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HELSINGÖR, THE "ELSNÖR" OF SHAKESPEARE. Page 64



DENMARK

THE LAND OF THE SEA KINGS

BY

CLIVE HOLLAND

WITH ILLUSTRATIONS BY

A. HEATON COOPER



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Preface

DENMARK to most people is an almost unknown country. We have heard, of course, many times of its produce, have been told that the English breakfast table is largely supplied from the farms of Denmark, and by reason of Danish enterprise; also that Denmark is a small country. Too few have realised that it is much more than this, and that it has many claims upon the attention of English-speaking people by reason of the fact that the Danes have much in common with ourselves, and many characteristics which are a joint heritage.

Denmark, too, is a picturesque country, with many towns and things of historic interest and charm. The scenery cannot, of course, be described as grand in the same sense as can that of parts of Wales and Scotland, and, say, that of Switzerland. But it has a beauty of its own, and in its fiords, often lovely countryside, its charming chain of lakes in central Jutland, and sun-drenched and wind-swept beaches and sand-dunes, Denmark possesses many attractions for the tourist in search of a new holiday ground, and for the student of the interesting, historic, and picturesque.

The Danes, too, are a hospitable race; many of them speak our language, and there is always a warm welcome for those who visit the land from which came at least one

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great Ruler of England in ancient times, and a Princess who by her sweetness and gracious life forged many links in the chain of common interests between the two peoples.

A number of books have been written from time to time upon Denmark—though not of very recent years—but most of these deal more fully with the commercial interests and with the systems of Danish agriculture and education than with the country and the people seen by the holiday-maker or student who visits Denmark with a seeing eye and a desire to learn something of both.

The present book makes no claim to historical or other completeness—a much larger volume of a totally different genre would be necessary to accomplish this—it merely seeks to present some pictures of the land and its people, supplemented by descriptions of things seen, which appeared to the writer most worthy of note, and left the most vivid impressions on his mind.

There are doubtless omissions ; these are inevitable where space is limited. But in its way it is hoped the book will afford some information of value and interest regarding a land somewhat neglected by English travellers which, nevertheless, has many and various ties with our own.

To Danish friends the author's thanks are due, not only for hospitality received on the occasion of his visits, but for valuable information so willingly given.

C. H.

LONDON, W.5, 1928.

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Sketch-map of Denmark, facing page 1.



SKETCH MAP OF DENMARK

DENMARK

THE LAND OF THE SEA KINGS

CHAPTER I

ITS ORIGIN AND HISTORY

THE name Denmark is derived from Denmork, the borderland or march of the Danir; but how the latter word came into being and use is not definitely ascertained, and has, indeed, from time to time led to much antiquarian and philological controversy. It was Pytheas, a wanderer in the age three centuries before the Christian era, who first referred to a northern land under the name of Thule, by which it is generally supposed he alluded to Denmark.

The authentically ascertained history of the country only goes back about a thousand years, although there seems little doubt but that it ranks among the oldest kingdoms in Europe. However, before A.D. 800 very little is known either of the land or its inhabitants, but some idea of what happened previous to the period of time mentioned may be reasonably deduced by the study of the relics of antiquity which have been preserved, and from folk-lore.

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There seems, indeed, little doubt that after Denmark had risen from the depths of the ocean and assumed approximately the form as we now know it, it was covered from an early age with dense forests, and that the inhabitants of that period lived chiefly along its coasts, where they found their chief sustenance by hunting and fishing. They lived there chiefly because the very elementary implements they possessed were not such as would enable them to clear the dense woods or penetrate far into the interior, or allow them to engage very effectively in agriculture.

Scientists have been able to reconstruct something of the history of the period to which we have referred—the Stone Age—from the kitchen middens or heaps of refuse left from the meals of the inhabitants of that period; the dolmens and the “barrows” in which have been found, and are still occasionally found, sepulchral chambers formed of huge blocks of stone rough and unhewn, and these remains are, indeed, the only data from which the history of this period can in some measure be reconstructed and ascertained. It is fairly safe, however, to assume that the people who formed the population of Denmark in the pre-historic period were of Scandinavian race, who had come into the country from early in the so-called Stone Age, and had driven out or slain the former inhabitants.

A new period was brought in by these invaders, namely, the Bronze Age, so named because arms and tools were mostly made of that metal. As a result of the possession of such implements forests were gradually penetrated, the interior of Jutland and the islands we now

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know as Funen and Zealand were opened up, and the soil in places was brought under cultivation.

One is able to trace the progress of certain forms of rude art and industry during this particular epoch by the arms and jewels which have from time to time been found in the "barrows" or tumuli, in which were deposited also the ashes or bodies of the dead enclosed in roughly-baked urns.

Intercommunication with the civilized countries lying to the south was undoubtedly very limited in these early times, and it was not until about the Christian era that the influence of Roman civilization began to make itself felt in Denmark; but previous to this period the Iron Age had come, and in it comparatively large ships were built. With this period came the horse, or at least that animal was more extensively bred and used, and the oldest system of Northern letters, the Runes, said to have been derived from the Phœnician alphabet, came into existence. At Jellinge in Jutland one is able to see fine examples of this alphabet cut in the stones which mark the graves of King Gorm and his consort Queen Thyra, who were the great-grandparents of our own early King Canute.

Then a little later on, Roman ornaments in gold and silver were brought into the country, and copied; and from time to time important remains of this period, throwing some light upon it, are found in the tombs and bogs and marshes in various portions of Denmark.

Then followed what is known as the Heroic Age, records of which have come down to us in the Icelandic sagas of the eleventh and twelfth centuries, and also in

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the work of the Danish chronicler Saxo, who lived about the beginning of the thirteenth century.

We have relating to this period many accounts of extreme interest of the expeditions of the petty kings and chieftains, the so-called Vikings, to the coasts of foreign countries, and also records of their heroic and often bloodthirsty deeds at home. But it should not be forgotten that the dawn of the historic life of all races is rendered obscure and difficult of exact interpretation by reason of the undoubted mingling of fiction with fact. Indeed, all that is really known of the mythology and social institutions of the Danish people of these far-off times is that in the main they had the same characteristics as those of Northern tribes in general.

The people were divided into two classes, the free men and the serfs. And the government of that time was moulded on a patriarchial basis, the father being the head of the family; and where families coalesced, generally the oldest man was chosen as chief. This circumstance naturally resulted in those early days in the division of Denmark up into a great number of petty states over which ruled kings or chiefs, who, however, possessed but slight authority, beyond that which their own personal qualities were able to command, as it was the practice of the free men meeting at the National Gatherings or Things to settle public affairs.

Two of the most notable of the royal centres of these petty states were Leire, in Zealand, and four kings of Leire in particular, Frode, Roar, Helge, and Rolf Krake, occupy distinct places in legendary lore; the other centre was at Jellinge, in Jutland, of whom the



KANDI-SFEDDENE, A PRIMITIVE HAMLET IN NORTH ICELAND

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most famous king was Vermund den Vise, or Vermund the Wise.

Far into the eighth century tradition is the only source of information as regards the history of Denmark, and only at the end does it commence to take the form of actual history. A very curious thing is that ancient chroniclers tell very little about the Scandinavian countries; only one, Pytheas, whom we have already mentioned, a merchant of Massilia, who lived about the third century B.C., especially mentions them. Indeed, the French and Anglo-Saxon chroniclers are the first to give any authentic account of Denmark and the Danes; and they furnish records in considerable detail of the piratical raids of the Vikings on the coasts of England and France in the time of the Emperor Charlemagne.

It was a little later than this period that Christianity was introduced into Denmark; Harald Klak, King of Jutland, supported by Louis the Débonnaire, a son of Charlemagne, was baptized at Mayence, and brought back with him Anscar, a monk, who afterwards was canonized as St. Ansharius, and was known as "the Apostle of the North". He became Bishop of Hamburg, and later of Bremen, and worked very zealously to introduce Christianity, until his death in 865. It was some time, however, before the principles of the new religion took any hold on the people, and the Vikings carried on their piratical raids, and the country was still divided up into several small kingdoms for a considerable time after the death of Anscar.

During the passage of the years thousands of adventurous Northmen must have been lost in their frequent

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crossings of the North Sea without the aid of compass. How determined and powerful, however, were these invasions of Britain can be gathered from the fact that the Danes were able to set up one of the dynasties that ruled it. They left their stamp on the country in several ways to endure long after the last Dane had passed from our shores. In many place-names their influence can be traced, as well as in physique and speech. Many towns and villages still have names ending in "by", telling of their Danish origin, as have towns and farms in which the word "holm" appears. In the northern and eastern counties of England there are boys and girls with the blue eyes and light flaxen hair which still perpetuates a Danish ancestor of long ago.

There is, indeed, much to interest English people in Denmark other than the racial connection and the fact that Shakespeare laid at Elsinore, near Copenhagen, the scene of *Hamlet*, one of his best known and most famous plays. Britons soon feel at home in Denmark, and there are several characteristics which make for mutual understanding between the two peoples. Denmark is a northern country; three-fifths of its population are islanders like ourselves, and, like Great Britain, it is a little country which possesses colonies.

Once Denmark had dominion in Scandinavia across the Sound, and even in Germany and Russia, but though these portions of her kingdom have passed from her in the course of the many wars in which she has been engaged during the centuries, she still holds Iceland, the Farøe Islands, and Greenland, and had till comparatively recently possessions in the West Indies which only a few

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years ago she sold to the United States. In her adventures and colonizers she possessed sons of the same breed as that which won for Great Britain her vast overseas possessions.

It was not till about 900 that some welding together of the separate petty kingdoms took place. Then the province of Jutland, the Danish Islands, and the southern portion of Sweden became united under Gorm den Gamle or Gorm the Old, who showed no love for Christianity, notwithstanding the fact that his Queen, Thyra Danebod, was a strict follower of the new faith. It was she who was instrumental in building the Danevirke Wall as a protection to the southern frontier of her husband's kingdom.

Early Danish history is full of romance and adventure, but with it in detail there is no space to deal in the present volume. It was at the beginning of the tenth century that a famous chieftain, Harald Blaatand or Harold Bluetooth, succeeded after a great struggle in making himself King of Denmark. In his reign and that of his successors Svend Tveskjæg or Sweyn Forkbeard and Knud den Store or Canute the Great, Christianity made considerable progress and was formally established in the country. Knud den Store was a champion of the new faith, and was justly entitled to his surname "the Great".

Svend Forkbeard laid siege to London unsuccessfully in 994, and afterwards spent the winter at Southampton. Ultimately the Danes were bought off by a heavy payment of Danegeld. An interesting thing in connection with this attempt to seize England is that on Svend Forkbeard's return to Denmark he appears to have allowed one Godwin, a moneylender or banker, to strike

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a coin in imitation of one of Ethelred the Unready. This was the first real coin struck in Denmark, and it bears the name of the moneylender as well as of the king.

Svend returned to England with his Northmen, but on St. Brice's Day, November 13, 1002, there was a massacre of the Danes; one of the victims was Gunhild, Svend's sister. He made a vow to avenge her, and wrest England from Ethelred. He ravaged the country for several years, till King Ethelred fled to Normandy, and in 1013 Svend became master of England, and is known in history as Sweyn. He died the following year, on February 3, at Gainsborough. Knud den Store or Cnut—known in English history as Canute the Great—was elected by the Danish army in England to succeed him. He had to leave the country, but returned in 1015 with a great fleet. Canute had to conquer England again. The death of Ethelred, and then of Edmund Ironside, six months after he had agreed to divide the kingdom with Canute, left the latter undisputed master after a severe struggle.

The reign of the young Viking ruler, for Canute was only twenty-two years of age, was marked by great wisdom and justice. He married the widow of Ethelred, and eventually sent his Danish army out of the country, only keeping in England the trained household troops, the house-carls, a standing army of about 3000. He wished the country to be governed by Englishmen.

After 1021, Earl Thorkil the Great, who had been Canute's chief adviser, was replaced by an Englishman, Godwine. The King's ideal appears to have been an Anglo-Scandinavian Empire, of which England was to

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be the head and centre. In 1018, after the death of his brother Harald, Canute succeeded to the throne of Denmark, and ten years later he invaded Norway with a fleet of 1400 ships, and succeeded in annexing that country without opposition.

After Canute's death, however, Denmark underwent a period of civil war, and in addition was ravaged by savage tribes who dwelt along the southern shores of the Baltic. It was not until King Valdemar I. came to the throne in 1157 that comparative peace prevailed, and both he and his son, Canute VI., were successful in extending the borders of their kingdom to include what are now known as the provinces of Mecklenburg and Pomerania. These, however, were lost to Denmark in the thirteenth century.

The last period of Danish history in the Middle Ages was in many respects an era of added greatness for the country; but it was, nevertheless, one including many disappointments and defeats. The daughter of King Valdemar, Margarethe, who is one of the greatest characters in the history of the Northlands, governed as Regent during the minority of her son Olaf, and later, after his death in 1387, reigned as sovereign Queen. Not only did she reign over Denmark, but, on the death of her husband Hakon VI. in the year 1380, did so over Norway as well. The union of the two kingdoms thus brought about lasted four hundred years. Margarethe was one of the most ambitious of women sovereigns, and engaged in a war with Sweden which resulted in that country being added to the Danish crown after her decisive victory over the Swedes at Falköping in

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1389. Thus she became sovereign of the Scandinavian countries.

To consolidate the union she had brought about she convened an assembly of the nobles and leading men of all three countries with the view of deciding the method of the joint election of their monarch, for the settling of affairs common to all three kingdoms, and at the same time of choosing her successor. Her nephew, Erik of Pomerania, was appointed, and the events which took place are known in history as the Pact or Union of Kalmar. Although Margarethe by her skill and genius held the three countries together, notwithstanding the animosity of the Swedish nobles to the arrangement which had been entered into, after her death on board ship at Flensburg on October 28, 1413, the union of the three kingdoms was frequently broken and again renewed, her successors proving unequal to the task of conciliation and administration she had left to them. No monarchy in Europe, indeed, equalled that which this remarkable woman had knit together; it stretched from the Gulf of Finland to the Varanger Fiord on the border of the Polar Seas and southward to the Eider, with the islands of Orkney, Shetland, Farøe, Iceland, and Greenland in the Atlantic. In extent it was double that of the German Empire.

In the fifteenth century the Duchy of Holstein, by reason of its union with Slesvig, was added to Denmark, though the former was only held as a fief of the German Empire. Denmark also held provinces in Sweden, but these she ceded by the Treaty of Brömsebro in 1645, with the exception of Scania. A few years later, in 1652,

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Charles X. of Sweden, after a war with Denmark, which had followed on frequent hostilities, and on the conclusion of a peace that was little more than a truce, invaded Poland, but on finding that Denmark was preparing to re-commence war against him, he evacuated Poland and invaded Holstein. Waiting till winter, when it would be practicable to cross on the ice the arms of the sea separating the Danish islands from one another, the Swedish army crossed the Little Belt, captured Odense, the capital of Funen, and invested Copenhagen itself. The Danes held out for some time, under their king, Frederik III., until, largely by the mediation of the English envoy at Copenhagen, a truce was arranged, and a treaty ultimately signed.

Dissatisfied with the terms of the treaty, Charles X. in 1658 made another attack upon Denmark and besieged Copenhagen. In February of the following year the Swedes made an attempt to storm the city, but without success, and the military operations then degenerated into a blockade. On the death of Charles a few months later the war came to an end, and the Treaty of Copenhagen was signed on the 27th of May 1660. By it Denmark was compelled to give up Scania, Halland, and several places on the island of Rügen, and to grant a free passage for Swedish ships through the Sound.

Once more in her history Denmark engaged in a war with Sweden, for in the reign of Christian V. military operations were undertaken in Swedish Pomerania, which from its position was vulnerable to attack by the Prussians in support of the Danes. The Swedes resisted gallantly, and were well led. The Danes scored their chief suc-

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cesses on the sea, as they were assisted by a squadron of Dutch ships under the command of the redoubtable Van Tromp. This enabled the Danes to invade Scania, the most southern and fertile Swedish province, but owing to lack of supplies they were compelled to evacuate it, and after success had swayed from one side to the other, peace was made in 1679. The position of the combatants was left practically as it was at the commencement of a struggle that had involved much bloodshed and expenditure of money.

Twenty years' peace ensued between the two nations, during which time the young King of Sweden, Charles XI., had married a princess of the house of Denmark. Then in 1699 war once again broke out when Frederik IV., taking advantage of the extreme youth of Charles XII., who had succeeded his father, invaded the Duchy of Holstein, which was an ally of the Swedes.

The boy monarch, who was destined to become famous in the wars of Northern Europe, determined to strike a blow at the heart of his enemy, and with that object in view lost no time in crossing the Sound and investing Copenhagen. The inhabitants of the capital, thrown into a great state of alarm, appealed to the young Swedish king's humanity, and a peace was speedily concluded, the Danes agreeing to pay a large sum of money as ransom.

Charles XII. was led into various warlike adventures, and carrying on war in Poland and Saxony was ultimately heavily defeated at Pultowa in 1709, which offered Frederik IV. and the Danes an opportunity of renewing the war with Sweden. The Danes invaded Holstein again in the south, and Scania in the north. Although



DENMARK'S WESTERNMOST POINT, NAR FSEJERØ

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the latter province was badly off for troops, the peasants rose *en masse* in defence of their homes and in hatred of the Danes; and, being ably led by officers who had been trained in the best schools of arms of that age, were able to defeat and drive the invaders out of Sweden. The fortunes of war then hung in the balance until the death of Charles XII., who was killed at Frederikshald on December 11, 1718.

In 1720, owing to the intervention of England, a definite treaty of peace was signed at Stockholm. By it Sweden lost all the advantages she had gained since the Treaty of Westphalia; and George I. of England and Elector of Hanover shared the spoils with Peter the Great of Russia and Denmark. From that time onward no danger threatened Denmark from Sweden, though this fact was owing rather to the decline of the latter than the progress of the former.

Denmark had had by this time a considerable experience of the wastefulness and futility of war by a small State, and wisely acting upon this the Government decided, so far as possible, to avoid conflict with other people in future, and adopted a policy of peace which has largely governed Denmark's political actions ever since.

In 1780, however, there occurred one of those international problems which perplex and disturb all countries. It arose between Great Britain and Denmark during the war in which the former was engaged with France, Spain, and the North American Colonies. Great Britain's superiority on the seas enabled her, and indeed made it easy for her, to obtain by her own merchantmen the

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necessary supplies of cordage, hemp, and other naval stores from the Baltic, but France and Spain were compelled to depend upon obtaining such supplies through the instrumentality of the vessels of neutrals. The British Government, however, questioned the right of neutrals to carry warlike stores, and the Northern nations, which had found the practice a profitable one, entered into a pact called the Armed Neutrality, at the head of which was Catherine of Russia, by which, without resorting to armed force or becoming actual allies of France or Spain or belligerents, they sought to make it impossible for Great Britain to put a stop to the traffic. No hostilities, however, arose as a consequence of this at one time delicate situation, and the menace was put an end to by the general peace in 1782.

Two years later Christian VII., always weak-minded, became mad, and his son Frederik was appointed Regent, which position he continued to hold until his father's death. During his Regency some very wise laws were passed, and reforms carried through. The peasants living on the Crown lands were gradually emancipated, and this action led to many of the nobles and great landowners adopting the same course. In the abolition of the African slave trade, Denmark, to her lasting honour, led among the Governments of Europe.

In 1801 Denmark, though she had hitherto succeeded in retaining her neutrality in the convulsions and wars brought about by the French Revolution, became involved in the armed neutrality the Emperor Paul of Russia brought about with the Northern nations against England. A British fleet was sent into the Baltic under the command

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of Lord Nelson and Sir Hyde Parker. This arrived in due course off Copenhagen, and a battle was fought in the roadstead on April 2, 1801, in which the Danish fleet, after having made a gallant resistance under its commander, Olfert Fischer, lost, either by capture or destruction, eighteen ships of the line, but gained the admiration of the great English admiral. Happily little injury was done to the capital, although the losses afloat were heavy on both sides. A cessation of hostilities immediately ensued, and a treaty of peace followed; and the death of the Emperor of Russia soon afterwards broke up the alliance of the Northern countries.

For some years Denmark enjoyed the blessings of peace, but she ultimately became involved in the general upheaval which had produced a great war. The catastrophe was largely brought about by the vacillations of the Danish Government of that time, the sympathies of which undoubtedly inclined towards France.

In endeavouring to remain friendly with all parties in the struggle that was proceeding, Denmark inevitably became involved. At Tilsit, Alexander of Russia and Napoleon agreed to attempt to force Denmark to cooperate with them, and schemed that she should give up her fleet for the purpose of assisting in an attack upon England. The latter, however, was able to forestall her enemies by sending a fleet and an army to Copenhagen under Admirals Cathcart and Gambier. Their instructions were to demand the surrender of the Danish fleet on condition that in the event of peace it should be restored. To this demand the Crown Prince gave an uncompromising negative. It is only just to say that

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there was no sort of evidence of any intention on the part of the Danish Government to yield to the pressure that had been or was being put upon them by Napoleon and his temporary ally, Alexander of Russia.

On receiving the defiant reply from the Danes, the British landed their troops near Copenhagen, and commenced to lay siege to the city.

The Danish commander had only a few thousand troops available for the defence of the capital, as the greater part of the Danish army was with the Crown Prince guarding the frontier in Holstein; the fortifications of Copenhagen were, moreover, poor. The British fleet opened the bombardment of Copenhagen on September 4, 1807, and kept it under fire for three days, during which time a large number of public buildings, as well as some three hundred private buildings, were destroyed. The capitulation of the city took place on September 7, and the fleet, consisting of eighteen sail of the line, fifteen frigates, six brigs, and twenty-five gun-boats, with an immense quantity of naval stores, fell into the hands of the British.

It is little to be wondered at that after this event, which was very questionable on the score of both justice and policy, Denmark openly allied herself with France. The war was carried on for seven years against England, and also for two years against Sweden, with the result that Denmark's resources were completely exhausted.

The hostilities between England and Denmark always took place at sea, partly at the entrance to the Baltic and partly off the Norwegian coast, and usually consisted of engagements between single ships or small

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detachments. The Danes were brave fighters, and often met with success. In regard to trade both nations suffered severely. The British vessels frequenting the Baltic were often taken by Danish cruisers, and the Danish overseas trade was practically paralyzed by the supremacy of England upon the high seas.

