies at the point of death.

Gilbert Guttererson, government special agent in charge of locating new rural free delivery routes, has just finished a tour of Fillmore county and will recommend the establishment of a number of new routes on July 1, when the new year's appropriation becomes available. When the new ones have been established, there will be 32 in Fillmore county, practically covering the entire territory.

Residents at West Duluth held an indignation meeting and declared themselves in opposition to the abolition of the West End library.

If citizens of Stillwater again raise \$2,000 to pay part of operating the pontoon bridge, the city council, by resolution, has agreed to abolish tolls for the summer.

SCIENCE AND INDUSTRY.

A French professor is the owner of a collection of 920 human heads, representing every known race of people on the globe.

The fruit-exporting business (mostly bananas) from Honduras now requires three lines of steamers and 16 sailing vessels.

The world's ships carry 180,000,000 tons of merchandise a year, and of this one-quarter, by weight, is coal, and one-tenth wheat.

Acetylene gas, as shown by the Berlin experiments, will invariably explode if a detonator is in actual contact with it, but not otherwise.

Banana bread is now on sale in Chicago. It is made of bananas dried and ground down into flour, and is considered 25 times as nutritive as ordinary white bread made of wheat.

Experiments have been made for a time to time since 1869 to measure directly the heat radiated from stars. In 1888, with an apparatus that registered a heat radiation one hundred and fifty thousand times as small as that of the moon. Mr. Vernon Boys found no trace of radiant heat from Venus, Jupiter and Saturn, nor from the bright stars Vega and Arcturus. The subject has lately been taken up at the Yerkes observatory of Chicago with apparatus tenfold more sensitive than that of 1888. The relative intensities of Vega, Arcturus, Jupiter, Saturn were found to be as the numbers 0.51, 1.14, 2.38, 0.37.

THE USES OF RUBBER.

Are Increased as Civilization Goes Forward—Facts About the Supply and Demand.

When it snows in New England the natives up the Amazon and the Congo rivers get more rum for pulling gum from the rubber trees in the forests there.

They neither know nor care what the rubber is good for, nor where it goes or why, but by some means they learn that the demand for it is good. They straightway require more money or drink, states the New York Mail and Express.

The rubber trade is one of the ups and downs with the seasons and the weather. It is literally true that a snowstorm in New York, Philadelphia or Boston or in any thickly populated territory puts hundreds of thousands of dollars into the pockets of the rubber footwear manufacturers. It consequently affects the heathen of two continents who have never seen and who never will see a snowflake.

Authorities in the rubber trade say that their business generally is in better condition to-day than it ever has been, that the demand is growing constantly in all lines, and that consumption is increasing beyond all precedents. The factories are making good profits on the finishing of standard grades, which are selling at from 80 to 89 cents a pound in the crude form as shipped here from South America and Africa.

Para rubber from upper Brazil is the best in the world. A thousand miles up the Amazon are villages of as high as 40,000 inhabitants, where ten years ago all was a wilderness. Cables run down the river and connect with those of the world. Towns are lighted by electric plants sent from the United States and every thing is as modern as one of our western towns. The forests are being worked like the maple groves of Vermont or New Hampshire, and preserved for their future value, though a tree can be stripped of more gum by being cut down than by being tapped.

There are over 1,500 known botanical species from which rubber gum may be taken. When consumption is great the wilds of unexplored continents are penetrated for their gum possibilities. Crude rubber fluctuates as wheat does or copper. The price of the stock of a rubber trust does not affect it, but the demand of the factories which are capitalized in the trust does. Crude rubber is sometimes, as now, higher in Brazil than in New York, leaving out the cost of ocean freights. Merchants there often hold their stocks, and while no rubber exchange exists, they buy up the product and store it until they believe prices will soon be higher in New York or Liverpool. Cargoes of rubber are often sent from New York to Liverpool, or the other way, on account of a small difference in the price here and there.

Crude rubber is shipped in huge balls of about 300 pounds each, packed in pine boxes. The boards for making these boxes are taken from New York on the ships that bring the rubber gum back here again, and nailed together somewhere up the Amazon or the Congo. And when the gum reaches here it goes into warehouses in all its various grades, to be taken by manufacturers according to their needs.

The automobile and wagon rubber tire has already become a greater source of profit annually to the manufacturer than the bicycle tire ever was. Most bicycle tire manufacturers lost money. A few made immense sums, but were glad to quit before they lost them again. The end of a fad, which the bicycle in its craze was, is not to be feared with the wagon tire or the automobile, it is believed, and either of these takes many times as much rubber as the light bicycle tire.

Then, too, the compulsory equipment of cars with air brakes to protect passengers and railroad employes against accident has made a market for miles upon miles of rubber hose for this purpose. Every small town that puts its waterworks requires hose for a fire department, and the citizens buy it for garden purposes. The hose used in the larger cities, and everywhere for that matter, has to be renewed frequently.

Rubber belting is coming more and more into use, and there is a steady demand for it. Electricity in its advancement takes more for insulating purposes, too.

Greatest of all is the increase in the amount of rubber consumed in the making of footwear and incidentally makintoshes. This line of trade has been steadily advancing with the education of the people up to ideas of comfort and health protection, and is the great point of consideration in the ruler business.



PRINCESS MARGARET.

Daughter of Duke of Connaught is the Most Attractive Member of British Royalty.

It is no exaggeration to say that Princess Margaret of Connaught, King Edward's pretty niece, who "came out" at a ball in Dublin recently, is an extremely important figure on the international chessboard. She may take a king.