The disastrous Russian campaign of Napoleon gave some hope that the Allies, who were so from pressure or durance, might experience some relief. The Danish Government had by this time become anxious to make peace with England. The Regent succeeded his father, as Frederik VI., in 1808 ; but the fact that the latter had, so as to secure the support of Russia and Sweden, agreed to compel Denmark to cede Norway to Sweden, forced the Danes to continue in alliance with France until the eventful year 1813. At war with the greater part of Europe, Denmark was being ruined, and when the Allies, at the close of Napoleon's campaign of 1813 in Russia, threw an increasingly large force against Holstein, Denmark was obliged to seek an armistice, and a little later to enter into a Treaty of Peace at Kiel on February 14, 1814, among the terms of which were the cession by Denmark of Norway to Sweden, and the surrender of Slesvig, Pomerania, and the island of Rügen by Sweden to Denmark.

The giving up of Norway caused the bitterest mortification and regret in Denmark; and at the Congress of Vienna a few months later she gave up Pomerania and the island of Rügen to Prussia in exchange for a sum of money and the Duchy of Lauenburg. Although the ceding of Norway was at the time looked upon by the

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Danes in the light of a great national disaster, students of history will not be slow to realize that the separation was bound to come in the course of time, and had only been anticipated by a few years.

England, on her part, restored to Denmark all her conquests of the Danish possessions in the East and West Indies, but retained Heligoland.

Troubles came after the Congress of Vienna, arising from the spirit of unrest and discontent which manifested itself in the Duchies of Slesvig and Holstein. An outbreak occurred in the latter in 1848, which for a time threatened the existence of the Danish monarchy. To understand the cause of these internal troubles, it is necessary briefly to state the relation of the various parts of the kingdom the one to the other.

On the ascent of the Danish throne by Christian I. of Oldenburg in 1449, he was also elected Duke of Slesvig and Holstein, his younger brother receiving the Duchies of Oldenburg and Delmenhorst. In 1554 the older branch of the family was again subdivided into two lines, that of the Royal house of Denmark and that of the Dukes of Holstein-Gottorp. Eventually several collateral branches came into existence, and one of these, that of Holstein-Gottorp, had as its head Peter III. of Russia. In 1762 the latter threatened Denmark with war, the object of which was the recovery of Slesvig, which had been given to Denmark by the Peace of Stockholm, and guaranteed both by France and England in 1720. Peter's sudden deposition, and ultimate supposed murder, however, put an end to the threat of war.

Its Origin and History

The Empress Catherine agreed to an arrangement, signed at Copenhagen in 1764, and subsequently confirmed by the Emperor Paul in 1773, by which the ducal part of Slesvig was ceded to the Danish crown. The Emperor also abandoned his part of Holstein in exchange for Oldenburg and Delmenhorst.

CHAPTER II

THE REBELLION OF SLESVIG-HOLSTEIN—THE TWO SLESVIG WARS—THE WAR WITH PRUSSIA AND AUSTRIA— DENMARK REGAINS SLESVIG

AFTER the conclusion of peace in 1815 the States of the Duchy of Holstein, never so firmly incorporated with Denmark as those of Slesvig, began to show discontent at the delayed calling together of their Assemblies, notwithstanding the assurances that they should be summoned, which had been given by Frederik VI. Time passed without an improvement in the conditions or of the general situation, and after the eventful year 1830 the unrest in the two Duchies became more acute, and degenerated into a mutual hostility between the Danes and the German population of the Duchies. A scheme that was put forward to meet the demands of the Holsteiners for a revival of the long-disused local laws and privileges, by the preparation of separate deliberative Assemblies for each of the provinces, failed to satisfy the malcontents. Matters were no better on the accession of Christian VIII. in 1838; a prince noted for his democratic sympathies and liberal principles. The feeling of national animosity was greatly fanned by the issue of certain orders for Slesvig, which tended to encourage



RIBE, A MEDIEVAL TOWN IN NORTH SLESVIG

The Rebellion of Slesvig-Holstein

the use and teaching of the Danish language at the expense of the German.

All the materials and excuses for war were present, and only needed some impulse to cause it to break out. Christian VIII. died at the commencement of 1848, before the outbreak of the French Revolution of that year. He was succeeded by his son Frederik VII., who had scarcely ascended the throne when his subjects in the Duchies broke out in rebellion against him.

On March 23, 1848, a provisional Government was formed at Kiel, of which Prince Frederik of Noer was a member, and the next day the latter surprised and seized the fortress of Rendsborg, while Duke Christian of Augustenborg was in Berlin with the object of obtaining the support of the Prussian monarch, Frederick William IV., for the rebels. The mission was successful, for not only did Frederick promise support; he encouraged the rebellion. This left the Danish Government with only one possible course, that of suppressing the latter by force.

The whole Danish nation was in accord with this decision, and at the beginning of April an army some 10,000 strong had been got together, and entered Slesvig under the command of General Hedemann. It inflicted a defeat upon a somewhat smaller force of rebels in the neighbourhood of Flensburg; after which the town of Slesvig was captured by the Danish forces. Had the latter only then had to reckon with the two Duchies the rebellion would have collapsed, but all the while there had been the sinister influence and intrigues of Germany in the background.

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For years the German Press had been seeking to influence public opinion to bring about a separation of the Duchies from the Danish crown. The King of Prussia found a diversion for the thoughts of his people advisable during the days of the Revolution in France and international unrest, so an army of some 20,000 Prussians and troops belonging to the German Confederation was launched into Slesvig, and joined the insurgents, who now found themselves nearly 40,000 strong.

The small Danish army of little more than a quarter that size, after a stubborn defence of the Danevirke, or frontier line, was within a fortnight defeated at Slesvig on Easter Sunday, April 23, and forced to retreat northward over Flensburg across the peninsula of Sundeved to Als, a small island lying off the east coast of Slesvig, separated from the mainland by the narrow but deep passage of Allsund.

The Prussian troops under the command of General Wrangel pursued the Danish forces into Jutland; but the latter was soon evacuated by the Germans owing to the intervention of Russia. The Danes had been driven from Sundeved, but had been able to keep up communication with the islands, and being considerably reinforced attacked Sundeved and won two considerable victories on May 28 at Nyböl and on June 5 at Dybböl. Sweden and Norway had great sympathy with Denmark in the struggle she was making, and in fact considerable numbers of men of these nations enlisted in the Danish army. As a result the Prussian King became concerned lest he should find himself involved in a war with the peoples of the Scandinavian peninsula, and agreed to an armistice,

The Two Slesvig Wars

which was signed at Malmö on the 26th of August 1848. The arrangement came to by this was that the government of the two Duchies should be entrusted to a Commission consisting of five members—two of whom were to be nominated by Prussia, two by Denmark, and the fifth by the common consent of the others. Denmark was also promised indemnification for the requisitions of the invading Prussian troops in Jutland.

Peace, however, was not of long duration, for Germany continued to intrigue all the while, and the Slesvig-Holsteiners oppressed the Danish peasants, some of whom rose against them. Denmark denounced the armistice, and war broke out once more, the Duchies having the aid of the Prussian troops and those of the German Confederation. It lasted from April 3 to July 1849, when Prussia signed another armistice for six months.

Both of the Duchies accused Prussia of a vacillating and treacherous policy, and determined to carry on the war on their own account. The Danes, however, had little now to fear.

In the early part of 1850 several engagements took place, and then on July 2 a separate peace was signed with Prussia in Berlin. Two days later the integrity of Denmark was guaranteed by England, France, Prussia, and Sweden. Meanwhile the fighting between the Danish forces and those of the Slesvig-Holsteiners—assisted by German officers—went on with varying success. The last battle took place at Isted, somewhat north of the town of Slesvig, on the 25th of July, between the two armies, the rebels under the command of General

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Willisen, an able soldier; and the Danes, who numbered about 30,000, under Generals Krogh and Schleppegrell. A pitched battle was fought obstinately on both sides, and it proved the most bloody of the whole war. The issue remained in doubt for a long time, but was finally decided in favour of the Danes, who had advanced along the high road from Flensburg and attacked the Slesvig-Holstein forces on all sides. Ultimately they succeeded in driving the latter from all their positions.

The numbers engaged on both sides were about equal, amounting to some 30,000 to 35,000, and the losses were about equal, 7000 killed and wounded. After the battle, the Danes—though exhausted with the severity of the struggle, and too fatigued to pursue the enemy with spirit and success—marched south and occupied the Danevirke, or frontier line, the enemy meanwhile retreating in good order to the vicinity of Rendsborg.

The skirmishes and small engagements that followed the Danish victory were but hopeless attempts on the part of the rebels to continue the conflict, and were unavailing. The first attack made by the insurgents was at Mysunde on the Sli, where they were repulsed with heavy losses by the Danish left wing. An attack upon the right wing of the Danish army, which had taken up a defensive position supported by the fortress of Frederikstad, met with no better success. After a bombardment lasting five days, during which the greater part of the town was destroyed, the Slesvig-Holsteiners stormed the fortress on October 4; but, after desperate fighting, lasting several hours, the Danes, under the command of

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Colonel Helgesen, compelled the rebels to retire. This was the ending of the first Slesvig war.

In July 1850, immediately after the occupation of Slesvig by the Danes, Tillisch, a Danish member of the Commission, which had been appointed prior to the arrangement of a peace at Berlin in July 1850, was appointed Administrator of the Duchy. He set to work to bring some sort of order into its affairs, which after the conflict were in a very chaotic condition. One of his first acts was to attempt a wise and equitable settlement of the language difficulty. He tried to bring this about by an arrangement which provided that in the northern part of the Duchy where Danish was most spoken that language should be used in churches, schools, and courts of justice ; while in the south, where German predominated, that language should be used in like circumstances. The intermediate districts were to be the subject of a similar adjustment, with a proviso that in them Danish should be taught in the schools.

The question of the succession to the Danish crown loomed in the distance, as King Frederik had no heirs male. It was considered of such importance that the Powers delayed its final settlement until 1852. Meanwhile the affairs of the Duchies were by no means so tranquil as had been hoped.

The extinction of the line was an event foreseen by both the King himself and the European Powers. And after long and constant negotiations between the different Courts, the representatives of England, France, Austria, Prussia, and Sweden met, and a treaty was signed in London on May 8, 1852. In this it was provided that

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in default of male issue in the direct line of Frederik VII., the crown should pass to Prince Christian of Glücksburg and his wife the Princess Louisa of Hesse, who, through her mother, Princess Charlotte of Denmark, was niece of King Christian VIII. This arrangement was opposed by the Danish Rigsdag, but, after a dissolution of that body, was passed in June 1853. It did not, however, as was anticipated and hoped, allay the trouble and unrest in the Duchies.

On November 15, 1863, Frederik VII. died very suddenly at the castle of Glücksburg in Slesvig. As soon as the Ministry at Copenhagen received the news of his death, Prince Christian was proclaimed King as Christian IX., and immediately the young Duke of Augustenburg appeared on the scene in Slesvig, assuming the title of Frederik VIII. In the Duchies the fires of revolt, which had been smouldering since the agreement by which the succession had been settled, were immediately fanned into a flame again. The excitement all over Germany at once became intense; and it was everywhere stimulated by the reigning Princes, notwithstanding the fact that Prussia had been a party to the agreement regarding the succession. The cry arose that the German population in Slesvig and Holstein must be freed from the tyranny of the Danes.

The German Confederation, which had never acknowledged the order and change in the succession, ranged itself at once on the side of the Pretender, Frederik VIII. Austria and Prussia, however, held back for a time, as they had affixed their signatures to the treaty. They had their reasons for maintaining it; all they wished to do

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was to seize an excuse for interfering in Denmark's internal affairs. They succeeded in making the German Diet carry out the military intervention. Russia, England, and France brought pressure to bear on Denmark to withdraw the Constitution that had been signed by Christian IX. This step did not, however, solve the difficulty. It had the effect of causing the Danish forces to be withdrawn from Holstein, upon which the Confederates crossed the frontier on December 23. The Pretender, Prince Frederik of Augustenburg, whose father had made over the succession to him, was proclaimed Duke by the invading forces. He took up his quarters at Kiel.

Events moved rapidly, and on the 21st of January Prussian and Austrian troops marched into Holstein under the command of General Wrangel, who had figured prominently in the Slesvig war of 1848. The attitude of Germany throughout the negotiations and discussions had been extremely hostile to Denmark; and her demand that the latter should submit to the occupation of Slesvig-Holstein by her own and Austrian troops, until the question of Prince Frederik's claim was settled, was firmly rejected by the Danes.

Denmark in this dilemma applied to England and France, other signatories to the Treaty of London altering the succession in 1852; and, receiving from these what was rightly or wrongly construed as encouragement to resist the German and Austrian demands, Denmark declared war upon Germany.

The Danish army, numbering about 40,000, was sent under the command of General de Meza to defend

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the frontier and the Danevirke, that ancient line of defences stretching right across the peninsula of Jutland from the Baltic to the North Sea. The Prussians made an unsuccessful attempt to break through across the frontier at Mysunde, where was placed the left wing of the Danish army, led by Lieut.-General Gerlach. The Austrians next day, February 3, made a more successful attack upon the centre at Jagel and Övreselk to the south of the old Kovirke, when suddenly, on the 5th of February, the Danevirke positions were evacuated by the Danish forces. This decision was arrived at by de Meza at one of the Councils of War which he called, and was not communicated to the Government.

When the fact became known that the army was retreating northward, the Danish people were astounded and grief-stricken, and their exasperation became intense. Cries of treachery were raised against de Meza (whose decision to retreat was afterwards justified when the circumstances leading up to it became fully known), and he was dismissed from his command, and ultimately General Gerlach was appointed in his place. There was skirmishing during the retreat, which was finally ended when the Danes took up their positions behind the Dybbøl redoubts in the peninsula of Sundved, opposite the island of Als.

Slesvig was soon overrun by the enemy, who took steps to efface everything which could remind the inhabitants of Danish rule. The German mentality showed itself in many small acts of useless destruction and harshness, including the mutilation of the Lion of Isted, erected by the Danes as a memorial of their former victory.



A. HEATON COOPER, 1937.

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for the complete independence of the two Duchies, but this proposal was rejected by the Danes, as were other suggestions made by the other Powers for the partition of Slesvig and its conversion into a Danish and German territory. On May 12, Prussia and Austria announced that they no longer held themselves bound by the London Treaty of 1852, made after the Slesvig war. They now proposed that the Duchies should be governed by the Duke of Augustenburg as a State of the German Confederation. Bismarck's object all along, as he ultimately admitted, was to annex the Duchies to Prussia. As no agreement was reached, war was resumed on June 26.

Early in the morning of June 29, Prussian troops managed to cross the Alssund in flat-bottomed boats to the island of Als, where the remnants of the Danish army had taken refuge after the fall of Dybbøl. The Danes evacuated Als with the loss of about 3000 men. The invaders then pushed northward until they had overrun all parts of the mainland as far as the Skaw in the extreme north of Jutland. Denmark did not realize her hopes of an intervention by the Great Powers, and had to sue for peace, which was signed at Vienna on October 30, 1864. By it Denmark renounced all claims to Lauenburg, Holstein, and Slesvig as far as the Kongeaa. Only Ærø and the district round about Ribe remained to her. The Danes even agreed to have no voice in the final disposal of the ceded Duchies.

For two years the rest of Europe waited to see whether Prussia would restore to Denmark North Slesvig and the island of Als, where the Danish language prevailed, which Austria—acting fairly at the Peace of Vienna—

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had urged should be done in the event of the inhabitants expressing a desire to remain under the Danish crown when a plebiscite was taken.

Two years later war broke out between the late allies, Prussia and Austria, and all chance of the proposed restoration of territory to Denmark vanished.

Later on, at the end of the war, in 1866, Austria, defeated by Prussia, ceded all her real or supposed rights in Holstein to Prussia by the Treaty of Prague. Napoleon III. intervened, however, with the result that Paragraph V. of the Treaty mentioned was made to read that the Emperor of Austria transferred all his rights to the Duchies of Slesvig and Holstein acquired by him by the Peace of Vienna on October 30, 1864, to the King of Prussia, "with the reservation that the inhabitants of the northern portion of Slesvig shall be reunited to Denmark if, by a free plebiscite, they express the wish therefor".

For years this paragraph constituted a great hope for the Danes in the ceded territory. But after the Franco-Prussian war of 1870-71 Prussia had her hands free, and without consulting Denmark or the Danish population of Slesvig, came to an agreement with Austria in 1878 to abrogate the promise contained in the fifth paragraph of the Treaty of Prague to restore North Slesvig under certain conditions.

In the succeeding years the Danish element in North Slesvig not only held its own in resisting both the subtle and the more militant efforts of Germany to Germanize it, but actually gained adherents under the able leadership of such men as H. P. Hanssen, J. Jessen, and Gustav Johannsen. Germany forbade the Danish population of

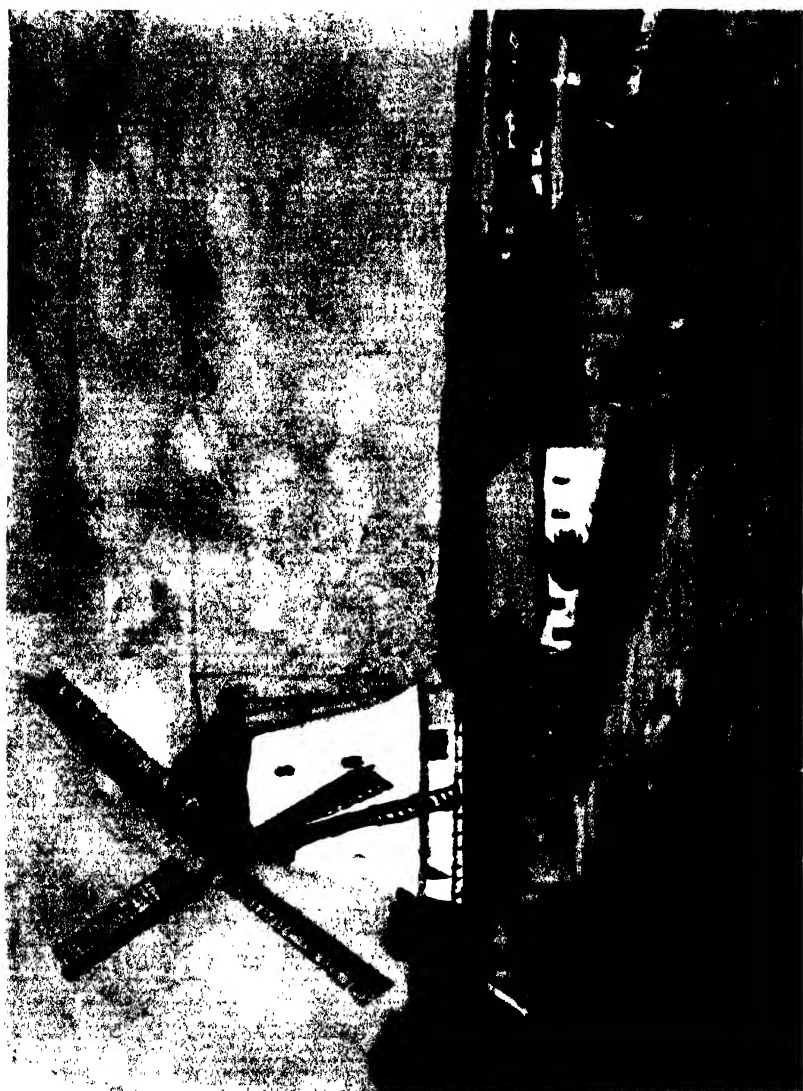
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Slesvig to use their own language at school, at church, or in the law courts; and they were even forbidden to sing Danish songs or to wear Danish colours; and Danish lecturers and actors were expelled from the country. Had the Germans but realized it, all this petty tyranny and persecution only had the effect of keeping the fires of patriotism burning. Even parents and children residing on different sides of the frontier were forbidden to visit one another.

Realizing the stubbornness of the resistance being offered by the Danes in Slesvig, the Germans even went to the length of spending large sums of money buying out Danish landowners and settling Germans on these purchased estates; and to acquire the latter, harsh and arbitrary methods were often employed. Many of the Danes were expelled, and notorious in this tyranny was von Köller, the Governor of Slesvig-Holstein from 1898 to 1900.

Through the long years which followed the cession of Slesvig-Holstein in 1864 down to the Treaty of Versailles at the conclusion of the Great War, the population of North Slesvig never gave up the hope of once more becoming subjects of the Danish crown.

During the years 1875-94, Denmark saw considerable constitutional developments and changes. For that long period the country was governed by J. B. S. Estrup against the will of the majority of the Folketing, which may best be described as the elective Assembly, while the other House, the Landsting, is partially constituted by co-option. He was supported by the King and the Landsting. In 1894 the Opposition made a compromise



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with Estrup by which he was to retire, but his illegal use of money to fortify Copenhagen, and the provisional financial decrees which it had become the practice to issue, were to be regularized.

The Governments which followed from 1894 to 1901 were Conservative, and the struggle between the two Houses of Parliament continued. While the "Right" or Conservative party became gradually weaker, the "Left" grew stronger in the country at each election. At last Christian IX. consented to the formation of a "Left" ministry under Deuntzer, which was the first Parliamentary Cabinet in Denmark. The new Government proposed in 1902 to sell the Danish West Indian possessions, consisting of the islands of St. Croix, St. Thomas and St. Jean, to the United States, but the Bill was rejected by the Landsting by an even vote. The sale to the United States was carried through a few years later.

King Christian IX. died suddenly, on January 29, 1906, in his eighty-eighth year, honoured and loved by his people. He was succeeded by Frederik VIII., who had married Louise, the daughter of Charles XV. of Sweden and Norway, in 1869. He continued the policy of his father, and was a strong upholder of Parliamentary Government. His second son, Charles, who married the Princess Maud of England in 1896, accepted the crown of Norway in 1905, and reigns as King Hakon VII. This event caused some friction with Sweden, and King Frederik VIII. endeavoured to remove any sense of grievance by a visit to the latter country.

The elections of 1906 increased the Parliamentary

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strength of the Radicals and Socialists, and by this the Conservatives lost the majority they had hitherto enjoyed over all parties. There were a succession of Governments, and in 1909 the vexed and pressing question of the defence of Copenhagen and the means to be taken by Denmark to defend her neutrality were settled by the Defence Bill introduced and carried by the Cabinet of Count Holstein-Ledreborg. Copenhagen was to be strongly fortified on the sea side, and detached advance forts were to be constructed ashore in support. Attention was to be especially directed to the value of torpedo and coast defences by the Navy, which was to have a fortified base in the Great Belt.

Frederik VIII. died suddenly at Hamburg in May 1912, having always suffered from a weak heart. He was succeeded by his eldest son, Christian X., the present ruler of Denmark, who married Alexandrine, daughter of the Duke of Mecklenburg-Schwerin and sister of the German Crown Princess.

Christian X. has followed out the main lines of the policy of his father and grandfather, and is a constitutional king who, by his democratic sympathies and approachableness, has endeared himself to his subjects. He is well known to all by reason of the frequent visits he and other members of the Royal Family pay even to the most remote portions of Denmark. The country under his wise rule has become one of the freest and best governed of Europe.

Until the Peace of Versailles, at the conclusion of the Great War, during which happily Denmark succeeded in maintaining her neutrality, the two Duchies, which had

Denmark regains Slesvig

involved Denmark in two wars and endless trouble, remained attached to the German Empire, which had come into being after the Franco-Prussian war, as they had been left by the Treaty of Vienna in 1864. By the Treaty of Versailles in 1919, however, North Slesvig was restored to Denmark, a new frontier line was drawn from Flensburg across to the North Sea coast in a direction inclining a trifle northwards, and running out to sea between the islands of Sylt and Rom.

In the government of her restored territory Denmark has shown great diplomacy and a sense of justice in the manner in which its affairs have been administered. This has been in sharp contrast to the methods adopted by the Germans when the Duchies were taken over after the war of 1864.

Naturally the restoration of North Slesvig has been a matter of great national satisfaction, and Dybbøl, where the heroic last stand was made against the Prussians and Austrians, has become a place of national pilgrimage. On holidays especially the cemetery near the famous windmill, and the grass-grown redoubts, are thronged by those who have come to see the spot where their forefathers fought so bravely against overwhelming odds and, though defeated, covered themselves with glory. It was on July 10, 1920, that King Christian, mounted on a white charger, rode over the old frontier and took possession of the territory which had been lost in 1864.

During the period 1864 to the present time, notwithstanding her disastrous wars and the loss of the two Duchies, Denmark has made astonishing progress, and this has been increasingly apparent as the years passed.

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Her material fortunes have greatly improved, and her intellectual standards have been of steady growth, thanks mainly to the admirable system of education prevailing.

Her only troubles have been of an internal political character and of a nature common to the age in which we live, and to all progressive countries during the last quarter of a century. These have arisen chiefly from the dissensions in the two Houses of Parliament, and by the rise of a more or less extreme Socialist party.

But even these disturbances have had comparatively little effect on general national progress, for the heart of the people has not only been sound, but the people themselves have fearlessly attacked commercial problems, and have been willing to work. Denmark has had in the immediate past little to fear, and will have, under wise rulers, little to apprehend in the future, and to-day she enjoys an enviable prosperity which has come to her during the long period of peace that she has enjoyed.

Agriculture, from which she derives her principal wealth, has flourished amazingly, and the reclamation of waste land has been pursued on the most modern scientific basis with the most astonishing results.



THE SKAW, MEETING OF THE NORTH SEA AND THE KATLUGAT

CHAPTER III

JUTLAND: ITS SCENERY, LAKES, TOWNS, AND PEOPLE

JUTLAND, which the Danes call Jylland, is not only the nearest portion of Denmark to the English coast, but is the only mainland province of Denmark. It forms a peninsula bounded on the north by the Skager Rak, on the south by Slesvig-Holstein, on the west by the North Sea, and on the east by the Kattegat.

Jutland, though possessing some of the most elevated land in Denmark, is on the whole low-lying, with a deeply indented and consequently long coast line, vast sandy beaches, and in the interior many stretches of moorland, swelling heather-clad hills, and sand-dunes. The soil is on the whole poor, although by scientific methods in many places it has been of late years considerably improved in character, and vast tracts of heathland, and even portions where sand has prevailed, have been reclaimed and brought under cultivation. On the arable land sheep, cattle, and goats are raised, and there are large and small farms, no less than ninety per cent of which are freehold compared with the thirteen per cent in England, scattered about the countryside, and worked with skill, enterprise, and industry by their proprietors.

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Owing largely to the shallow water inshore, on the west coast there is at the present time only one harbour of any importance, Esbjerg, by which, indeed, most of the tourist traffic and a great deal of the commercial enters and leaves the country. Two other harbours, however, have been projected and are in the course of construction at Hanstholm and Hirtshals. On the eastern coast, however, there are several good and convenient harbours, of which Aarhus, Horsens, and Sønderborg are the chief.

The town of Esbjerg has interest chiefly from its rapid modern growth, for it has little of historic interest, and few really old and picturesque buildings. Its harbour, made in 1878, has had not a little to do with the rapid rise of the town as a place of importance. With a population now of some 25,000, the main tourist traffic from England to Denmark enters through it. There is a large fishing fleet, and this gives a picturesqueness to the port that its purely commercial traffic would not ensure; and viewed from the higher ground, the harbour, when the fishing fleet is in, has an animated and unique appearance, the white hulls of the boats throwing sharp reflections in the calm waters. Esbjerg as a port may be said to have come into existence for the exportation of agricultural produce to England.

But a few miles distant, and forming a breakwater for the Esbjerg harbour, lies the island of Fanø, a long, narrow expanse of sand-dunes. Here in the summer, the months of July and August especially, congregate a large number of visitors from Copenhagen and other of the large towns, as well as English tourists. The chief

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bathing beach and centre of seaside life is known as the Vesterhavsbad. Here fine hotels and villas have sprung up, mingled with cottages, garages, tennis courts, golf links, and other developments connected with the life of a fashionable seaside resort. From the higher sand-dunes which lie at the back of the magnificent stretch of fine sandy beach—amid which the hotels and other buildings have been erected—there are extensive views over the open sea.

The fine level beach of firm sand has become famous as a motor-racing track. At low tide the sand is more than half a mile wide, and it affords magnificent opportunities for outdoor sports of all kinds, as well as for motor racing. Great international speed contests are held every year, which have made the name of Fanö famous in the sporting world, and provide many a thrill for the crowds of spectators.

Naturally with such advantages Fanö has become a fashionable seaside resort with crowds of bathers in summer time, and an unconventional open-air life of its own.

Along the coast, especially after a westerly or north-westerly gale, a great deal of amber is found, and at one spot, some few miles to the north of Vesterhavsbad, sufficient is found to make it well worth while for people to live near the shore for the purpose of searching for it. So occasionally, and also further up the western coast of the mainland, one comes across a rudely-built hut occupied by a fisherman amber collector.

The inhabitants of Fanö have characteristics of their own, and it is one of the comparatively few places

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in Denmark where native costume has persisted. The women wear a strange, high, close-fitting cap, and a distinctive dress of homespun material. The inhabitants of the two villages of Nordby and Sönderho still preserve, indeed, many old-time customs and manner of living.

South of Esbjerg lies Ribe, one of the most ancient of Jutland cities, the great glory of which is her cathedral or Domkirke, generally considered the finest church in Jutland. Long before one reaches the outskirts of the town itself the rather narrow, square tower comes into view, a landmark for many miles across the flat countryside.

Ribe in the old days, largely from its frontier situation, was the scene of much fighting. Most of the houses of any importance were constructed with a view to defence, and in one of these still standing there is a spiral staircase so constructed as to "wind" to the right, so that the man defending it might have his right hand at liberty to strike, while his enemy would have to strike with his left.

Even the ecclesiastics, we are told, in those far-off days to which we refer, were by no means the men of peace that they were popularly supposed to be. For there is an account in the archives of the cathedral of a pitched battle fought between the Brethren of the Chapter, or clerics attached to the Domkirke or cathedral, during which the Bishop himself suffered to the extent of having his vestments torn off his back!

In those days justice was administered with a rough hand at Ribe as elsewhere in Denmark, and, indeed, Ribe justice was notorious on account of its severity. Over the town gate hung an iron hand, the symbol of that justice, for it meant that in Ribe a man had his right hand cut off

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if found buying foodstuffs for his own gain, or for "cornering" the market in grain—a lesson to profiteers in the means of living that is not unneeded in our own times. Justice was, indeed, not always tempered with mercy, for a saying has come down that "only those are sent to Ribe for judgment who are ripe for hanging".

Stealing was a hanging matter in the days of which we write. Men were hung for the offence; while women, we are told, were only buried alive on the gallows hill!

The town, to-day, is a quaint one, and well worth visiting from Esbjerg. It has many picturesque corners and ancient houses in its narrow streets, and is reached by a bridge over the river, which threads its way sluggishly through the flat Jutland fields.

The cathedral, like most ecclesiastical buildings of any antiquity in Scandinavian countries, has a rather unattractive exterior. The materials chiefly used in its construction are granite, tufa, and bricks. The effect of the passage of time upon such materials is to dull the colour of the brick, and to darken that of other materials, so that in the general effect contrast is lost, and an appearance of dullness supervenes.

The interior of the church, however, which has been restored, is very interesting and even impressive from its uniformity of style, which is the earliest of the round-arch period; there is a nave with double aisles, the outer of the latter of a later date. A notable feature is the fine Norman arcade of triple arches under the clerestory windows; these are surmounted by shark's-tooth moulding, and the supporting columns of the nave are square.

The choir, which is raised four steps and has a lofty

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dome, is separated from the transepts by the light carved stalls; and a round apse, in which the building ends, is reached by three additional steps. It is here that the altar is placed. The contrast between the white walls and dark granite is pleasing, but the general effect is somewhat spoiled by the poverty of the apse itself.

The best view of the church as a whole is obtained from the right of the altar; but the windows, with their modern square panes of glass, detract from the general beauty of the building.

Though the cathedral stands on the highest ground in the city, its position did not save it from the startling inundation which took place some two centuries ago, when, according to a record, the water was five feet deep in the nave, and live fish were caught!

The date of the foundation of the cathedral seems uncertain, but it is said by tradition to occupy the site of a primitive church built by Anscarius himself in or about A.D. 850. The first stone building was erected in the reign of King Niels, and it is generally conceded by authorities that Ribe Cathedral is the most ancient in Denmark.

Two kings sleep within its walls: Erik Emun, a brother of Knud Lavard, who put his own brother Harald to death, deposed King Niels, and succeeded in ascending the throne in his stead. In those troublous times there were priests and bishops militant, and in the course of the struggle for the throne between Erik Emun and King Niels no fewer than five bishops and sixty priests were slain.

The other monarch buried within the cathedral was

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King Christopher, the youngest son of Valdemar the Victorious.

Their monuments, if there ever were any, have long since disappeared; but an alabaster slab, without, however, inscription, marks the place where King Christopher was buried.

In the chapels of the transepts are the granite archways where once stood altars.

If one has time it is worth while to ascend the tower, as the view from the summit over the flat meadows and marshlike land, through which several streams flow, is very extensive. To reach the tower one passes through an oaken door on which are carved the three roses that formed a part of the arms of the last Roman Catholic prelate, Bishop Munk.

Close to the church is the mound on which the Riberhus or castle formerly stood, and from the tower, in the distance one can see the silver line of the North Sea.

Ribe in ancient times, although it could not compare with Viborg in this respect, had many religious orders within its walls, among them foundations of the Blackfriars and Greyfriars.

One ancient custom persisted in Ribe down to comparatively modern times, the songs of the watchmen, who cried or sang the hours from eight o'clock at night until four in the morning.

These watchmen's songs were a curious blend of pious sentiment and advice on the ordinary duties and affairs of life. For example, the cry or song of the watchmen at ten o'clock of a night embodied a hint that it was time all respectable citizens were a-bed.

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One very quaint and even touching verse, sung at one o'clock in former days, ran thus :

Ho, watchman, our clock is striking one,
Oh, Jesus, wise and holy,
Help us our Cross to bear,
There is no one too lowly
To be beneath Thy care.

One quaint custom survives—or at all events did till recently—of blowing in the Yule or Christmastide from the ancient tower of the church, which has stood four-square to the winds of heaven, and to the rough ones coming across the North Sea, for more than eight centuries.

At sunrise, while most of the people would still be at breakfast, the town band used to climb the steep ladders leading to the summit of the tower in fair weather or foul, and there play four old-time tunes, one at each quarter of the compass, while the people below listened to the music falling down into the streets from the height in the faint light of a winter's dawn.

In former times Christmas lasted for a fortnight in Denmark: from Little Christmas Eve, the night before Christmas Eve proper, till the New Year.

Owing to its geographical configuration and character there are no really large rivers in Denmark, and in Jutland the chief is the Gudena, with a length of only eighty miles, which flows into the Kattegat about fifteen miles from Randers.

The northern part of the peninsula is cut across by the wonderful and picturesque Limfjord, which separates the northern from the southern portion. The name



RANDERS CHURCH, NORTH JUTLAND

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Jutland is derived from the Jutes, who in early times lived there, and the country was at one period a separate kingdom until it was conquered by Gorm, King of Denmark.

The scenery of Jutland is less pleasing and picturesque than that of either Funen or Zealand, but it has a grandeur and impressiveness of a kind all its own. There are vast moorlands and sandy wastes, over which the North Sea breezes blow in summer, and across which North Sea and Atlantic gales sweep in winter, often entirely altering the face of the country by the changes which take place in the shape and position of the sand-dunes which form so striking a feature of Jutland coast scenery.

There is one charming feature of Jutland, however, which makes it in a measure unique. It possesses a Lakeland of its own comparable to some extent—except that the lakes are not surrounded by mountains or very high hills—with the English lakes. The district lies almost in the centre of the peninsula as regards its position north and south, and nearer the eastern coast than the western. The lakes form a long chain reaching from the little town of Rye to the noted health resort Silkeborg, beautifully situated at the north-western end of the chain of lakes, amid charming scenery, and within easy reach of vast stretches of heather-clad moorland.

On these lakes tiny steamers ply so that tourists can enjoy the beauty of the scenery at their leisure. Few places in Denmark can compare with the Silkeborg lakes for sheer loveliness. Down to the water's edge come heather-clad hills and those covered with larch or beech forests, while along the shores grow miniature forests of

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reeds in which wild fowl breed and have their homes; and water lilies grow in tens of thousands, starring the still, jade-green surface of the lakes with their yellow and white cup-shaped flowers.

Those who would know Denmark cannot afford to miss seeing her Lakeland. On one's way to Silkeborg one has a variety of scenery. Little islands, tree-clad and delightfully green, come into view as the steamer rounds some bend in a lake; beautiful fields green and flower-spangled come down to the water's edge, or beech and pine woods extend up the slopes of the hills, which in places tower above one to the height of four or five hundred feet. On the Silkeborg lakes, too, is found one of the highest "mountains" Denmark possesses, named the Himmelbjerget or "Heaven's Mountain", attaining what in Denmark is the considerable height of 560 feet above sea-level, and crowned by a watch-tower that forms a landmark for many miles in all directions.

One passes on towards Silkeborg, after having, perhaps, taken the opportunity of ascending the "Heaven's Mountain" through the pine woods, the last portion of the climb over a heather-clad hillside, to the pleasant restaurant, from the terrace of which is so magnificent a view of the lake lying blue and tranquil below—a prospect only exceeded in beauty by that obtained from the summit of the tower itself, around the base of which on the green slopes great gatherings of Danes have from time to time been held. From the summit one has an ever-changing panorama of lakes, woods, and heather-clad moors, for many miles in every direction—a view on a fine, clear day of unforgettable beauty.

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As one approaches Silkeborg one leaves the wider expanse of the Lakes for the water of the Gudena, the widest stream in Denmark. The wooded banks draw closer and closer in, and the little steamer appears to be sailing along imprisoned by delightful foliage until the town, of which one catches vistas through the trees, and landing stage are reached.

All along the way from Rye pretty villas peep out at one here and there from amid the trees, and near the many little piers and landing stages at which the steamer calls, are generally picturesque restaurants much frequented in the summer by tourists who come by the steamers or in white-winged private yachts or rowing boats from Silkeborg and other places on the lakes.

All who go to Silkeborg should visit that natural beauty spot, the famous Klüvers Canal, which, with its thickly overhanging trees in places quite meeting overhead has indeed little in common with one's preconceived idea of what a canal should be.

The islands known as Paradise Isles, well-wooded and set in the track of the steamer, through the channel between which the latter passes, are beautiful indeed, and a veritable paradise for the birds and water fowl, including many herons, which have their homes and breeding places there.

Silkeborg itself reminds one not a little at first sight of an upriver town on the Thames. There are the same boats moored alongside the turfed banks, the punts and skiffs, the larger boats, and the charming villas (though of somewhat different style of architecture) on the banks, and peeping out from between the trees, approached

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across green lawns, and with gardens gay with flowers. The town is delightfully situated, and is a true holiday and health resort which has grown rapidly in favour, though still having a population of less than 13,000, except in the holiday months, when it is crowded with visitors from Copenhagen and all parts of Denmark, and with quite a number of English tourists. It is a modern town, dropped as it were out of the clouds into a beauty spot.

In the bustling market place early in the morning during the holiday season are to be seen many motor coaches—for mechanical transport is much favoured in Denmark—bound for the beauty spots in the immediate neighbourhood, and those of central and more northerly Jutland. Fishermen delight in the good sport to be had in the lakes and Gudenaå for a small payment, and a holiday very similar to that passed on the Norfolk Broads can be enjoyed by those fond of boating and sailing.

In summer time the lakes are dotted over with white-winged craft, and the shores with parties of holiday-makers picnicking amid the delightful surroundings of beech and pine woods, and enjoying the wonderful sunshine.

From Silkeborg the wanderer in Denmark does well to visit some of the delightful and picturesque towns on the eastern coast, and the well-known district of sea, sunshine, and sand-dunes of the Skaw.

The people of this interesting portion of Denmark are known as the Jydes, who claim to speak the purest Danish, although this claim is disputed by the inhabitants of Funen and Zealand, who, indeed, assert that the Jut-



SILKEBORG LAKE AND HIMNEN SEJERØI

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landers or Jydes speak with a provincial accent such as we attribute to the people of Dorset, Somerset, Yorkshire, or Lancashire.

The coasts of Jutland differ materially. The western exhibits the great efforts that have been put forth to reclaim the sandy wastes and moors. It is only about sixty years since the first concerted plan of reclamation was drawn up. For more than a century the work had been considered impossible of accomplishment. Then, in 1866, the Kongelig Danske Hedeselskab, or Society for Reclaiming the Moors, was founded by a small band of patriotic and optimistic people. The latter met with many difficulties and disappointments; but they persevered with their task, and eventually secured support from both the State and private individuals. The annual subsidy now amounts to about a quarter of a million kroner, and goes partly to the Society direct for its work, and partly towards the work of planting trees not directly under its control.

Before the reclamation was begun there were nearly 4000 square miles of moorland, sand, and bog, the area of which has been during the last forty or fifty years reduced by half, forests, fields, and meadows taking their place. One effect of this work has been the making of many good roads and the laying down of additional light and other railways. Roadless and houseless wastes have in many cases been transformed, in the passage of the years, into cultivated fields, with farmsteads giving life and interest to the scene.

The eastern coast of Jutland, which is most visited by tourists, is very charming, and has in its pleasant

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countryside many of the characteristics of that of Funen and Zealand. The land is fertile, and often well-wooded, with many flourishing farms.

Along this coast-line stand a number of picturesque and characteristic towns, and several fine harbours. Right in the south, quite close to the new frontier line, stands picturesque Sønderborg on the western coast of Als, with the waters of the famous Alssund flowing between it and the Sundeved Peninsula. Seen from the shore of the latter, the town, with its pontoon bridge, some 220 yards in length and opening in the centre to allow of the passage of ships, has a good deal of the general appearance of a Rhine town, with the lofty and elegant spire of its principal church breaking the sky-line above a tangle of picturesque roofs, many of them tiled and in various shades of red. It is a busy port, possessing a considerable fishing fleet and a castle, but has not much of historic interest remaining in its buildings, as the town was almost entirely destroyed by the Prussian bombardment in 1864 and the disastrous fire that broke out a few days later. The castle was built nearly eight centuries ago by Valdemar the Great and his friend Archbishop Absalon, the founder of Copenhagen. It was originally encircled by a moat, and had great towers with lofty spires at the four corners. In it, amongst the great historic events, was celebrated the wedding of Valdemar IV. Atterdag in 1340, in the old church, now the hall of the museum. Sønderborg to-day is a modern town built on a site which has been inhabited time out of mind. It was also here that King Christian II. was imprisoned for seventeen years, from 1532 to 1549.

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It is but a mile or two to the heights of Dybbøl and the battlefield where the Danes made their last stand against the Austrian and Prussian invaders, now more than half a century ago. The mill of Dybbøl, set amid a clump of trees and flanked by buildings, and the grass-grown redoubts which were turned into a shambles by the Prussian batteries, never fail to interest, and the views of Alssund, the island, and the coast southward are charming. The mill is, needless to say, not the original one which had stood for centuries on the spot, for that was destroyed by the Prussian guns, re-erected, and destroyed again. There is a magnificent view of the port and Sound from the "Jomfrustien", or Path of the Virgin, a street on the edge of the slope overlooking the Sound.

Northward up the coast, skirting the waters of the Little Belt between Jutland and Funen, one comes to Kolding, situated on the tortuously winding Koldingaa ("aa" being Danish for river or stream), and the fiord which bears its name. It is a delightfully placed town on the main lines to Esbjerg running across Jutland, and those southward to Flensburg and Hamburg. From the town also radiates a network of light railways running into the surrounding countryside in every direction.

The most striking feature of Kolding is the vast ruin of Koldinghus Castle, standing just outside it on a hill to the north, with its fine and massive square tower or keep glassing itself in the waters of the tree-clad lake. It was occupied in 1808 by Bernadotte and the Spanish troops, and was afterwards burned down.

To the south-east is another striking feature of the

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district, the famous Skamlingsbanken, a tree-clad ridge, from which there are magnificent views. On this ridge has been erected a granite pillar in memory of the gallant fight made by the South Jutlanders in defence of their Danish rights, during the second Slesvig campaign of 1849. A fierce encounter took place in the streets of Kolding itself on April 23, which was, so it happened, the anniversary of the Battle of Slesvig.