The lively daughter of the duke of Connaught is generally regarded in continental diplomatic circles as the most eligible of royal young women, while those of her own country recognize in Princess Margaret Great Britain's best hope for a fresh European alliance. Already her name has been mentioned in connection with those of the prospective successors to the two proudest thrones in Europe, and it is hardly a matter of doubt that, sooner or later, some especially exalted match will be made for her.

The fact that among her relatives, Princess Margaret is known as "Daisy" goes far to prove that there is little staidness or undue self-consciousness about the girl whose future promises to be so brilliant. Her temperament is just what the temperament of a girl of 20 ought to be—lively and not too serious. She is tall and graceful and has the knack of making herself liked wherever she goes. She rides horseback; she is a devotee of the camera and she is never so happy as when there is a dance in prospect. Probably much of the tact and graciousness for which she is famous Princess Margaret acquired from her grandmother, Queen Victoria, whose almost constant companion she was for a long time. Her parents, the duke and duchess of Connaught, some years ago made a prolonged visit to India, leaving Princess Margaret and her younger sister in Queen Victoria's charge. Margaret was an especial favorite of her royal grandmother, who often commented on the resemblance to herself, which can be noticed in

most popular of the royal photographs. It is admired because it shows that in spite of the fact that all the czar's children are girls, they are wonderfully pretty girls and that the charm and character of the eldest is clearly written in her countenance. Six years ago when she was born loyal Russia was deeply disappointed. The czar, however, gallantly assured his people that he was delighted with his little girl and in spite of the fact that three more tiny women have come to bless his nursery he has greeted them affectionately and given to the first the most unstinted devotion. It is whispered in Russia that when the news of the sex of the first baby was given the emperor he smilingly said she would some day rule Russia. To the infinite satisfaction of her nurses and parents she proved not only to possess a wonderful physique, but all the beauty of her mother and the sound sense of her Danish grandmother.

In the royal Russian household there seemed to be from the hour of her birth a belief that she would never have a brother and on her training the most extraordinary amount of care and attention has been lavished. This little girl with a wonderful future has hardly known a day's illness, she talked and walked sooner than the rule even with robust and forward children and she possesses a wisdom and gravity far beyond her years. Where she has appeared in public her beauty and grace have enchanted the people among whom she is frequently referred to as "the little empress," and though her sisters are pretty, sweet creatures, Grand Duchess Olga easily eclipses them.

Though but six the grand duchess' tact and intuition are unerring, as is proven by a drive she made recently with her baby sister, Grand Duchess Anastasia, through the streets of St. Petersburg. The two children were in a big closed carriage with their nurses, and were following their parents to the railway station. There was a moment's halt along the route and when the duchess' lovely face was seen at the carriage window a cheer rose from the people behind the guards. With right royal grace the child calmly took her baby sister from the nurse's arms and held her up, saying at the top of her voice: "Isn't she sweet?" The cheers rang out again and again, the duchess nodded graciously and held the baby for everybody to see until the carriage rolled on.—St. Louis Globe-Democrat.

COURTING IN HOLLAND.

Review, Decision, Purchase and Possession Sundays as Observed by the Young Folks.

Holland is a place where primitive customs abound. Traditions are sacredly handed down and observed, and this veneration for ancient things has kept alive in the country what are known as courting Sundays. Throughout Holland the four Sundays of November are said to be kept as weekdays. They are named severally Review, Decision, Purchase and Possession Sundays, says the London Family Doctor.

On Review Sunday everyone goes to church, and after service there is a church parade, in which all the young men and maidens look at each other, but forbear speaking. On Decision Sunday each would-be benedict approaches the maiden of his choice with a ceremonious bow, and from her response judges whether he is acceptable as a suitor or not. On Purchase Sunday the consent of parents and guardians is sought, if the wooing during the week has been happy. Possession Sunday witnesses the first appearance of the various lovers before the world as actual or prospective brides and bridegrooms.

Cure for Chapped Hands.

The maid of all work plunging her hands in hot soapuds and with them half dried, perhaps, hanging clothes in the wintry air will often suffer painfully from hand-chapping during the cold weather. It is the thoughtful mistress who will see that a bowl of Indian meal is kept in a convenient place near the kitchen sink, and the girl encouraged to dip her hands, while still moist from water, frequently into the velvety grains. Afterwards, dry the hands thoroughly.

Hint Worth Remembering.

When buying a stair carpet get an extra yard and fold in a piece at each end. If you do this you will be able to snift the carpet, sometimes higher, sometimes lower, and by this means you will get it worn evenly all over, and will not have the edges of the stairs looking frayed and shabby, while parts of the carpet remain untrod and fresh.

GRAND DUCHESS OLGA.

A Sweet Little Girl May Perchance One Day Be Empress of All the Russias.

The Salla law does not prevail in Russia. The czar's feeble young brother was carried off by consumption two years ago, and though women only come to the Russian throne when all nearer male heirs are lacking, there is an excellent chance of succession for the six-year-old eldest daughter of the present ruler.

The picture taken of this little girl bending over her youngest sister has proved throughout Russia one of the



GRAND DUCHESS OLGA. (Oldest Daughter of the Czar and Czarina of Russia.)

most popular of the royal photographs. It is admired because it shows that in spite of the fact that all the czar's children are girls, they are wonderfully pretty girls and that the charm and character of the eldest is clearly written in her countenance. Six years ago when she was born loyal Russia was deeply disappointed. The czar, however, gallantly assured his people that he was delighted with his little girl and in spite of the fact that three more tiny women have come to bless his nursery he has greeted them affectionately and given to the first the most unstinted devotion. It is whispered in Russia that when the news of the sex of the first baby was given the emperor he smilingly said she would some day rule Russia. To the infinite satisfaction of her nurses and parents she proved not only to possess a wonderful physique, but all the beauty of her mother and the sound sense of her Danish grandmother.

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