Kolding itself is a picturesque and a very ancient town, though, like so many others in Denmark, it has suffered so greatly from fires and tumults in the past ages that comparatively little of the old town remains to-day. It was founded at the beginning of the tenth century, and even possessed market privileges as early as the fourteenth.

During the struggle between the two brothers Erik and Abel Plovpenning or Ploughpenny in the thirteenth century the streets of Kolding were more than once the scene of conflict, and portions of the town were destroyed. Even to-day, however, one is repaid for time and trouble occupied in searching by the discovery here and there of quaint old-time houses of bygone times.

Nearly everyone who goes to Denmark at least passes through Fredericia, which lies but a short distance from Kolding on the coast, and is separated but a few miles from the beautiful and fertile island of Funen. The town is not only of importance from its comparative size, but is the Jutland end of the famous train ferry across the Little Belt, by which passengers are conveyed from shore to shore on their journey to Copenhagen often while still asleep. The trains are shunted on to the



AARHUUS, THE OLD TOWN

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large steam ferry-boat, which takes them to Strib on Funen, where fresh engines await the train to take it across the island, by way of Odense, to Nyborg, from which point the longer passage across the Great Belt is made by train ferry in the same way.

These steam ferries are marvellous institutions, of which the Danes are excusably proud, eliminating the change from train to boat twice in the comparatively short journey from Fredericia on the mainland to Korsor on the western coast of Zealand. Thus the Danes have overcome the difficulties and discomforts of a journey across their country of many islands.

A great new bridge, however, is in course of construction across the Little Belt from Fredericia to Strib, which, when completed, will be one of the longest in Europe.

Fredericia, however, is well worth a pause on one's journey, for the town possesses much natural beauty, while from its situation there are beautiful woodlands and fine coast scenery in its immediate vicinity. It still has its ancient ramparts, which, formerly defending it on occasion against the attacks of the invader, have now been laid out as fine promenades for the inhabitants, with charming views of the waters of the Little Belt. Frederik III. built a fortress here, but there is little history attached to the town.

It has not, for some reason or another, grown to the extent that might have been anticipated considering its fine situation. Perhaps the mere fact that it is in a sense a "jumping off" place on the journey from Jutland to Zealand and Copenhagen may in some measure account

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for this. A large traffic through a port or town does not, indeed, necessarily tend, it has been proved over and over again, to growth and permanent increase in the number of its inhabitants.

One is not long in Fredericia, the air of which is fresh and invigorating by reason of its position on the Little Belt, ere becoming aware that it possesses some distinct characteristics, including regularly planned and straight streets, and the large plots of ground or gardens which are found in the very centre, and in fact no other Danish town covers so large an area except Copenhagen, although the population of Fredericia is but little over 20,000.

During the second Slesvig war of 1849 a fierce engagement between the Danes and the Slesvig-Holstein forces took place on the outskirts of the town, and the Danes were forced to retire into the castle. On July 6, however, having received reinforcements, owing to the fact that the Slesvig-Holsteiners could not surround the castle on the sea side, the Danes made a desperate sortie, and after six hours of fierce fighting drove the rebels, who were assisted by the Prussians, out of all their entrenchments and put them to flight.

A great deal of damage was done to the town during the bombardment, however, in the early part of July, and during the fighting on the 6th of that month. Bissen's statue, which never fails to arouse the interest of visitors to the town (known as "Den tapre Landsoldat" or "The Brave Footsoldier") was erected as a memorial to those who had fallen in defence of the town, and a huge mound marks the spot where the Danes who fell lie buried.

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North of Fredericia, and delightfully situated on a fiord of the same name, stands Vejle. There are many spots of sylvan beauty along the well-wooded shores of the fiord that runs, a gradually narrowing inlet, some distance in from the coast. Vejle is one of the most picturesque towns on the east coast of Jutland, and the scenery inland for many miles is of a particularly beautiful character, with well-wooded heights, swelling hills, and broad, well-cultivated fields stretching far and wide. In the latter are to be seen herds of Jutland cattle, white and black, and brown and white, grazing in the meadows through which tiny streams wind tortuously through a region that on all hands gives evidences of prosperity and wonderful cultivation.

Hereabouts, too, one finds much of interest in the countryside: ancient burial mounds, churches dating from the early days of Christianity, fine castles of the Renaissance period, and modern mansions somewhat of the general character of the English manor-house. Not only is the country unlike that of central and western Jutland, in that it is more fertile and less rugged, but the people are of a somewhat different type, happy and thrifty, and less occupied with the struggle to make poor land produce a subsistence and a livelihood. The towns, too, have the characteristics of the people, and are flourishing, busy, and progressive.

At Vejle the fiord is more like an inland lake than an arm of the sea, and is tree-clad and bordered by meadows coming down in places to the water's edge, with the red-tiled roofs of charming villas showing amid the trees. Not only do the woods extend along the high and abrupt

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shores on both sides of the fiord, but they spread far inland towards the north and west to a very hilly district where there are delightful vales and charming scenery, which is some of the most beautiful in Denmark.

The old town of Vejle is interesting, and from it one can easily go across the Munkebjerg and visit the famous forest of magnificent beech trees which in autumn, indeed, constitute a wonderland of exquisite tints. The woods stretch along a ridge, from which they slope down to the water's edge, and from the high ground there are many vistas of the smiling, placid fiord and the distant town. To visit the Munkebjerg Woods either in spring or autumn is to gain some conception of how beautiful the woodland scenery of Denmark can be. The restful picture of tender greens of all shades in spring, and the blaze of glowing colour in autumn, when one treads under the trees upon a carpet of golden and warm brown leaves, is indescribably charming.

There is, of course, at so famous a beauty spot an hotel. This is reached by apparently endless flights of steps leading up from the landing place through the woods. The spot is a favourite one for excursions, because of its shady woods and the fine views obtained of the fiord and surrounding country.

Only a short distance from Vejle lies the famous little town of Jellinge. It is here, according to tradition, that the first king of the whole of Denmark, Gorm the Old, and his queen, Thyra Danebod, the great-grandparents of Canute the Great, are buried. Over the spot where they rest under two great mounds of earth are two most remarkable memorial stones covered with Runic char-

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acters. It is thought that these stones were erected about the year 980. The inscription runs as follows:

“ Harald, King, ordered the erection of this memorial to Gorm his father and Thyra his mother. He was the Harald who united under him the whole of Denmark and Norway, and ordained Christianity for the Danes.”

On the stone, in addition to its Runic characters, is roughly carved a figure thought by some authorities to represent Christ.

The Harald referred to in the inscription is Harald Bluetooth, King of Denmark a thousand years ago. Between the two barrows covering the burial-chambers of this ancient king and queen has been built a beautiful Norman church.

The coast in this part of eastern Jutland is very deeply indented, and the beautiful Vejle Fjord and the Horsens Fjord form a peninsula across which one reaches the town of Horsens, prettily situated, very much as Vejle, at the head of a picturesque arm of the sea, the mouth of which is protected against easterly gales by several islands, and affords safe anchorage. The upper portion of the fiord is made all the more charming by the little river which finds its way to the sea through it, its well-wooded banks reminding one not a little of a Devon stream. Horsens itself is a flourishing town with shipbuilding yards, old-established, and with the modern mingling pleasantly with the old in its fine, well-kept main street, the Söndergade. It is a typical place of its kind, and enjoys considerable trade with the other ports of the East Jutland coast and the island of Funen.

The country lying between this picturesque sea-port

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and Skanderborg is delightful, with alternating cultivated pasture land and woods. Skanderborg itself is situated on the most easterly of the Silkeborg lakes, as they are generally called from the fact that these form a chain connected by the Gudenaå with that pleasant health resort. Skanderborg is historically interesting on account of its siege, in which the famous national hero Niels Ebbesen fell in 1340, after he had killed the German Count Gert the Bald at Randers, and freed Jutland from the latter's tyrannical rule. Skanderborg is very prettily situated, and as one comes to it along the lake, one's first glimpse is of villas and houses nestling amid the trees along the waterside, with the great round tower of its church, which has an "extinguisher" top, rising above them. Formerly the little town possessed a castle, but of this practically no trace remains save the church.

Working one's way gradually through some of the most lovely scenery of Jutland, one returns to the coast and reaches Aarhus, standing opposite the lower end of the peninsula of Mols. This quaint and interesting town is not only the capital of Jutland and the next largest town in Denmark after Copenhagen, ranking as a city, but it is the second oldest. It is a bustling, thriving, and picturesque place with extensive trading interests, a fine modern harbour, and has the advantage of being in direct communication by sea with Copenhagen by good boats.

Its cathedral dates from the beginning of the thirteenth century, and has the distinction of being the longest church in Denmark, nearly 320 feet in length. Originally a Romanesque building, during the Gothic period, however, it was to some considerable extent rebuilt,

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although the Romanesque is still the predominating feature of its architecture. Although in many respects a fine and impressive building, Aarhus Cathedral, St. Knud's Church at Odense, and the church at Mariager, are none of them to be compared as regards beauty with those of more southern lands. They belong, indeed, to the same type of brick churches as those of the German Baltic provinces; but are, it must be admitted, neither equal in delicacy of workmanship or beauty and magnificence of conception to the best of these.

Aarhus Cathedral was restored in 1882, and at the same time the fine and lofty tower, 275 feet in height, was built to replace that destroyed by a hurricane more than a century before. Few Danish churches possess the art treasures comparable to those of this cathedral, among which is a remarkable reredos dating from 1489 that many experts have pronounced the best mediæval work in Denmark. In addition to this the wrought iron doors, which have come down from the Renaissance period, the notably fine pulpit and choir stalls, and the ancient frescoes, should not be overlooked.

The model of an old-time frigate in the north choir aisle never fails to attract attention. It has a curious history. Made for Peter the Great, in Holland, it never reached its destination owing to the wreck of the vessel conveying it on the Danish coast. After some vicissitudes the model was brought to Aarhus and placed in its present position.

Notwithstanding the fact that the town has been at various times devastated by conflagrations, which destroyed its older portions, there are many picturesque

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vistas in the by-streets, and especially along the riverside, which latter reminds one somewhat of a Bruges canal, where one finds some of the oldest and most picturesque houses in the town, with the added beauty of reflections in the water.

Most visitors to this pleasant town are charmed by its immediate surroundings. To the south are delightful woods, especially at Marselisborg, where the Royal Family have a summer residence. It is not a large place, but a very charming one, and has an added interest from the fact that it was the wedding gift of the Danish people to their Sovereign and his consort.

No one should leave Aarhus without seeing the Fruekirke, or Church of Our Lady, with the old Dominican monastery, now used as a home for old people, and possessing a very fine chapter-house.

One of the most interesting objects in Aarhus is the Old Town, known in Danish as "Den gamle By"; which is a unique open-air museum built in the fine park at Vesterbro. This affords a splendid opportunity for visitors to realize to some considerable extent phases of Danish life which have passed or are nowadays rapidly passing away. Here one finds a number of most delightful half-timbered houses, which were to have been destroyed to make room for modern improvements. Wisely these were saved, taken down, and carefully re-erected and preserved as a permanent record of things of the past.

In a series of rooms, containing furniture and fittings illustrating the life of a provincial town over a period of three centuries, the visitor and student both have a really



AALBORG CATHEDRAL, NORTH JUTLAND

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valuable opportunity of becoming acquainted with interesting things now seldom to be met with. In addition to the living-rooms, bedrooms, kitchens, business offices, etc., there are several examples of workshops of this period, including those of handicrafts some of which have become extinct. There is also a collection of old peasant costumes, lace, embroideries, and articles of personal adornment.

The small museum in the town itself and the State Library, with its beautiful reading-room, are both worth visiting, the former because of its valuable collection of pictures.

Denmark gives much encouragement to sports and athletics, and Aarhus possesses a fine Stadium, the splendid sports ground and pavilion of which are frequently used throughout the year for athletic contests and matches. The Stadium during one of the great athletic meetings presents a very animated and, indeed, amazing sight, somewhat similar to the Bohemian "Sokol".

From Aarhus one can visit the beautiful district of the Molsbjerge, where one has vast stretches of purple heather in summer making the swelling hills, in which under "barrows" the remains of many a Viking repose, things of beauty and delight. They form, indeed, some of the most characteristic and picturesque scenery in Jutland. Not far distant from Molsbjerge are the ruins of Kalø Castle, lying just within the curve of Kalø Bay. The situation of the castle is beautiful, as it stands on a small tongue of land jutting out into the sea. Formerly a Royal palace, it was partly pulled down about a century

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ago, and is now a ruin. It was here that Gustavus Vasa was imprisoned for some time ere he became King of Sweden.

This part of Jutland tempts the traveller to explore the beautiful countryside in search of the quaint little towns and picturesque villages which distinguish it.

Few who visit Denmark, we imagine, omit to find their way to Viborg, which is right in the heart of Jutland on Søndersö, the latter deeply set like a blue-green gem in the pleasant landscape. Viborg is an ancient town in which one finds a good deal of characteristic Danish domestic architecture still surviving in the shape of ancient half-timbered houses. The town is surrounded by beautiful scenery, high hills, new plantations and woods of considerable size, and the remains of the forests of ancient date, which once covered the district much more thickly, containing fine oaks.

Viborg possesses an ancient Royal residence and a fine cathedral dating from the eleventh century, rebuilt in the Romanesque basilica style with twin towers. The material used in its construction is granite, which, with the regularity in the plan of its windows, gives to the exterior an appearance of grimness. This is, however, greatly softened in the interior by fine frescoes in its apse, which tone down the severity of its granite arches and columns. Notable among its special features are the grey granite pulpit with an old-time hour-glass on its ledge, and the seven-branch candelabrum, which was brought four centuries ago from Lubeck, and stands no less than nine feet high, resting upon lions, as does the pulpit.



VIBORG, CATHEDRAL.

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King Erik Glipping, who was murdered at Finderup, a couple of miles away, in 1286, lies buried here, as do also the patron saint of Viborg, St. Kjeld, and King Svend Grade. From the time of Erik Glipping's burial until the year 1774 it was the custom for twelve school-boys to chant the "Vaadesangen" or "Song of Woe" every morning in the crypt, which has a finely-preserved tiled floor and Norman pillars of granite and porphyry. The great attraction of the cathedral, however, for most visitors is undoubtedly the striking series of frescoes of gigantic size by Joakim Skovgaard. The old chapels of the cathedral formerly dedicated to Roman Catholic saints are now used as burial vaults.

The Blackfriars Church in red brick, dating from the thirteenth century, and burned in the beginning of the eighteenth, is in the form of a Latin cross. It is surrounded by venerable trees, and the panels on the doors of the pews are painted with strange allegorical or imaginative pictures, of which there are some hundreds. Some of the subjects are very gruesome, and one we noticed depicted two skulls with vipers crawling from the eye-sockets, with the inscription, "I said to the worm, my Mother and my Sister".

The coloured metal altar-piece is worthy of note, as it is fifteenth century work.

Viborg, though a cathedral city and ranking as one of the larger towns of Denmark, has a population of less than 20,000. The ruins of one of the most ancient castles in Denmark, with a history going back a thousand years, lie a few miles from Viborg. Hald Castle, with its round tower still standing on a flat tongue of land sentinel-

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like, a memorial of long-past ages, is well worth visiting, because of the picturesqueness of its surroundings and the beautiful lake of the same name.

Northward of Viborg lies the wonderful lake-like district of the Limfjord. Weeks might easily be spent in exploring the many inlets which, linked up together, practically sever the northern portion of Jutland from the rest. Aalborg, an interesting and picturesque town, forms an excellent base from which to make one's excursions. On reaching it the traveller is at once brought face to face with one of the most remarkable features of Jutland scenery, the vast expanses of the world-famous Limfjord, which, quite narrow at Aalborg and eastward of the town, soon widens to the west, and halfway to the western coast-line is in places many miles in width.

Aalborg, with a population of about 50,000, has considerable importance, especially in the shipping trade of the Limfjord, and dates from the eleventh century.

From its situation the town is particularly picturesque and delightful at night, when the lights of its houses and bridge shine in long reflections on the surface of the water. Though prosperous, and in a sense modern, the town still has standing, scattered about in its narrow and tortuous by-streets, many old half-timbered houses, some of which are delightful buildings with cream-coloured walls of rough cast, oaken beams, and overhanging eaves—many with elaborately carved woodwork, and those high-pitched roofs with old rust-red and weathered tiles which artists love to paint.

One of the most admirable, interesting, and famous of these old houses stands near the Town Hall and bears



GAMIA SKAGEN

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the name of its builder, Jens Bang, an apothecary. It, like many similar buildings, dates from about the seventeenth century, and is a charming specimen of architecture. The house has three high-pitched gables to the façade; a beautiful doorway with elaborate ornamentation rising high above it; rich carving over the windows, and a very unique bay with an upper storey having a remarkable canopy-like roof on the right hand of the main entrance in the centre of the building. The keystones of some of the windows are carved with grotesques. There are many other quaint and equally handsome buildings to be discovered in various parts of the town.

The pontoon bridge which spans the Limfjord is a busy scene of life and activity from dawn until long after dark, owing to the amount of traffic which crosses it. It is the connecting link between the mainland and that severed portion of the north. Through the fjord the smaller vessels pass in considerable numbers, thus cutting off the passage round the Skaw from the Kattegat to the North Sea.

Along the south shores of the Limfjord there are several towns, including Nibe, Lögstör, Nykjöbing, and Skive, worth seeing for their beauty of situation and quaint old-world atmosphere, which, however, in the space at our disposal it is impossible to describe in any detail. They leave an impression of picturesqueness and charm that is not easily effaced. To visit them also affords an opportunity of seeing the interesting and in many respects beautiful scenery of the Limfjord, which is unique of its kind.

In the bleak and bare regions of West Jutland the

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towns are not only small and scattered, but are also not such as possess attractions for the usual type of tourist and visitor.

The most northerly portion of Jutland is by no means the least interesting, although it cannot, of course, compare in fertility or charm of scenery with the belt of countryside running inland from the eastern coast-line.

One goes northward from Aalborg to Hjörning, from which Frederikshavn on the Kattegat is reached, a busy and important town with a good harbour much frequented by ships when weather-bound in their endeavour to double the Skaw. The port also has a considerable trade with Sweden. One of its most picturesque features is the pretty Frydenstrand, a promenade along which the trees come down to the water's edge, and by so doing add greatly to the beauty of the coast-line. Just south of Frederikshavn stands the little town of Sæby, a great resort of holiday-makers in summer.

Skagen, which is very unique and delightful, is the most northerly point of Denmark. On the map the Skaw is a beak-like peninsula jutting far out into the North Sea between the Skager Rak and Kattegat. One here enters the sandy district of the Dunes, and at Kandestederne lies the greatest unchecked sand-drift in Denmark, known as the Raabjerg Mile. One looks out from the passing train on an enormous sea of sand which is permitted to follow its natural course as it may be affected by the elements. Year by year, indeed, these immense dunes shift further and further inland over the flat open country, constantly changing their shapes and positions, so that from time to time the face of the land so affected

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is entirely changed. To visit Skagen is to come in contact with a natural phenomenon that is perhaps only paralleled by the desert of a more southern clime.

Skagen itself is a delightful spot which, with its bracing climate, immensity of open spaces, and sunshine, leaves on one's mind a remarkable impression consisting only of sea, land, and sky. The town is in two separate parts, one on the eastern and the other on the western side of the Skaw. It is in many ways an interesting place. It is situated right out on the end of the peninsula, and is washed both by the waters of the Skager Rak and by those of the Kattegat. In rough weather the Skagen seas are magnificent; the contending waters of the Skager Rak and Kattegat as they come together providing seascapes of world-wide fame.

In Skagen, too, one finds a type of inhabitant entirely different from that of most other parts of Denmark. Much, indeed, of the fearless spirit distinguishing the Vikings of old seems to have survived in these fisher-folk who dwell along the North Jutland coasts. And here in particular one has, along these wild and deserted stretches of shore, a hardy race, with honest and weather-beaten faces, ever ready to risk their lives to save those of other seafarers who may have been driven on this dangerous coast. Indeed many a stirring tale is told of the gallant deeds of the Danish fishermen of Skagen, and the lifeboat service is famous. There is, indeed, little hope for a vessel driven in-shore or on to one of the numerous sandbanks; the great seas soon pound the stoutest ship to matchwood.

Skagen, although the largest fishing town in Denmark,

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has only about 3500 permanent inhabitants; but its population is greatly increased in summer by the influx of visitors, who come for the bathing, the bracing air and restfulness of the little town, and its unique surroundings of vast sand-dunes. There is a fishing fleet of some two hundred cutters, most of which are fitted with motors.

A variety of holiday life of great interest, and possessing in its unconventional characteristics great attractions for holiday-makers, has sprung up in what little more than a quarter of a century ago was a neglected, little-known, and even obscure fishing village, and has during the last few years first become the haunt of artists, and nowadays is a much-frequented holiday place.

But much as the artists and first discoverers of Skagen must, we imagine, regret its growing popularity as a fashionable summer holiday resort, quite a number of them still cling to it, and one sees them painting their pictures amid the dunes, and in the quaint streets of the town, almost any day of the week throughout the year.

Incidents of the life lived by the Skagen fisher-folk have been depicted over and over again, and appear on the walls not only of the Danish Art Galleries, but on those of the Continent. Indeed, some of the finest work of modern Danish painters has had Skagen and its types and life as its chief source of inspiration. Not only does one get glimpses of the hard life of the fishermen, and of their idle times when the boats are in, but also representations on canvas of the fashionable folk who have made Skagen their summer holiday ground, and bring a touch of colour and exotic life to the otherwise somewhat sombre existence of the natives.



SKAGEN, BATHING AT EVENING

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The old life of the place, however, has not yet been entirely destroyed. Much, indeed, of its quaint atmosphere persists. There are low-roofed dwellings surviving, built with cross-beams, and surrounded by black tarred fencing, dotted about here and there amid the dunes, and arranged in no regular streets, because when they were built their situations were chosen with a view to obtaining the best protection possible by sheltering under the "Klitter" or dunes against the drifting sands. How great a menace the latter are is easily realized from the fate of the old church, which, erected in too exposed a position, was overwhelmed by the sand, and of which now only its square tower with gable-shaped roof is visible.

Skagen is one of the most bracing and delightful places in Jutland, and visitors return to it again and again. There is the eternal murmur of the sea to lull one to sleep o' nights, for the waters swing and foam across a sunken reef that extends out for a mile and a half from the coast, and the sky seems to be illimitably high above the shore; the air is of the most wonderful freshness and purity, and the glorious sunshine on the long stretches of sand is indescribably brilliant in the summer months.

At Skagen, too, the summer seems to last longer, and the nights are, of course, shorter. Indeed, the glowing colours of the sunset often fade so slowly out of the sky, that ere they are entirely gone they have been replaced by those of the coming day.

One does not have to be long at Skagen to realize its beauties and attractions. Nowhere in Denmark does one find exactly similar scenery or environment. One striking feature is the fantastic shapes assumed by the sand-dunes,

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which stretch in rows one behind the other right across the narrow peninsula on which Skagen stands. From their summits one may see the waters of the Skager Rak and Kattegat on either hand; and, northward, gaze beyond the extreme point, " Grenen ", to where the tides meet in eternal conflict, even on the calmest day, and out over the summer sea where

Gulls in aëry morrice
Gleam and vanish and gleam,
The full sea, sleepily basking,
Dreams under skies of dream.

Amid the dunes is a mound with a carved tomb of stone, upon which are stones such as were raised in ancient times above the ashes of departed Vikings, and beneath these rests Holger Drachmann, one of Denmark's most distinguished and popular poets, who in his lifetime lived at Skagen, and became the bard of the restless seas that beat upon its shores, and the comrade and friend of the fisher-folk and the interpreter of their lives. It was Drachmann who did much to create the vogue in the first instance for this out-of-the-way corner of the kingdom of Denmark.

Things have changed, indeed, since Drachmann first came to Skagen. To-day villas and well-appointed hotels have sprung up amid the dunes in close proximity, many of them, to the quaint fishermen's huts that give the place its character. The King has also a summer home at Skagen, and this fact has served to bring it into favour with the more fashionable holiday-makers. The influx of the latter, though giving a brightness and gaiety to the

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life there, has as yet destroyed neither the character nor picturesqueness of the erstwhile fishing hamlet.

The hotels and villas are mostly built on top of the dunes, where they get all the freshness of the air and sunshine. The summer visitors, of course, know little or nothing of Skagen when tempests rage along the coast and the sand drifts in stinging clouds, in the course of a winter obliterating many landmarks, and changing the character and shape of many of the dunes.

Not the least interesting feature of Skagen is the preservation of the houses of the famous men who once lived in them. In some cases they have been converted into museums of relics, pictures, and other things connected with their former owners. This has been the case with the house of the famous painter P. S. Krøyer, whose old studio contains a number of his best works; and the same remark applies to the old home of Holger Drachmann the poet, named "Villa Pax", to which numbers of people come on a literary pilgrimage yearly.

Skagen beach in summer-time is a gay and animated sight, for the sands are unrivalled for excellence and extent. The chief occupations of the many holiday-makers who have discovered Skagen are sun and sea bathing, the former amid the dunes, and fishing. The bathing hour is a hardly less imposing, though a less conventional, function than that of Ostend.

There is another side to Skagen life, however, to realize and appreciate which one must visit it in winter. Then one understands why there are so many graves of fishermen and seamen in the churchyard, and why there are so many thrilling tales that could be told of lifeboat

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rescues and undaunted bravery on the part of the Skagen and Jutland fisher-folk. It is in the churchyard here that a number of British marines and some Germans, who lost their lives in the Battle of Jutland and were washed ashore along the coast in May 1916, lie buried.

As one turns southward to cross to Funen and see something of its beauty and charm one carries away from Jutland a mingled impression of vast open spaces; miles and miles of sand-dunes; moors, bright in due season with purple heather and golden broom and gorse; a lake-land of great charm; a well-cultivated countryside where the soil is good; and on the eastern coast a belt of delightful woodlands, rich fields, winding rivers, and prosperity prevailing in the often quaint and picturesque towns in which much that is old survives amid the quite modern.

CHAPTER IV

FUNEN: ITS SCENERY AND HISTORIC TOWNS

FROM its position the pleasant and fertile island of Funen may not inaptly be described as the heart of Denmark. It is situated in the middle of the kingdom between the mainland of Jutland and the island of Zealand, separated from the former by the Little Belt and from the latter by the Great Belt. Its position, too, accounts in large measure for its delightful climate and fertility, for it is sheltered both by Jutland and by Zealand. Funen is well-wooded, and the fields are separated by hedges much as are those in the southern counties of England. It is a land of luxuriance and of much charm of scenery. Tree-shaded lanes and roads are met with in many parts some of which remind the traveller of those of Kent, Surrey, and Hampshire. An example, familiar to all wanderers in Funen, is the delightful tree-shadowed road through Kongebroskoven, or the Kingsbridge Forest, near Middelfart.

Scattered over the face of the land are villages with many old-time timbered houses surviving to add a note of picturesqueness to them. Not a few of the farms of Funen, indeed, date back to the eighteenth century, and

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some of the manorial farms even to the sixteenth. The custom for the farms to be worked by several generations at one time, the grandfather, father and sons, and their women-folk, has caused the building of supplemental dwellings around the original farmsteads, with the result that at a little distance the larger farms have the appearance of being small hamlets. The patriarchal ideal still prevails in many parts of Denmark, and co-operative or family farming is very common. Perhaps partly because of this, the natives of Funen have been called "the children of Denmark", and certainly the inhabitants of Funen are very much attached to the soil. And the homesteads and their peaceful, prosperous, and contented inhabitants are a very pleasant sight; indeed, many Danish artists and those of other nations have found them tempting subjects for pictures such as Millet loved to paint. These homely farmsteads are often surrounded with orchards and gardens gay in summer with flowers, many of which are those familiar in the English cottage gardens of the countryside.

Taken as a whole the island is rather flat, but in the north, south, and west are ridges of hills reaching in places an elevation of upwards of 400 feet, which, as we have already said, is approaching the maximum altitude in Denmark. These ranges of hills help to break the monotony of the countryside, which impression its general flatness might otherwise convey to the visitor.

Funen, too, has its sea-coast beauties. On the long peninsula of Hindsholm, running due north of the quaint fishing town of Kerteminde, with its busy, picturesque harbour, old houses and cobble-paved streets, there are

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fine stretches of beach, and the place is rapidly becoming a summer holiday resort for tired city folk, who are attracted to the spot by the excellence of the bathing and the delightful walks to the Maalev Hills amid the woods facing the Great Belt.

It is hereabouts that one finds a strip of country that has remained practically unaltered by the passage of centuries, and where there is that freshness and sense of quietude and restful enjoyment that is rare in this bustling age. The extreme point of the peninsula north of Brockdorff is still the almost undisturbed home of millions of sea-birds, which whirl in white and grey clouds above the blue waters of the Great Belt, calling to their mates with shrill cries, weird, indeed, at night.

The highest land in Funen is the ridge of hills known as the West Funen Alps, which attain an altitude of upwards of 400 feet; the most important summits of which are the Vissenbjerg and Frøbjerg, the latter 427 feet in height. From these there are delightful views over the surrounding countryside and across the Little Belt to the coast of Jutland.

The noted Svanninge Hills lie farther south in the neighbourhood of Faaborg, and they extend a little inland along the coast to Svendborg. From this range of hills, too, some delightful vistas of the countryside and the beautiful coast are obtained, and from their well-wooded crests and heather-clad slopes one realizes the beauty of Danish hill scenery.

From the Svanninge Hills there are also fine panoramic views of the numerous islands and islets which constitute the Funen archipelago, with the large islands

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of Langeland, Taasinge, and Ærø acting as a bulwark to the lesser against the storms of the Baltic. Many of the smaller islands are noted for the beauty and luxuriance of their vegetation.

The countryside of Funen has much in common with that of England, and among the varieties of trees one finds rows of poplars, in the north of the island especially; lilacs, laburnums and may in the south and centre; with the usual flowering bushes and shrubs of the English country lanes—alders, honeysuckle, white-thorn, and delicate blush-tinted wild roses to beautify the hedgerows.

Nor in its way is the coast-line of Funen less beautiful. It is only in the northern portion, including wild Hinds-holm, that one gets an impression of tempestuous seas and a storm-fretted shore. To the south-east, along the stretch of coast which is protected by Langeland, round the south coast, and on the west coast of the Little Belt, the scenery is almost similar to that one would associate with the banks of a wide river. In many cases the forest, consisting of magnificent beech and other trees, comes down almost to the water's edge, and there are many beautiful walks within sight and sound of the blue sea.

All the towns of any considerable size in Funen are, save Odense, situated on the coast. The latter, though apparently placed in or near the centre of the island, though, it is true, a little to the north of the true centre line drawn across it, is in reality only about a couple of miles from Odense Fjord, a picturesque inlet which runs far inland, with which the town is connected by a canal allowing ships of moderate tonnage to come up to the



VEJLE FJORD, SOUTH JUTLAND, Aug. 57

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quays. Odense river, which runs through the town and forms a pretty feature of it, is not navigable by ships.

One of the chief towns of Denmark, Odense is also, with a population of nearly 60,000, the third in size. Placed on a pretty fiord, it has a good harbour to which ships can come along the canal, and enjoys an increasing home and foreign trade. It is a picturesque and bustling place of great antiquity, going back, indeed, even to pre-Christian days. Its name is compounded of "Odin" (the god "Woden") and "Ve", meaning a sanctuary or temple. Ever since its foundation it has been a place of some importance, and during the Middle Ages was one of note.

One of the most ancient towns in Denmark, perhaps indeed the oldest of all, it is mentioned in the year 987, when the German Emperor Otto III. created the bishopric of Odense, and bestowed upon it considerable privileges.

Less than a century later it became the storm centre of Danish history of the period. King Knud, or Canute, was killed in 1086 in his church at Odense by rebellious peasants. He ultimately was canonized as Saint Knud, and became the patron saint of Zealand, and his relics were enshrined in the stone church he had founded, now the handsomest building in the town.

As was usual under the circumstances in the Middle Ages, the town became a well-known pilgrimage resort because of Knud's martyrdom. The Abbey, which was known by his name, was afterwards built as a memorial to him. Soon it became one of the most famous and

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richest in the country, and its church was the chief one in the island of Funen.

The present St. Knud's Church, with its square tower surmounted by a small pyramidal spire, is one of the prettiest in Denmark, and replaced the original building, burned down in the year 1300 when Gisico was Bishop of Odense. The church of to-day is in the pure Gothic style.

One can still see the relics of the great Danish saint in a reliquary in the crypt; where also, among others, the kings Hans and Christian II. are buried. It was the latter monarch who, in the early years of the sixteenth century, endeavoured to improve the conditions of the peasantry. The reredos of the church, dating from the time of the Reformation, in carved wood, is a magnificent specimen of the work of Claus Berg, one of the greatest wood carvers of his time.

Odense is a charming town, and the fact that it is an ancient one is brought home to one in many ways, for in the older portions the streets are narrow and tortuous, and there are many old houses to be discovered by the curious, dating from as far back as the seventeenth and eighteenth centuries. Several of these lie back from the main streets unsuspected, within courtyards approached by unimportant-looking archways. One of the finest of these ancient buildings is known as the House of Eiler Rönnow, which has been carefully restored by the municipality, and is now used as a town museum.

In spite of its growth and commercial progress, happily for those of us who are interested in ancient buildings and old-time survivals, Odense has been able

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to retain more than a suggestion of its old-world charm and character. Ancient buildings have been most carefully and sympathetically restored and preserved; and in the many pretty public gardens natural beauty has been admirably retained in the scheme of their laying out.

Among the ancient survivals is St. Knud's Cloister, which was restored a few years ago and has been converted into a church, meeting-hall, public reading-room, and an asylum for old men and women, with a delightful garden attached to it.

Nearby the railway station stands another ancient building surrounded by pleasant public gardens and a small park. It is the Palace or Odense Slot, standing in the pretty Kongens Have or Garden, shaded by some magnificent trees. It was erected by King Frederik IV. in 1721. The Catholic Albani Church attracts attention by reason of its lofty spire; and the Raadhuset, or Town Hall, stands in Flakhaven.

Odense is a town of gardens, and the pretty public park along the banks of the Odenseaa is charming. It was here that Hans Andersen is said to have passed much of his time in boyhood. Other notable gardens and open spaces are the Literary Club garden, another known as the "Hill of the Nuns", and yet another bearing the name of the "Meadows of the Monks". The beautiful forest lying on the outskirts of Odense is known as Fruens Bøge, or "the Beeches of the Virgin". It has peculiar charm, and contains many fine trees, some of which are very ancient.

For many people, however, the chief attraction of Odense is undoubtedly the fact that it is the birth town

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of Hans Christian Andersen, whose fairy tales have delighted the children of the world for two generations. The famous statue to him, in the Graabrødreplads, or Franciscan Square, is seen against a background of trees which rise above the environing houses, and the poet-writer is shown standing with his arms folded looking out, as though meditatively, upon his native town.

The white-walled cottage in which he lived the greater part of his youth is situated in the Munkemöllestræde, Monkmill Street, one of the by-lanes of the town, the name of which perpetuates an abbey mill that it is thought stood nearby.

In England we have the birthplace at Stratford-on-Avon of the greatest national poet; in this little town of Odense is the birthplace, also a literary shrine, of the greatest poet-writer that Denmark has yet produced. Here, at the corner of Hans Jensenstræde and Bangsboder, stands the birthplace of the great poet and writer of fairy tales, who was born on April 2, 1805. A century later the Town Council bought the property, and founded a museum to the memory of its most illustrious citizen. The house was carefully restored, and now contains in its small rooms all that it has been possible to collect together of personal relics of the famous writer: objects connected more or less intimately with him, and sets of his writings in various editions. Some of the quaintest and most interesting objects are the little figures and pictures which when a child he used to amuse himself by cutting out of paper. There are, too, the relics of his hopeless love affair, dating from his youth, and including some love letters received by him from Riborg Voigt, that he kept



ODENSE, THE BIRTHPLACE OF HANS ANDERSEN

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in a skin purse hung round his neck; MSS. and letters to and from him, some of the former from famous persons; many photographs; and engravings and articles of wearing apparel.

When inspecting the rooms of this small and humble cottage, and examining the many interesting survivals of the great Danish writer, one realizes something of the life of poverty he at first led ere he won recognition as one of the greatest writers of imaginative literature of the world, after he had undergone failures both as an actor and a singer. In one of the rooms is still preserved some of the furniture which he used while he lived for nearly a score of years, from 1848 to 1865, as a lodger at a Mrs. Anholm's, No. 67 Nyhavn, Copenhagen; and on the side-board, which it is said he used as a writing table, are the bust of him modelled in the course of an hour in 1847 by Joseph Durham, the English sculptor, while Andersen was in London on a visit, and a sketch entered by Peter Petersen, the Danish sculptor, when competing to carry out the Hans Andersen Monument in the Rosenborg Park, Copenhagen.

Of personal mementoes one has his silk hat, of antiquated shape, hat case, umbrella, trunk and travelling bag; the last, no doubt, that which King Christian IX. used on his journey to Germany, Greece, and Italy in 1871-72, and afterwards gave to Hans Andersen in April 1873, shortly before the author went abroad in company with Professor Nicolai Bøgh.

In one of the glass-topped cases containing the collection is to be seen his will in his own handwriting, containing in the opening clause the bequest of a legacy

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to the Poor House School at Odense, at which he had as a child been a pupil.

There are also in these interesting showcases the orders and distinctions conferred upon him, including the diploma by which he was made a honorary citizen or freeman of Odense. There is a considerable library of books relating to Hans Andersen, as well as of the various editions of his own works. The suite of furniture in one of the ground-floor rooms is that once belonging to him which was exhibited in Chicago in 1892, and was purchased there in 1912 by the then Danish Ambassador in Washington, Count Moltke, and his wife, the Countess Cornelia Moltke.

The little harbour of Odense is very picturesque with its tree-bordered quays, and in the immediate neighbourhood of the town are two of the schools which have assisted Danish agriculture to attain its present-day scientific proficiency. Both are worth seeing. The one is the Dalum Landbrugsskole, or Agricultural School, intended for large landowners and the training of estate managers; the other is the Fyns Stifts Husmandskole, for the training of farmers and small agriculturists.

In Odense market on a Saturday morning one meets with many of the country people and sees many interesting types, some of which show a tendency to die out as the years pass by.

Funen is particularly well provided with the Høj-skoler or People's High Schools, which have been for many years so important a part of the system of education in Denmark, and have done so much to raise it to a high level of excellence and efficiency. It may be said here

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that there are upwards of 4500 schools in the little kingdom of Denmark with half a million pupils, with an army of some 17,000 teachers, of whom 10,000 are men and 7000 women. An extraordinary high level of national educational activity and efficiency has been developed by the State. And in addition there are numbers of continuation schools, commercial, technical, private and professional schools as well.

One leaves Odense carrying away memories of a singularly interesting and delightful town, bright and lively in its social life, and very charming in summer time from the wealth of flowers in its public gardens, and by reason of the almost universal flower-boxes which are to be seen on the window-ledges and the balconies of its pleasant houses. On the outskirts a new region is springing up with types of small villa residences which are very pleasing and by no means stereotyped in design.

In the whole of Funen there are only two towns of any size besides Odense. The island, therefore, is chiefly attractive by reason of its very pretty scenery and picturesque countryside. Of the two towns we have mentioned, Svendborg lies in the extreme south-east of the island, but is easily visited from Odense, and is one of the chief Danish ports, and has the distinction of owning the largest amount of registered tonnage in the kingdom, with the exception of Copenhagen. It has a population of only 15,000, however. It is charmingly situated on the pretty fiord of the same name which separates it from the island of Taasinge, immediately south of it, and just across the narrowest part of the strait.

In great contrast to most Danish towns, Svendborg

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is distinguished by the steepness of some of its streets, a feature which adds picturesqueness to its general character. The houses are partly built on the sloping heights above the harbour, giving most of them delightful views across the Sound.

Svendborg, considering its comparatively small size, is a very busy little port, with a fishing fleet and ship-building yards. It has also considerable trade with the islands lying south of it, and not only is the town, which is sheltered by tree-clad hills, picturesque, but there is much of interest in the immediate neighbourhood. There is a fine promenade which leads out from the town, tree-shaded in places, and by the waterside to Christiansminde, where there is good bathing and much holiday-making in the summer months. It is also a favourite resort with the townsfolk in the summer evenings, as there is a delightfully situated restaurant looking out over the Sound, with charming views.

This part of the coast is deeply indented, and all along its wooded shores one comes across small fishing hamlets and tiny and picturesque shipbuilding yards, from which busy places the blue smoke of the forges rises up into the clear air. White bathing huts are dotted here and there along the shore, standing out sharply against a background of green slopes and trees which are reflected in the waters of the Sound, which in many places comes close up to the wood.

There are many delightful excursions to be made from Svendborg by the little steamers which in summer do so busy a trade taking tourists and other holiday-makers to Thurö, Langeland, Taasinge, Ærö, and many other



KOLDINGHUS CASTLE, NORTH SLESVIG

WILHELM - COOPER

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scattered islands, while white-winged pleasure craft add much to the life and picturesqueness of the scene. On Taasinge there is a most beautiful old port, Troense, and from it one can visit Valdemar Castle and Bregninge Church, from which one has a most magnificent view over the South Funen Archipelago.

It is difficult to overpraise the quiet beauty of the scenery of the Svendborg Sound and immediate coast-line.

Langeland on its nearest side to Funen is much resorted to by holiday-makers on account of its fine bathing beaches and delightful woods. Lohals, the chief fishing village, is a place for picture makers who use either camera or brush.

In the south-eastern corner of Funen, snugly tucked away on the north-western side of the fiord of the same name, lies the little town of Faaborg, a picturesque old place with many interesting timbered houses, town walls, and a general air of ancient peace, although there is a good deal of commercial activity as well. From just outside the town one obtains a beautiful view of Svanninge Bjerger, which is the most striking hill-country in Denmark. Indeed, so beautiful and paintable is the immediate neighbourhood of Faaborg that a school of painters, known by the name of the town, has sprung up of recent years, whose works are exhibited in the remarkable little Art Gallery or Museum which would not do discredit to a much larger town, and many pictures by the Faaborg group of artists make their way into foreign galleries and collections of private patrons of Art.

Whether one approaches Faaborg by sea, in which case one obtains a charming view of the town with its

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dominating watch tower, from which in ancient times a warning bell was sounded, or by rail through pleasant country with fine glimpses of the moors and Svanninge Hills, one cannot fail to be impressed by its picturesqueness.

On the hills lying to the north-west of the town stands one of the curious round churches of which Denmark still possesses seven, dating back to the Middle Ages. They served a double purpose of religion and defence, as in the event of invasion or the landing of pirates on the coast, it was the custom for the inhabitants of the district round about to gather together in them for protection.

Faaborg is an altogether delightful, old-fashioned place in which to wander in search of the picturesque. On our last visit we spent a morning in searching for old buildings and quaint corners, and were richly rewarded. The ancient and crenellated town gates form a very picturesque feature of the mostly narrow streets, and on the outskirts of the town is a famous windmill standing by a charming reed-grown stream, which has figured in many of the pictures by Faaborg artists, and small wonder, for it is unusually picturesquely situated.

The ancient half-timbered and red-brick houses that one finds in almost all parts of the town possess, as, indeed, do those of many other places in Funen, a character of their own, which one finds in no other part of Denmark to a like extent save in some districts of South Jutland and in Als.

In Funen, too, one finds, scattered about the countryside, old-world farmsteads with whitewashed walls and black tarred beams, which, set amid a background of green trees and other picturesque surroundings, are

Funen : Its Scenery and Historic Towns

indeed charming. Many of the farms in the neighbourhood make a speciality of poultry raising, and millions of eggs are yearly exported from the so-called "egg factories" of Faaborg.

It does not surprise one, Funen being so fertile and beautiful, to find in various parts of the island many castles and manor-houses. Some of these are beautiful survivals dating from mediæval times built in Renaissance and Classic styles, often with encircling moats, and almost invariably placed in charming parks of considerable extent, and pleasantly surrounded by well-kept gardens.

Among the most notable, one may mention the beautiful manor-house of Hindsgavl, situated in the north-western corner of the island near the port of Middelfart, an ancient town often mentioned in the history of the Middle Ages. Once on this spot stood a Royal castle the history of which went back as far as the thirteenth century, though the present interesting building dates only from 1754. It is now owned by a society which has to do with Danish student life, and meetings are held there. Attached to it is a fine park extending along the coast-line of the Little Belt opposite the beautiful little island of Fænø. Other manor-houses of note which are well worth seeing and are of considerable charm and beauty of architecture, that may be just mentioned, but which we have no space left in which to describe, are Rygaard, Hesselagergaard, and Holckenhavn, all of which are situated in the eastern portion of Funen south of Nyborg. There is also a delightful old house, Hollufgaard, south of Odense, and another near Kværndrup, known as Egeskov.

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Nyborg, situated right in the centre of the east coast of Funen, has from time immemorial been the crossing-place of the Great Belt from Funen to Zealand. It is nowadays the ferry-port of the Government railway route from Funen to Korsör. Formerly Nyborg was a fortified town, and portions of the ramparts still exist, as well as the ancient main guard. The solid-looking, white-walled Town Gate, with its tunnel-like entrance, is a striking feature of the town which grew up during the Middle Ages around the castle, which of recent years has been partly restored, and is now one of the most interesting survivals in Funen. There are other things of interest in Nyborg, which too many people only see as a port of entry from Zealand or of exit from Funen, worth discovery. Like so many other places in Denmark, Nyborg is making a bid to attract the summer holiday-makers, and the shore at the Strand, where the waters of the Great Belt wash the coast, provides excellent bathing and presents a lively and picturesque scene in summer.

Most people, we think, will leave Funen with regret. It is in several respects the most favoured of the Danish islands, though it cannot, it is true, claim to be more beautiful or more fertile than portions of Zealand and the greater part of Lolland. But for its varied landscapes, its variety of trees, plants, and fruits, Funen leaves an impression upon the mind of abundance, prosperity, and great fertility that is both pleasing and enduring. One passes along the roads of the countryside through smiling, well-cultivated fields, many of them bordered by hedges composed of lilac and other flowering bushes, and with cherry trees and laburnums bordering many of the roads.

CHAPTER V

ZEALAND: ITS CHARACTERISTICS AND SOME HISTORIC PLACES

ZEALAND, which the Danes call Sjælland, is the largest of the islands of Denmark proper, though, of course, considerably smaller than Iceland, its possession, for more than five hundred years, since the old Norwegian settlement was added to the Danish Crown when Norway was united with Denmark by Queen Margarethe in 1386. In 1918 Iceland obtained "Home Rule", or rather independence, and now has its own government and Parliament, though ruled by the Danish Sovereign.

The surface of Zealand is undulating, with two main ridges of hills consisting of a series of heights which stretch, without forming any connecting chain, however, from west or north-west to the peninsula of Refnæs, constituting the boundary of Kallundborg Fjord to the north; and a lesser range, which goes south-west to Skjelskør. The highest point is Gyldenløves Høj, which rises to the height of just over 400 feet, situated almost in the centre of the island midway between Roskilde and Ringsted. From this point four watersheds can be traced, dividing the country into four parts, which drop gradually

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in height, and reach the coast at each of the four points of the compass. The eastern slope, which extends along the Öresund from Helsingör to Copenhagen, is very narrow; the hills extend nearly to the shore, and form stretches of delightful forest land and sloping cornfields. The streams are naturally very small and short; the Mölleaa, which is one of the longest, is the outlet to the sea for several of the pretty North Zealand lakes, Fure and Farumsö among them. South of Copenhagen, however, the higher ridge retreats inland somewhat, making room for a considerable plain lying between the capital, Roskilde, and Kjöge.

A part of the country to the south-east of Roskilde, known as "Heden", or the Heath, is fruitful, nearly level, and sparsely wooded. The district of Stevnsherred, which lies between Kjöge Bay and Faxe Bay, is also tolerably level, rising a little, however, towards the sea coast, where one has the steep chalky cliffs of Stevnsklint, which attains a height of a little over 125 feet.

It is in the northern part of the island, washed by the waters of the Kattegat, that one gets the most irregular gradients, owing chiefly to the deep penetration of the land by the beautiful Isse Fjord with its many branches. The northern portion of Zealand shows undulations and high banks along the coast, and the watercourses generally collect into lakes such as Gurre and Esromsö at Fredensborg; but the largest, Lake Arresö, must be held to belong to the Isse Fjord basin.

As one goes southward, along the Roskilde Fjord, one comes to marshland intersected by small streams, while south of the fjord itself and in the narrow and

Zealand : Its Characteristics

irregular peninsulas of Hornsherred and Odsherred the ground is much more broken; on the borders of the latter rises Vejrhøj, with a height of a little less than 400 feet.

In the district round about Holbæk and to the south of the now drained Lammefjord the countryside is low-lying and boggy. The western slope, which runs along the coast-line of the Great Belt, is more regular in width; the larger stream is Hallebyaa, which runs from the central heights of the island. The southern slope towards Smaalandsbugt has its chief channel in Susaa, the longest of the Zealand rivers, some fifty miles in length. It receives the waters of several small lakes, including Tjustrup and Bavelse.

In the more fertile and well-cultivated areas of Central Zealand the countryside approaches in beauty that of the most picturesque portions of Funen, and is delightful, reminding one in many places of the scenery of the home counties, as they are called, in England, wooded areas, cornlands, and pastures alternating. The coast-line is picturesque; that of the Sound is quite English in character, resembling not a little that of the Solent and Southampton Water. In the summer the shore of this, where many tiny seaside resorts have sprung up of late years, forms a very bright and lively stretch of coast, frequented for the bathing, fishing, and yachting by crowds of Copenhagen people and others from inland towns.

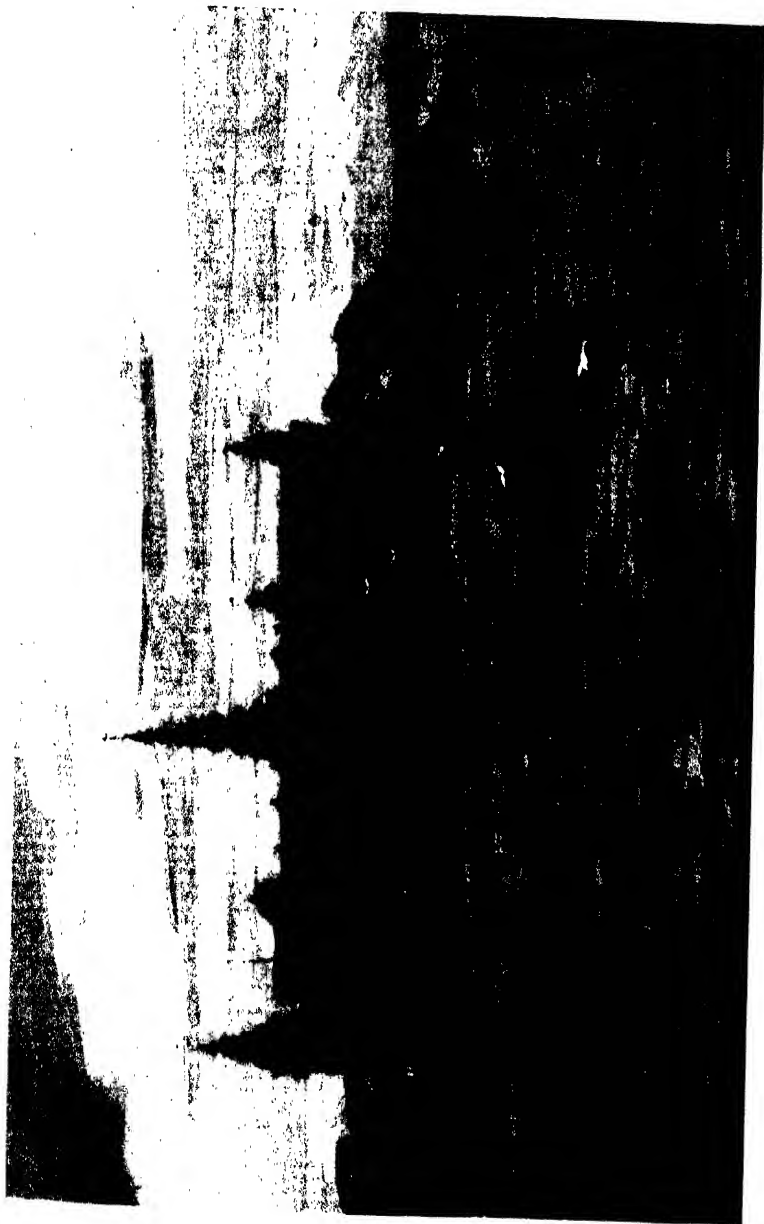
In the close vicinity of the capital there are a number of beauty spots and interesting and historic places. Quite close, indeed, is that delightful playground, Dyrehaven, a park, well-wooded and full of pleasant glades, of more

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than 2000 acres, of which the Copenhageners make such good use in summer. Enclosed by Christian V. for hunting purposes in 1670, it is renowned for its sylvan beauties and herds of deer, which roam beneath the trees and crop the grass, seemingly oblivious of the presence of the crowds who frequent the park on Sundays and holidays. The presence of the deer has kept down the undergrowth, so that the finely-grown groups of beeches spring up from the green turf unencumbered by thickets. As in other parts of Denmark, these trees predominate, though there are some magnificent and ancient oaks dating back several centuries to a time when this part of Denmark was more thickly afforested than it is to-day. There are also some fine groups of firs of a far greater size than usually seen. The fir is, indeed, being widely planted in Denmark nowadays in connection with the afforestation schemes; and just as one enters the park from Klampenborg one notices a giant fir which dates back at least a century and a half.

The Eremitage, or Hermitage, in the centre of the park, a Royal shooting-box erected for Christian VI. by L. de Thurah in 1736, situated on high ground about 130 feet above sea-level, from which there are magnificent views, is a well-known rendezvous for visitors. The day we were last there, the motor "park" was filled with scores of cars of all kinds, and a hunt was in progress, with the huntsmen, dogs, and followers of the latter grouped picturesquely in front of the chateau-like building.

In Dyrehaven one finds, too, what is known as the Slesvig Stone, commemorating the visits of the Slesvig



HELSINGÖR. KRONBORG CASTLE

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people in 1861 and 1865. In the park are many outdoor restaurants, which its popularity as a holiday resort has rendered necessary; one finds, too, amusements of all kinds. A delightful innovation in connection with the latter is the outdoor theatre situated in a hilly part known as Ulvedalene, with the slopes converted into an auditorium. Most of the performances are given by companies drawn from the Royal Theatre, Copenhagen.

The coast road to Helsingör is a charming one, overhung in parts by lilac trees, mayes, and laburnums, and following the shores of the Sound very closely. It runs through many pleasant villages and past villas perched on the slopes which rise gently above the road on the inland side, all with magnificent views of the busy Sound, on the surface of which are seen steamers of all nations and tonnage, and many white-winged yachts, belonging to the members of the various yacht and sailing clubs of Copenhagen and the seaside resorts along the shore. Inland the scenery is charming, with delightful woods and green fields alternating.

Many of the old manor-houses of Denmark contain unsuspected treasures of art, and comparatively few tourists, we imagine, save connoisseurs and professional artists, know of the Nivaagaarde Collection housed in the picturesque old manor-house at Nivaa, which is well worth seeing. There are examples of Rubens, Rembrandt, Hobbema, and Claud Lorraine, as well as of a number of notable Danish artists. The French section is particularly interesting, with examples of the painters of the fifteenth and sixteenth centuries. All lovers of art will welcome the opportunity to see such famous works as

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Hobbema's "The Watermill", Rembrandt's "Lady with a Hymn-book", and Rubens' "Portrait of a Man".

Helsingör, better known to English people by its name of Elsinore, lies at the entrance to the historic Sound, at the nearest point of Denmark to Sweden, some two and a half miles distant. The Swedish coast is, of course, plainly visible, and, indeed, on a clear day appears to be very close indeed.

Helsingör is an ancient and picturesque town which, when approached from the sea, gives one a charming impression of quaint houses lining the quay, with red-tiled roofs, and rising above them the green-grey roof of the church, with a lofty spire and a *flèche* above the nave. In one's wanderings through the streets of this picturesque and ancient town one discovers a number of houses and other buildings which date from the seventeenth and eighteenth centuries. And in St. Mary's Church, which forms the south wing of the ancient Carmelite monastery, are some mediæval frescoes worth seeing. The monastery, which was erected in 1480-1500, remains the most carefully preserved building of its kind in Scandinavia. The chapter-house contains some mural paintings, and the music-room and the refectory in the north-west corner are delightful and should be seen.

The cloisters which surround the old garden of the monks are groined and picturesque in their architecture. Another church that should not be overlooked, and has a particularly beautiful interior, is that of St. Olav, the tower of which dates back to the fourteenth century, although the main fabric is sixteenth-century work.

The "Sound dues" levied on all ships passing into

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the Sound, collected in former times at Helsingör, gave rise to many a stirring incident, and on several occasions to international complications. These dues, which in ancient times were one of the most lucrative sources of revenue and were once known as "Denmark's gold mine", were abolished by a Convention of the Maritime Powers in 1857.

Most people have heard of Kronborg or Elsinore Castle by reason of Shakespeare having placed the action of one of his best-known plays at this spot. It is, however, less of a castle than a Renaissance château, built by Frederik II. in 1575-85, and standing upon a narrow tongue of land running out into the water. It remains the most beautiful Renaissance building in Scandinavia, and was originally a fortress, with high, strong walls and moats, which replaced the earlier forts of Flynderborg and Örekrog. It has several towers, and the highest of these, nowadays fitted as a lighthouse, throws bright beams of warning far out to sea and over the waters of the Kattegat.

One approaches the castle along a tree-shaded road, which skirts the moat, in the water of which the walls of the castle are charmingly reflected.

From the large square tower at the south-west corner of the building there is a magnificent view over the pretty old town, the surrounding country, and of the whole of the Sound with its ever-passing shipping and fine atmospheric effects, from Kullen to the island of Hveen, and also of the Swedish and Danish coast-lines.

Along the sea front of the castle there runs a fine, grass-grown terrace, on which are mounted some of the

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old guns that once threatened enemy vessels. It is along this terrace that tradition states Hamlet saw his father's ghost approaching. The tradition that links Hamlet with Elsinore, created by Shakespeare's play, persists, and a spot is pointed out as the place of Hamlet's burial in the little wood behind the palace at Marienlyst, where there is a monument to him, a statue upon a stone plinth set in the centre of a circular flower bed. Though visited by numberless tourists as a veritable literary shrine, the Danes rather smile at the tradition.

The interior of Kronborg Castle contains much of interest. Everyone who visits it hears something at least of the legend of Olger Danske, or Holger the Dane, who, it is said, sits sleeping in the vaults of the castle until he is called by his native land to awaken and come to her assistance in the time of trial. The castle has long been abandoned as a fortress, and is being well restored, and some portions of it are thrown open to the public. Among the most interesting things usually shown to visitors are the very beautiful Romanesque chapel, with its finely-carved pew ends and impressive lighting; and the casemates and dungeons, in which in past times prisoners were confined far below the level of the ground, and in which, so it is said, they were often tortured. In the northern wing of the castle there is a small but interesting Commercial and Maritime Museum.

Not far from Kronborg is the Royal palace of Marienlyst, which was built in 1587 and added to in 1760, situated on sloping ground and surrounded by a pleasant park, with gardens laid out in the English style. In the wood close by is a natural spring known as Ophelia's Well.



FREDENSBORG PALACE

Zealand: Its Characteristics

The country round about Helsingör is very picturesque, possessing extensive woods almost meriting the description of forests, and several pretty lakes. To the south-west lies some of the loveliest scenery in all Zealand, and along the shores of charming Lake Esrom the little town of Fredensborg stands, to the west and north-west of which lies Gribskov, the largest forest in North Zealand, famed throughout Denmark.

On the borders of Lake Esrom rises the palace built by Frederik IV. in 1720 in the Italian style in commemoration of the peace which ended the war between Denmark and Sweden. Many Royal visitors have from time to time come to Fredensborg, the wonderful park of which is celebrated for its sylvan beauties, reminding one in many respects of some of the beautiful park lands in the South of England, with many noteworthy statues, which are mostly the work of the well-known sculptor Wiedewelt, including two of colossal size representing Denmark and Norway. The Marble Garden is a delightful, secluded, and old-world spot.

But a few miles distant stands the little town of Hilleröd, which has been a market town since 1569, and is pleasantly situated amid forest land. It has additional importance beyond its market, from the fact that close by is Frederiksborg Castle, originally designed by Frederik II. somewhat in the style of Rosenborg Castle, Copenhagen. The King, though undoubtedly he took some part in the design, may have been assisted by Inigo Jones, the famous English architect. Christian IV. afterwards largely reconstructed the palace.

It is now a magnificent building, which has added

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charm from the fact that it is situated upon three small islands on the western side of a small lake, and it is admittedly one of the largest and most important Renaissance buildings in the whole of Denmark. The most ancient portion is that comprising the stables, which date from the reign of Frederik II., and are of considerable extent. In the outer courtyard of the castle is the famous fountain of Adrian de Vries, dating from the time of Christian IV. The statues on the fountain are, however, only replicas of the original figures which were carried off by the Swedes in 1659 as trophies of war, and are now to be seen on Drottningholm, in Lake Mälaren in Sweden. Those now on the fountain were placed there as recently as 1888.

The castle is a four-storied building which one enters through an inner court of great charm. The building gives the impression of ornateness, with its massive square tower, many turrets and gables. To a large extent replacing the original building of Frederik II., the present one dates from 1603-25, but has suffered on several occasions partial destruction by fire, and on the last occasion, in 1859, the interior was almost destroyed, only the bridge, the terrace, the secret passage, the Audience House, a side wing of red sandstone, connected with the main building by the entrance, and the lower portion of the chapel, being saved.

In this disastrous fire many priceless works of art and much valuable furniture were, unhappily, destroyed, which were irreplaceable. In 1875, partly by the generous initiative of Mr. I. C. Jacobsen, and partly by means of a Government grant, the castle was rebuilt on its original

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plan, and now stands much as it used to be as regards its form, mirrored in the tranquil waters of the pretty lake, in which its towers and walls are charmingly reflected.

Nowadays, the galleries and halls are devoted to the purposes of a National Museum, and the collections, which date from the times of King Gorm and King Canute the Great down to the last century, are of considerable importance and of great interest.

The chapel, which is resplendent in its colouring, and practically as it was before the fire of 1859, has since the days of Christian IV. been the coronation church of the Danish sovereigns. This, which forms the western wing of the castle—now used as a parish church—is very rich in colouring and handsomely fitted. Ebony and silver have been used for the altar and pulpit, and there is some excellent wood-carving in the oratory of Christian IV., and a series of pictures by Carl Bloch illustrating scenes of New Testament history. The Knights' Hall is a chamber of much charm and beauty.

Frederiksborg has seen many vicissitudes in its history of four centuries. It has—as we have stated—been burned several times, has been sacked by the Swedes, and has risen, phoenix-like, from its ashes to become a place of delight and interest to thousands for whom art and beautiful buildings possess a lure and have significance. The collections gathered together in this fine building contain a wealth of art treasures arranged in rooms which are many of them beautiful in themselves, and possess exquisite views of the lake and surroundings from their windows.

It is not unfitting that most people who visit

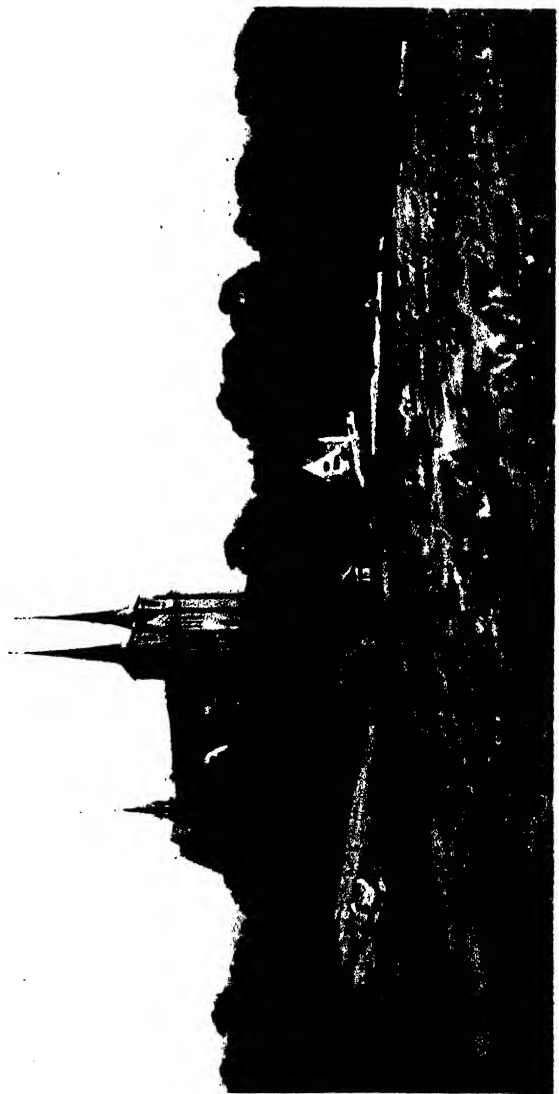
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Denmark should make their way from the place where the Danish monarchs are crowned to Roskilde, where most of the Danish kings and their consorts throughout the centuries have been laid to rest, though some of them during the twelfth, thirteenth, and fourteenth were buried in the old Church of the Convent at Ringsted. On one's way to Roskilde it is well worth while to visit Lyngby by way of Hilleröd to see the open-air section of the most interesting Danish Folk Museum, where there are ancient farms and peasant buildings as these things used to be in long-past days; fitted with authentic survivals in the way of ancient furniture, fittings, and many other interesting things.

Roskilde is a small town to have played so important a rôle in Danish history. It is only some twenty miles distant from Copenhagen, charmingly situated upon the most south-easterly inlet of the beautiful Roskilde Fjord. The town itself is an ancient and interesting place, having a good harbour dating back nearly a thousand years. It was here that Harold Bluetooth built himself a royal residence during his reign of half a century from 941 to 991.

Anciently Roskilde was the capital of Denmark, and it takes its name from the springs referred to in the word "kilde", added to the name of the legendary Danish King Hroar, who figures as King Hrodgar in *Beowulf*. He was the conqueror of the Hadbarderne in the sixth-century wars. It was anciently known as "Kildernes By" or "the town of the springs".

Roskilde to-day has more than a slight resemblance in its life and character to an English cathedral city, and



ROSKILDE CATHEDRAL

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the church is almost the sole object of great interest, and the centre of the whole district round about. There is something peculiarly delightful in the pleasant country life led in the immediate vicinity of the town, the general sense of peace and quietude, and the way in which the picturesque, twin-towered cathedral rises from amid gardens and flowers, with its spires breaking the skyline above the environing trees only a short distance from the Market Square and quaint Town Hall.

Roskilde, with its beautiful winding fiord bordered by low sloping meadows dotted over here and there with trees, and the little port with its small amount of shipping other than fishing boats, most nearly approaches and reminds one, indeed, of Chichester by its main characteristics.

Strangely enough, too, Canute, or Knud the Great, had associations with the English city we have mentioned and its neighbourhood; and a Danish princess, thought to be one of his daughters, lies buried in Bosham Church, a few miles from Chichester, which has a fiord-like harbour more than once visited in ancient times by Danish rovers. The princess died while on a visit to Earl Godwin. It is even possible that the great Danish-English king may have selected Chichester as a place to which to come because it reminded him of the peaceful Danish countryside surrounding Roskilde, then his capital.

There is no doubt that the history of the town goes very far back, when Denmark was closely linked with the British Isles. But there are, notwithstanding its antiquity, very few old houses in the town of to-day; and only a single mediæval church, that of Vor Frue or

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“Our Lady”, has survived in addition to the great cathedral of St. Lucius.

The Town Hall or Raadhuset, which looks very small and even insignificant in the vast Market Place, though picturesque enough with its step gables, is not really old, having been rebuilt in comparatively modern times.

Roskilde Cathedral was traditionally founded by Harold Bluetooth, who succeeded Gorm the Old, when he had become a Christian, it is said, at the behest of the Roman Emperor Charlemagne or his successor. During the eleventh century a stone church replaced Bluetooth's building, which was constructed of wooden logs. It was generously endowed by Knud the Holy, who was king from 1080-86. By some it is supposed that this stone building was the work of an English Bishop, William of Roskilde. The present church is almost entirely built of red brick, heavily buttressed and rather in the German style; it must have originally been even more so when each bay of the aisles had a gable of its own. One is reminded, indeed, of Lübeck Cathedral by the two tall western towers and the little central *flèche*, but it is a better building than that.

All the original portions remaining are thirteenth-century work; the builders worked from east to west, and were delayed by two fires which took place in 1234 and 1284. The choir has in its design a resemblance to that of Tournai, and has only a single bay with a round apse, with transepts and a nave of seven bays. At the western end this is flanked by towers, and an aisle surrounds the structure from one tower and back to the other, running all round the apse. The transepts, which no longer

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project, are reduced very much to being sections of the aisles.

During the passage of the centuries chapel after chapel has been built round the original cathedral, which as a whole is exceedingly interesting in that it affords nowadays a striking example of the development of Danish architecture during seven centuries.

The interior is very effective and pleasing from the unusual use of a scheme of white and red. Bricks are left exposed where there are shafts, and at the edges of the arches; but white plaster covers the walls and the vaults. Many of the arches are round, but pointed ones are always used in the case of the quadripartite vaulting. The windows are all single, some in groups of three, but they are numerous and wide enough to light the building adequately and even extremely well. The triforium is open to the church by arches about the same size as those that communicate with the aisles. Round the apse these two tiers of arches rest on granite; elsewhere stone is very sparingly used, chiefly for the capitals and a few other details. The triforium, itself vaulted above the vaulting of the aisles, forms a passage the whole way round the church, a groined gallery on two pillars carrying it from tower to tower, with wooden balconies across the transepts. It is probable that the latter are sixteenth-century work. The cathedral, through the triforium, communicates with the Old Bishop's Palace across the road by a simple archway. The clerestory has no passage along its windows, but round the apse there is an extra arcade between it and the triforium, which greatly adds to the effect.

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It will be noticed that the choir and apse, with the central space and one bay of the nave, have a higher floor-level than the rest of the church, and beneath is a crypt, the vaulting of which rests on a row of square columns, the small windows opening to the aisles.

There is very beautiful Renaissance work in some of the details of the church. And this remark applies especially to the fine reredos, which has folding wings. The story is that this was on board a Dutch vessel, the captain of which was attempting to smuggle it through the Sound without paying the dues: on being caught he placed upon it a ridiculously low value, hoping thereby to get the amount of duty reduced. Unluckily, however, for the captain, the Danish authorities decided to purchase the work at the figure the would-be smuggler had placed upon it, and, so, Roskilde Cathedral obtained its beautiful screen.

The cathedral has not inaptly been called "the Westminster Abbey of Denmark", for it has for many centuries been the burial-place of Danish monarchs. Naturally one finds many notable monuments within its walls. Among the most beautiful of these is the magnificent tomb in the choir, which marks the spot where lie the ashes of the greatest of women sovereigns of Scandinavia, Margarethe, daughter of Valdemar Atterdag, who married the King of Norway. It is a magnificent altar tomb in black marble, which has been restored, and on it rests the alabaster figure of the beautiful woman ruler, who died in 1423. She was undoubtedly the most distinguished and far-sighted sovereign of the Northlands, and of her the great chronicle of Lübeck declares, "When men saw

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the wisdom and strength that were in this royal lady, wonder and fear filled their hearts ”.

It was also said of her that it was to be greatly marvelled at that a lady, who when she began to govern for her son found a distracted country in which she owned not sufficient either of money or credit to secure a meal without the aid of friends, made herself so feared and loved in the short period of three months, that nothing in all the land was any longer withheld from her. By the Pact of Colmar in 1397 she brought about the Federation of the Scandinavian kingdoms, Denmark, Norway and Sweden, on principles acceptable to all three. One king in future should reign, but each land should maintain its own set of laws. The Northlands realized the wisdom and benefits of her rule, and all that she did was done so well that it took her unworthy successors a century and a half to undo her good work.

The latest addition to the cathedral is the chapel of the late King Christian IX., built from designs by Clemmensen. In this is a double sarcophagus for Christian IX. and his consort, Louise; and another for Frederik VIII. and the Dowager Queen Louise.

In the numerous chapels of the cathedral are other magnificent tombs. The earliest of the chapels was built by Bishop Ulfeld in 1384, and is dedicated to St. Laurence. A notable feature is the vaulting, which springs from little grotesques, and there are some interesting frescoes. To the west of this chapel and adjoining it is another, built nearly a century later, dedicated to the famous St. Brita, a daughter of Birger Persson, the man who codified the laws of Sweden at the end of the

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thirteenth century. There is some fine carved woodwork in this chapel, and in one of the mural paintings there is a curious representation of a green devil writing.

In the chapel of the Three Magi, dedicated in 1464, near the south porch on the other side of the nave, are two wonderful Renaissance monuments to Christian III. (1559) and Frederik II. (1588). It was the first-named of these monarchs who was mainly responsible for the Danish Reformation. On the northern side of the church one finds the interesting and beautiful chapel of Christian IV., with its star vaulting. It is an excellent specimen of the Gothic work of the period of the commencement of the seventeenth century. The iron screen dates from 1620, and is the work of Caspar Fincke. A special feature we noticed in this charming chapel was the beautiful manner in which the light streams through two large four-light windows, the tracery of which is formed by intersecting mullions, which is often a feature in English work of the same period. In the chapel stands the bronze statue of the king, by Thorvaldsen. It is to the same monarch that the cathedral owes the two slender, green, copper-sheathed spires which are so striking a landmark for the whole of the countryside owing to the position of the cathedral on rising ground.

During the seven centuries that Roskilde has been the Royal burying-place nearly a hundred Royal persons have found their last resting-places in the cathedral, with many others distinguished in the Church and the State from Saxo Grammaticus—whose actual grave is as yet unidentified—to the theologian Niels Hemmingsen.

Among the other many interesting monuments and

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memorials of this fine building one may notice that of Christian III. by Cornelis Floris, erected in 1570, which is one of the most beautiful in Scandinavia; and Wiedewelt's life-size figures and reliefs upon the marble tomb of Christian VI.

Formerly it was the custom to place the dead in vaults, but of recent times it has been the practice to place the coffins, some of which are of marble, some of oak, and others of metal, on the floors of the chapels themselves; in the case of the wooden coffins they are covered in black velvet. It must be confessed that the effect is somewhat gruesome. The mausoleum of King Christian IX., who was the father of several European sovereigns, including the late Queen Alexandra, and founded a new dynasty, is a notable one, though in severe taste.

There is one object in the cathedral which never fails to arouse the interest of visitors, especially, as we had evidence, of many Danish school-children. It is the pillar in Christian I.'s chapel, against which many Danish kings and princes have from early days been measured. Several of the marks cut in the stone are nearly seven feet from the floor.

Other features of the church worthy of note are the great carved and gilded reredos, which catches the eye as soon as the building is entered; the very early prebendal stalls, the earliest dating from 1420; the curious figures of the old clockwork, which when the hours strike execute a mimetic play of St. George and the Dragon; the magnificent organ, the music of which is mellow and sweet and echoes and re-echoes in the fine building, having rich

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ornamentation and being coloured in the Baroque style, bearing the cyphers of Frederick III. and his Consort; and the Royal Chair, dating from about 1609, a fine example of rich Renaissance carving ornamented with gold and colours, and many paintings.

This very interesting and beautiful church is undoubtedly the most historic as well as one of the most interesting in Scandinavia. Several of the monarchs who lie buried within its precincts held rule over all the Northlands, and the saints of all three Scandinavian kingdoms are identified with it. We have referred to the chapel of St. Brita; that of St. Knud is beneath the northern tower, and St. Olav is commemorated in one of the paintings in the chapel of the Three Magi.

Roskilde is a delightful little town, charmingly situated amid a picturesque countryside, with wide fields extending from its outskirts right down to the beautiful fiord of the same name. In these meadows one sees many cattle pasturing, but one notices that most are tethered, as is the practice in Denmark, so as to avoid as much as possible the trampling down of the grass and consequent waste of good fodder.

Some charming vistas of the fiord, which stretches away with tree-clad slopes coming down to the water's edge, are obtained from the high ground on the outskirts of the town, and also of the little harbour, and the white-walled farmsteads scattered about the pleasant and peaceful landscape with their thatched or tiled roofs, with spikes along the ridges. Throughout the land there are thousands of small-holders who have purchased their farmsteads with money they have managed to save from



FREDERIKSBORG CASTLE. Page 67

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their careful habits of life, supplemented by loans from the State.

It is interesting to remember the direct connection of Winchester with Roskilde, the one the capital of Canute's English realm, and the other that of his homeland. At that period they were the capitals of the Middle Empire of which England was a part, after the Roman legions had evacuated Britain, and before the English had commenced laboriously to build an empire of their own.

On one's way to Kjöge, a picturesque little port on the bay of the same name, the road lies through some charming scenery. It was in Kjöge Bay that the Danish hero Niels Juel gained a great naval victory over the Swedish fleet in 1677.

Ringsted, which became famous in the Middle Ages on account of its great Benedictine monastery, and in the church of which lie buried many kings of the Valdemar dynasty who lived during the twelfth to fourteenth centuries, lies in the centre of Zealand amid delightful surroundings. It is an ancient and historic town which, however, has little importance to-day, except from the fact that it is a railway junction for lines running south and north as well as east and west.

Sorö, another ancient though small town, is famous. It is delightfully situated between woods and water, and it grew up, as have several other towns in Zealand, around a monastery built by the great Bishop Absalon, to whom in a large measure Copenhagen itself owed its foundation. The monastery has been converted into a Royal Grammar School, which is interesting, because it

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was to this that Ludvig Holberg, who lived in the first half of the eighteenth century and died in 1754 while holding the post of Treasurer of the University, left his huge fortune. He is known as the father of Danish comedy, and many of his plays have become classics.

It was here that Bishop Absalon was buried in the church of the ancient Cistercian monastery. There is a legend that the famous prelate's spirit appears with threatening mien to anyone who shows irreverence while in the church. Ludvig Holberg is also buried here in company with three of the Danish kings. The little town has other literary associations as well, for Ingemann the poet used to spend a good deal of his time at Sorö, and is buried in the church. In the beautiful beech woods which surround the town the great and first historian of Denmark, Saxo Grammaticus, to whom succeeding historians have been indebted for much knowledge of early Danish history, used to walk. Saxo's work was first translated in the latter half of the sixteenth century by the then Court chaplain, Anders Sörensen Vedel, who lived 1542-1616.

Slagelse, a pretty and ancient little town, is not far from Sorö, and from it one easily reaches Kalundborg, situated on the fiord of the same name, and with, northwards of it, a deeply indented coast-line of great picturesqueness looking out over the waters of the Sejrö Bugt or Bay. For English people Kalundborg is chiefly interesting by reason of the fact that from it is easily reached Dragsholm on the north-west coast of the peninsula. In the ancient manor-house the Earl of Bothwell was imprisoned as an exile after the murder of the Earl

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of Darnley, the husband of Mary Queen of Scots. He was buried in Faarevejle Church close by, where his body is to be seen in a glass-lidded coffin.

Kalundborg itself has one remarkable feature in its church, out of all proportion to the size and importance of the place. It stands on the slightly rising ground at the end of the cobble-paved main street, unique in its way with its five towers, the central one rising above those at the corner. It dates from the twelfth century, and is in many ways remarkable in its architecture.

In South Zealand, reached either from Sorö or Slagelse, are two or three towns worth visiting, and much pretty scenery. The first, Næstved, stands on the banks of the Susaa, and famed for its Herlufsholm Grammar School; it is a little town picturesque in character and possessing a number of old buildings surviving from the past. The other town, Vordingborg, in the very south of Zealand, is situated amid picturesque surroundings, within sight of the islands of Falster and Möen, and many smaller islets.

On the coast close to Vordingborg one finds a solitary keep with some remains of the walls of the ancient castle which was built by Valdemar I. The tower is known as the "Gaasetaarn" or the "Goose Tower", which rises amid the trees above the water in which it is reflected. This castle was once the favourite home of Valdemar III., named Atterdag, who reigned from 1340 to 1375. The curious name of the tower was derived from the Golden Goose which was placed by the King on the summit to annoy the Hanse towns, which he had called in contempt "a flock of geese". In the seventeenth century the

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castle was the residence of Prince George of Denmark, who was married to Queen Anne of England.

The island of Möen, which lies to the eastward of Vordingborg, and is separated from the coast by a narrow Sound, is famous for its cliff scenery, which is, indeed, some of the finest in Denmark.

Möen is only about eighty square miles in extent, and on its western side, as is the case with so many of the Danish islands, the land is low-lying and level. It is here that Stege, a tiny port in the centre of a bay, and the only town, is situated. On the eastern side, however, the land is much more undulating and varied, and in the district which is known as High Möen there are the, for Denmark, very considerable heights of Kongsbjerg and Aborrebjerg, which both reach upwards of 450 feet. In the interior of the island this range of hills, which includes Hylledalsfjeld, is split up by a number of wooded gorges known as the "Fald", which are many of them fantastic and picturesque in character, and give to Möen a characteristic feature of its own. In this district the scenery is extremely pleasing, and with the bracing air has had much to do with the popularity of Möen with summer visitors. To many of the elevations and crags hereabouts have been given fanciful names, among these "The Queen's Chair", "The Speaker", and "The Summer Peak".

There are many charming spots along this portion of the island coast, and the combination of white chalk cliffs, green beech groves, and the blue waters of the sea, leaves an indelible impression of beauty upon the mind of the beholder. In many places the foliage in the form of ivy



ISLE OF MOEN, MOENZ KLINT

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and other creepers hangs down the face of the cliff in huge festoons, adding much to the picturesque effect.

Especially on the eastern side of Møen is the scenery striking, where the dazzling white cliffs rise almost perpendicularly from above the narrow strips of beach, with pinnacle-like peaks piercing the trees, and towering high above the blue waters which break in lace-like foam at the bases of the chalk cliffs.

There is much Danish folk-lore and legend connected with these amazing cliffs, which are often in Danish poetry and prose linked with legends of fairies and magic. The island is altogether a charming spot in which to seek restful recreation, and Møen folk have not been slow to recognize its possibilities in that respect, by providing facilities for reaching it easily from Vordingborg and Praestö.

Falster, the middle island of the three large ones in the South Zealand group, has pretty scenery on the eastern coast, with clay cliffs surmounted by charming woods of beeches and other trees, and along its shores are chine-like clefts running up inland. The island has importance from the fact that it is the Danish highway to Germany and Southern Europe, the express Copenhagen to Berlin route leading right through the island from north to south. The south coast of the latter is quite different in character to that of the east. One here has vast sandy beaches sheltered from the north and possessing "sun traps" in summer. At Marielyst, with its modern hotels and many picturesque villas, one has Denmark's most southerly summer resort and sea-bathing station.

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Lolland, the largest island of the three, differs materially in character from both Falster, its very near neighbour, and more distant Møen. It is very flat but exceedingly fertile; everywhere in summer one finds great fields of golden corn, and in the autumn others of sugar-beet, which is largely cultivated, for Lolland has a flourishing sugar industry. The island has the distinction of possessing many old manor-houses, some of them of great size and beauty of situation, and most of them surrounded by large parks containing fine oaks and other trees.

It is in Lolland, too, that one comes across "the Danish Holland", a district extending for some forty-five miles, from Nysted in the south-east of the island to Nakskov in the north-west, where there is a great dyke protecting not only the flat stretches that were formerly frequently under water, but also the areas which have of late years been reclaimed and drained which lie below sea-level. It is a strange district with wind-swept stretches, dykes, locks, and the windmills, which contrasts sharply with the other parts of the island.

The other Danish island of importance is Bornholm, which lies in the Baltic almost equidistant from Germany and South Sweden. Its area is about 300 square miles. Although of comparatively small size, it contains within its borders all the physical characteristics of Denmark, Norway, and Sweden. The vegetation is very varied and comprises many rare specimens, and, indeed, many of the flowers met with in the island are only otherwise found in the more mountainous portions of Southern Europe. There are, in addition, a number of trees very rarely met with elsewhere in Denmark.

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A large portion of the island is given over to arable land, and the surface of this is dotted over with picturesque homesteads, many of which lie on an elevated plateau some 300 feet above the sea-level. One peculiar feature of the island in this respect is that the farms are not grouped in villages, but are isolated, with only sufficient other dwellings round them for the farmer's relatives and any farm hands he may employ. The centre of the island contains its highest levels. The Rytterknægten, attaining an altitude of nearly 530 feet, is the highest point, and stands surrounded by a stretch of magnificent forest land known as Almindingen, belonging to the State. On the top of this hill is a granite tower, called Kongemindet, from which in clear weather the whole of the islands lie spread out beneath one, with many gorges, valleys, and lakes, and a very wide view of the Baltic in every direction.

Many relics of ancient times still survive in Bornholm, among them no less than four of the seven curious round churches which have been preserved from the Middle Ages. These are situated at Nylars, Nyker, Olsker, and Österlars. In addition, there are several interesting and ruined castles, the chief of which are Gamleborg, Lilleborg, and Hammershus. The last is finely situated on a wooded headland or cliff along a stretch of coast not unlike that which one finds in North Devon. The castle stands on the northern side of Bornholm, overlooking the waters of the Baltic in the direction of the Swedish coast. It is near the little town of Sandvig in the extreme north, and is the most extensive and beautiful ruin in the island.

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It is along this coast-line, which is very rocky, from Hammeren past Gudhjem to Svaneke, that some of the finest scenery is met with. The rock formations are wonderful and fantastic in the extreme. One famous rock in the sea, known as Lövehovederne, or the "Lions' Heads", is an example. Others are known as "The Pulpit" and "The Virgin", names which are descriptive in themselves. All along this coast, which from its rocky nature often reminds one of that of Cornwall, or perhaps one should say the Channel Islands, are many caves which can be explored in small boats in fine weather, but into which, when storms break, the seas run mountains high and boom thunderously.

Although a comparatively small island Bornholm has no less than seven market towns, none of which, however, are of any considerable size. The largest, Rønne, which is on the west coast, has about 11,000 inhabitants, and is the port to which the mail service from Copenhagen runs. One may consider it the capital of the island. It is noted for its manufacture of terra-cotta ware and clocks. Bornholm has the distinction of possessing the smallest market town in Denmark, named Sandvig, with only about 500 inhabitants.

It is notable that all the towns on the island save one are on the coast, which is of a very remarkable and varied character and very wild in places. Take it all in all, Bornholm is undoubtedly Denmark's most interesting island geologically, and it is yearly becoming more widely known as a holiday resort of great charm, its fine air, picturesque scenery, quaint towns and quietude, making it attractive to those in search of health or rest.



BORNHOLM, HAMMERHUS CASTLE

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Geologically it belongs to the oldest period, the primeval granite being a rare formation in any other portion of Denmark. There is much of interest in the botany of the island as well as in the varied character of the scenery.

CHAPTER VI

COPENHAGEN: ITS HISTORY, CHARM, LIFE, PEOPLE, AND CHARACTERISTICS

COPENHAGEN, in Danish Köbenhavn, is not only the capital of Denmark, the seat of the Government and of the Court, and the place where are the chief Royal palaces, but it has also the distinction of being the only fortress and naval station Denmark possesses, and the only really great city.

It is, also, the most important commercial centre, with an immense export and import trade, and several important industries and manufactures. Within its area are situated the university and many rich collections of art and antiquities, which make it the natural intellectual centre of the national life as regards art, literature, music, and science.

Certainly it is one of the most charmingly situated capitals of Europe, for it stands on the shores of the historic Sound, built partly on Zealand and partly on Amager. Copenhagen lies about forty feet above sea-level, and its population, including the suburbs or districts of Valby, Utterslev, and Sunbyerne, is to-day upwards of three-quarters of a million.

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Copenhagen's foundation dates back to the ages of antiquity. It was, undoubtedly, even in remote ages the site of a trading port, or, at least, a post at which foreign merchants were accustomed to gather, attracted there by the rich herring fishery of the Sound. Originally known as Köpmannhafn, or "Merchants' Haven" or port, it was known in the twelfth century, at the time that Valdemar the Great gave the site to Bishop Absalon, as Hafnia. The Bishop ultimately fortified the town by building a castle on one of the "holms" or islands in the harbour about the year 1167, and from this date Copenhagen became joined with the see of Roskilde. A separation was effected, however, in 1416, when the city became the country's naval port and the place of Royal residence.

It was not until the seventeenth century that Old Copenhagen, which may be roughly described as occupying the area within the Boulevards, that have in modern times replaced the ancient ramparts, was enlarged by King Christian IV., who reigned from 1588 to 1648, and erected Christianshavn on Amager in 1618, with ramparts around the castle. One of the most interesting survivals of this time are the Seamen's Quarters at Nyboder, where the low-built, two-storey dwellings in straight streets with red tiled roofs form a picturesque feature of the quarter. They remain to-day practically as built. It was not until the reign of Frederik III. (1648-70) that the new Copenhagen, which comprised the portion which lay between Gothersgade and the Citadel, was incorporated with what remained of the original town.

Dating from more recent times are the quarters known

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as Gammelholm, which extends along the harbour between Nyhavn and Slotsholm; the Vold or Rampart quarters, or the ground between the levelled ramparts and the lakes; and the "Bridges", or the districts beyond the lakes. The older town or rampart quarters lie in a line from north-east to south-west, and beyond these are the "Bridges"—Österbro (East Bridge), Vesterbro (West Bridge), Nørrebro (North Bridge), and Sønderbro (South Bridge)—formerly the inner suburbs but now the city itself, with which during the passage of the years have been incorporated in Greater Copenhagen many outlying districts. Copenhagen is divided by a narrow arm of the sea, named Kalvebodstrand, into two unequal portions; of these the western is the larger, situated on Zealand, while the smaller or eastern portion is Christianshavn, situated on the north-western side of Amager.

The old town and the new are distinguished by several features which differentiate them sharply the one from the other. In the case of the latter there are straight and on the whole wide and regular streets, while those of the former have many of them retained their old irregular and crooked character, notwithstanding that they were laid out afresh after the terrible fires of 1728 and 1795.

Remembering that Copenhagen is of great antiquity as to its date of foundation, one is surprised to find so comparatively few survivals of ancient buildings or traces of its early origin. Indeed, with the exception of fragments of the old castle of Copenhagen discovered during excavations under Christiansborg, there are practically no remains of domestic or other buildings surviving from the Middle Ages. Even most of the churches are modern,

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and there are only fragments of walls, incorporated or otherwise with newer buildings.

Nothing remains extant of the ramparts with which Christian IV. surrounded his castle in the seventeenth century except a small fragment round Christianshavn; and of the mediæval town walls nothing remains except Jarmer's Tower. A small portion of the old Roman Catholic bishop's palace is to be seen in the courtyard of the University, but it is a mere fragment; and of the ancient and noted Helligaands Hospital only the mortuary chapel attached to the Helligaands Church remains.

There are, however, some buildings of the sixteenth and early seventeenth centuries still standing, the principal of which are Regensen, which is a students' hostel; Nikolaj Church Tower (1591); the Rosenborg Castle, dating from 1606; the beautiful Börsen, or Exchange, dating from 1624-26, in the Dutch Renaissance style, standing in Slotsholmsgade, built from designs of H. Steenwinkel; the erstwhile anchor foundry, now Holmens Church; and the Trinitatis Church, with its round tower which was completed in 1657.

The Kastel or Citadel dates from the reign of Fredrik III., and was built in 1663; and the charming old building, the former Royal Library, now occupied by the State Archives, was erected nine years later.

Christian V. (1670-99) can claim much of the credit for widening the streets, and for building houses of brick in the main thoroughfares of his time; and it is to him that Copenhagen also owes the pretty garden-like Kongens Nytorv or King's Square, the largest in the city, round which nowadays are grouped some of the most important

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buildings, banks, hotels, and business premises. This king also saw the erection of Charlottenborg, now the Royal Academy of Arts; Frelser's Church, or Church of our Saviour, with its curious spire twisted in the reverse way to the usual; and the beautiful Thotts Palace.

It was during the reign of Frederik IV. (1699-1730) that the Opera House, later to be used as the Parliament House, and now a Court of Justice; the Garrison Church; the Citadel Church; and the historic Vartov Hospital, built in 1726, were all finished. The reign of Christian VI., 1730-46, saw the erection of one of the finest buildings in Christianshavn, formerly the Asiatic Company's Palace; the Holstein Palace in the Stormgade; the Princes' Palace; and the Christianborg Castle, destroyed by fire in 1794, rebuilt, and again destroyed ninety years afterwards, and once more rebuilt from 1907 to 1920. The Palaces at Amalienborg date from 1768, as do the Marmor or Marble Church, Frederik's Hospital, and most of the buildings in the immediate vicinity of these.

There is no doubt but that the architecture of this portion of the capital was extremely pleasing and handsome in the eighteenth century, but the greater part of it was destroyed by the disastrous fire of 1795, and the rebuilding of the city was carried out in a rather stereotyped style, and unhappily very largely of poor materials. But there were a few architects in the early years of the nineteenth century, the famous Harsdorff particularly, who erected and designed buildings both of taste and distinction; as examples one may point to the palaces

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at the corner of Frederiksgade and Bredgade, and the Eriksen's Palace in Kongens Nytorv.

The growth of the population of Copenhagen during the first twenty years of the second half of the nineteenth century necessitated the extension of the city very considerably, but, unfortunately, the opportunity presented to erect beautiful and pleasing buildings on the land obtained by the levelling of the fortifications was not seized to the fullest extent, and many of the buildings erected from and at this period are in poor taste. Nor was the opportunity of making fine and broad streets taken to the extent it might and should have been, bearing in mind the rapid growth of the capital and the demands made by the problems of modern traffic and transport.

But it would not be doing Copenhagen or its builders justice to infer that the period just mentioned was entirely barren in regard to the erection of handsome buildings. And the same may be admitted in regard to the new quarter, in the neighbourhood of the old railway station and the Aborre Park, where some fine buildings have been erected during recent years, including the well-known Paladsteateret on the site of the old railway station; the Technological Institute; and the Students' Union.

The old town, too, has its handsome modern buildings, most of them erected within the last twenty years, which add greatly to the appearance and striking impression created by this part of the city.

Two buildings of outstanding interest erected in recent years, which call for mention, are the Grundtvig Church, from designs by P. V. Jensen Klink, in the suburb of Bispebjerg, and the "Politigaarden," or Scot-

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land Yard of Copenhagen, situated just behind the Glyptotek, and close to Raadhuspladsen. Both of these buildings are excellent examples of modern Danish architecture.

The first impression created upon the mind of the visitor who explores the highways and byways of this fine capital city, and this is the only way in which to make a real study of a town, will be of the blending of the old—not the ancient—with the new, and the impression is a very pleasing one. The newer Copenhagen is a city of fine buildings, many wide and well-kept streets and boulevards, beautiful parks and gardens gay with the flowers of the different seasons, and of many delightful open spaces; and altogether the surrounding life creates an impression of energy, brightness, and happiness which is most engaging—the last-named characteristic not a little owing to the undoubted general prosperity of its inhabitants, and the fortunate absence of any marked indications of real or abject poverty such as is usually to be found in most large cities.

There is no doubt that to approach Copenhagen by sea is to gain the most delightful and picturesque impression of it. One steams down the Sound with both the Danish and the Swedish shore for a considerable time in view; the former with picturesque cottages and fine villas thickly dotted along the coast-line, which is so popular a holiday ground in summer, reaching right from Helsingör to the outskirts of Copenhagen itself. Hundreds of vessels, both sailing and steam—though one regrets, on account of their greater picturesqueness, that the former are becoming more and more infrequent—pass on their

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way to and from the Swedish ports, and those of Germany, Finland, Russia, and Great Britain, and in summer time form a sharp contrast with the numberless white-winged pleasure craft which flit like birds across the blue waters of the Sound.

Along the Danish shore as one passes down the Sound towards Copenhagen, one obtains many delightful views of beautiful beech woods and of picturesque villages, most of them in summer gay with holiday-makers, while close inshore are the little wooden jetties used as diving stages by bathers, and for landing from the little yachts which lie moored close to the shore.

Soon Copenhagen comes into view in the distance, with its many spires, its forests of masts, its shipbuilding yards, great docks and quays, all of which combine to present a most impressive picture of the city, which has, not without justification, been named "The Queen of the North". Near Langelinie are usually to be seen at anchor in the Sound some of the grim, slate-grey warships of the Danish fleet, which serve to remind the observer that Copenhagen is not only a great commercial port, but also a naval station.

The climate of Copenhagen in winter and summer presents a great contrast. In the latter it is positively delightful, with a freshness in the air, even on the hottest days, that is both pleasant and healthful. The winter, however, is often severe, with sea fogs occasionally enveloping the city. Then the many brilliantly lighted and cheerful restaurants are thronged by the Copenhageners in search of brightness and warmth as antidotes to the inclemency of the weather outside.

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Most foreign visitors, however, come to the Danish capital in the summer months, when usually there is wonderfully clear sunshine and the air is fresh and invigorating with a tang of the sea in it, and the many canals and arms of the sea help to keep the city from experiencing excessive heat.

The streets are bustling and bright every day of the week, but especially is this the case on Sundays, which are fête days and real holidays. It cannot be said that the city people, especially those actually resident in Copenhagen, are great church-goers. And, indeed, the average Dane does not appear to think it at all necessary to attend church services before indulging in his week-end excursions, as do many inhabitants of Continental countries.

The Danish Government does much to encourage people to enjoy themselves and to get out into the country by issuing cheap tickets by rail, and by providing good and inexpensive performances at the theatres and other places of amusement on Sunday. It is a remarkable fact that even the very poorest seem able to afford this week-end, or rather beginning of the week outing, which is enjoyed by mothers, fathers, and children almost universally.

Visitors staying at any of the more important hotels near the Kongens Nytorv or any of the main streets will almost surely be aroused early on a Sunday morning by the incessant hum of traffic, the sounds of laughter from happy people setting out on excursions into the country, and the music of bands heading processions of excursionists belonging to some industrial organization or

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“ Friendly ” Society. If, as we were, one is curious enough to get up and glance out of window overlooking the square or street, one will see thousands of people making their way to the trams, trains, or the motor boats and steamers in the harbour which will take them to their destination by land or water as the case may require.

In the woods or “ Skoven ” in the immediate vicinity of Copenhagen, or the famous Dyrehavn or Deer Park some seven miles away, are dotted little kiosk-like restaurants where those who have brought their lunches in baskets and paper packets can obtain a cup of coffee, or a glass of the famous Copenhagen lager beer, to quench their thirst, and at most of these holiday resorts there is music provided, and a cheerful atmosphere of innocent enjoyment prevails.

When evening begins to make the landscape dim and the woods are full of shadows the happy holiday-makers begin their homeward journey, and if one happens to be on the outskirts of the city about this time, one meets an unending stream of people returning along the various roads; afoot, in cars, in horse-drawn vehicles, and literally thousands upon bicycles, often obviously very tired with their day's outing, but happy, and returning to face the tasks of another week all the better for their day of fresh, pure air and relaxation.

One thing, we fancy, must strike all strangers to Copenhagen, the vast number of bicycles to be seen. Indeed in no country is there a higher percentage of bicycles per head of the population than in Denmark. In Copenhagen there is one to every three of the population, men, women, and children.

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Another feature in the life of the capital which will be noted is the fact that, at all events in summer, the restaurants of the capital are less frequented than those of most great cities until the evening. The day is usually ended by many Copenhageners in the summer, and in fine weather at other seasons of the year, in the restaurants, amusement places, and especially in the very bright, pretty and attractive Tivoli Gardens. These are on most Sundays and fine evenings crowded by thousands of people representing all classes of the community bent on obtaining a good meal, and of finishing their day amid scenes of enjoyment, brightness, and gaiety.

In a wide sense Copenhagen may be said to represent Denmark far more fully than does any other capital city the whole of its nation. The reason for this can perhaps be found in the fact that rather more than one-fifth of the population of the country is centred in the capital, although it must, at the same time, be admitted that the latter has very little in common with Provincial Denmark.

There are many contrasts to be noted in Copenhagen, although these may not be thought by the casual observer and visiting tourist to be so marked as in most large cities. On the whole, the social life seems to be less restricted by codes of etiquette than that in many other countries, and consequently one notices less extremes of difference in the modes of life and grades in the social ladder. The Danes, who are a yellow-haired, blue-eyed Teutonic race, of middle stature on the average, although there are some very tall men, and still bearing traces of their kinship with the northern peoples of Scandinavia,

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are decidedly a pleasure-loving race, and this notwithstanding the fact that they are hard workers. Though their habits of life are in many ways similar to those of the north Germans, they have a liking for French habits and fashions. Most of the people of Denmark, whether resident in the capital or in the large towns of the country districts, appear to obtain their fair share of recreation and amusement. It strikes one, indeed, that taking into consideration the average income of the inhabitants of Copenhagen and that of citizens of London, the former spend a higher percentage of income on amusements and good food than the latter.

On the whole, the inhabitants of Copenhagen and other towns are well catered for in the matter of amusements and recreations. In summer out-of-doors amusements abound. It is true that during this season of the year most of the theatres are closed, but the cafés and restaurants do an increased trade in consequence, and are very bright social centres, which make the very best of their accommodation and often overflow, as in Paris, on to the sidewalks with their trees in green tubs, tables, and chairs. The cafés and restaurants of and in the immediate neighbourhood of the Kongens Nytorv, especially those attached to the hotels, are brightly lit and very gay and enjoyable places at which to sit and watch the passing throng.

Copenhagen is made delightful by reason of its numerous parks and open spaces, which in spring and summer are gay with flowers and shady with the foliage of some magnificent trees. There is always in Copenhagen in the summer that great attraction to Continentals,

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a circus, and with yachting, lawn tennis, wrestling matches, cycle and motor races, regattas on the waters of the Sound, there is no lack of ways in which to spend leisure time enjoyably. As soon as the first hint of autumn is in the air the many theatres, music-halls, and concert-halls re-open, and although the buildings do not rank either in architecture or size with the best, most modern, and largest of those in the great capitals of Europe, the plays and shows that are put on are excellent, and occasionally real and even distinguished artistes may be found taking part.

Copenhagen of late years has developed the habit among its inhabitants of spending the summer months in the country, and all along the borders of the Sound, the coast-line, and in suitable and particularly picturesque inland districts, are to be found summer cottages and villas in many styles of architecture: old cottages converted to new uses side by side with the latest thing in bandbox-like summer villas, and many fine houses of a modern type standing on the higher side of the road, overlooking it and the beautiful Sound.

There is one characteristic of the Copenhageners that rather astonishes the English visitor when he is told of it. The dwellers in the capital, many of them, appear to be of a rather restless disposition as regards settling down. Flat-dwellers are notorious for the number of moves they will make in the course of a short period of years. There are two popular removal days in the year, the third Tuesday in April and the same Tuesday in October, and it would seem that many people appear to think that they must not spend too long a time in one flat or house,

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even though they may on the whole be quite well-suited and comfortable.

As in many other cities where the servant question has become more or less acute, flats have become the most popular type of dwelling with the great majority of the Copenhageners able to obtain or afford them. Many of these are luxurious, and on the whole all of the modern type are remarkably well-built and admirably fitted with labour-saving contrivances and other details. Generally speaking, we should say that they are superior in these respects to those occupied by people of a corresponding class in London.

The features looked for in a flat by a Copenhageners are somewhat different to those deemed most essential by a Londoner. Copenhageners like as many rooms with windows on the street as possible, a certain proportion of them *en suite*, and the dining-room to be unusually large, for the Danes are hospitable people, and are in the habit of dining and entertaining their friends frequently. The size and ventilation of the bedrooms, however, appears to be deemed of less importance than with us; bathrooms are desired, but not always considered a *sine qua non*; the kitchen accommodation must be good, as the Danes are particular about their food that it shall be well prepared and cooked, and of great variety; but the apartments given to the servants are esteemed of less consequence than in England, although there has been of late years an improvement shown in this respect. The domestic servant in Denmark, as in other countries, is to-day of a very independent type, expecting the possession of a latch-key, which is almost

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always given, and apt to consult his or her own convenience as regards the time at which they come in at night.

In Copenhagen dinner parties are the principal form of social entertainment; in former times these were almost invariably given at home, but nowadays it has become more and more the practice to entertain one's friends at restaurants. But it is still the custom occasionally to give a large dinner-party at home, to which all who have any claim to be present are invited, with others with whom friendship is desired.

Such a dinner party is usually a bright and pleasant function, for the host drinks individually with his guests, and they with their neighbours and friends. On these and on special occasions toasts are drunk, speeches made, and often some poetic friend or member of the family has composed a song, copies of which are handed round and sung at table. Unlike the practice with us, it is the custom for the gentlemen to leave the table at the same time as the ladies of the party, but they often adjourn to their host's study or other sanctum for coffee, liqueurs, and a good cigar before rejoining the ladies in the drawing-room. The latter smoke cigarettes or small cigars similar to our "whiffs". Smoking by women has been the custom in Denmark for a considerably longer period than with us.

The Danes are as a rule excellent linguists, so that one often hears at the dinner table, where guests of various nationalities are present, the host and hostess and other Danish guests talking French, German, English, and Swedish, or at least two languages other than their own. Dancing is, as with us, one of the chief amuse-

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ments at the present time, and has been developed enormously as a pastime of late years. The older dances are still seen, but are being rapidly replaced by those of the shorter and more modern type.

In the capital and other large towns Society is not so sharply graded as in England, even to-day. But the landed nobility and untitled landed proprietors form a class by themselves and keep up their exclusiveness. But to this circle are admitted, of course, the members of the Corps Diplomatique and the higher Court officials. The distinctions between the other grades are not very sharply defined; and except in some of the larger of the provincial towns there are few social barriers. In the latter, however, one finds the higher local officials, the Burgomaster, who is the Magistrate; the Chief of the Custom House; the Stationmaster, who is a more important person than with us; the doctor, lawyer, clergy, leading merchants, and perhaps the chemist, who is looked upon with more respect than in England and not as a mere shopkeeper, will have their little circle outside the traders and other members of the community. To this circle in garrison towns the officers usually belong.

In the capital there are fewer social distinctions, and, although there is a naval set and a military set, the members of the Civil Service, professional men, and the more important merchants and those prominent in the arts, and Professors of the university, may be said generally to meet on equal terms and form a definite class in Society.

Regarding the higher circles of Society in Copenhagen it is, speaking generally, less formal than with us—

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though, of course, in recent years a very marked change has swept over London Society. The Court, as we understand the term, is an institution that affects Society far less in Denmark than it does in England. Of course, Court functions are held, including receptions; one or two State Balls during the winter season; and dinner-parties of varying grades of importance, usually on Wednesdays and Sundays, and the New Year's Day Court. King Christian X. is a constitutional monarch, and is noted for his democratic character and accessibility. These are qualities which the freedom-loving, and in a measure hard-headed, Danish race fully appreciate, and they have served to endear the Sovereign to all classes of his people save those who are fundamentally opposed to the idea of a monarchy at all.

Probably in no city in the world where there is a reigning family do Royalty move about with more freedom or with so marked a lack of ceremony as in Copenhagen, and on occasions when members of foreign Royal families are guests of the King and Queen of Denmark, these adopt the same democratic and unceremonious mode of life, and are frequently seen walking in the streets and parks, and at public functions, very often apparently without attendants.

In Denmark most of the titles of nobility, counts and barons, were bestowed by King Christian V. in the latter half of the seventeenth century, when they were conferred on a number of old Danish families and upon a good many Germans who, at that period, were in favour at Court. Nobility, however, in Denmark carries with it no special privileges; and in some instances the officials

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of the State take precedence of the highest nobles. The classifications of rank are amazingly numerous and very complicated and perplexing to English people. These classifications consist of titles, offices, orders, and birth. There are altogether nine classes, subdivided into a dozen subsections, each of which may be again subdivided. The holders of titles pay annual taxes for the privilege, ranging from a little less than ten pounds down to a few shillings. To the great perplexity of some foreigners there are in Danish Society circles some score of different titles, which should always be used in conversation. And even in ordinary life it is considered right to say, for example, "May I have the pleasure, Mr. Head Stationmaster, of offering you a cigar?" Or, "Will you, Mr. Tramways Inspector, be so good as to direct me to the Radhuspladsen?"

Ladies who are wives of officials have an "inde" tacked on to the titles of their husbands. This "inde" is the equivalent of the English feminine "ess", so that one addresses a lady the wife of a Colonel as "Coloneless", or "Mrs. Stationmistress". In correspondence, and in addressing titled persons in writing, the complications are even more bewildering. Persons of the highest rank are "Excellencies", and ladies of a similar position are addressed as "Your Grace". Then come the gentlemen of a little inferior rank, who in documents are referred to as "High-wellborn". The next grade lower is somewhat strangely known as "High-and-Wellborn"; the lowest class of all are addressed as "Well-Honourable" or "Wellbred" in correspondence. It must be said, however, that this practice is mostly

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confined nowadays to official correspondence, and is not used in merely friendly communications.

Although the titles of nobility confer, as we have remarked, no special prerogative beyond the rank granted, they do, however, carry with them, as regards the first three grades, the right for the daughters of the family to enter one of the "convents of nobility" and enjoy an annual income; and in the case of a limited number, the additional privilege of residence in one of the old "convents" on payment of a very moderate entrance fee.

In regard to other matters relating to the social life of the nation it may be remarked that sports and pastimes, as understood in England, have been a comparatively modern development in Denmark. But for more than half a century Rifle Associations and Athletic Clubs have existed and flourished. English games were first introduced into Denmark about thirty years ago, and they have attained a very considerable degree of popularity. The main organization for their promotion is known as the "Dansk Idræts-Forbund" or Danish Sports Association.

The headquarters of this are in Copenhagen, but almost every town in Denmark of any size has its branch organization, and within its very comprehensive title are included lawn tennis, football, boxing, swimming, fencing, yachting, golf, and other well-known games. The different Associations are independent, but the Danish Sports Association is the representative body as regards all sports in Denmark, and controls big international meetings.

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The Sports Stadium in Copenhagen has a handsome and commodious club-house, and is the centre of national sport. It numbers among its members most of those who have distinguished themselves in the various sports now so popular in Denmark, and has also many distinguished supporters among the aristocracy and wealthy commercial men.

CHAPTER VII

COPENHAGEN AS AN ART CENTRE; ITS GALLERIES, COLLECTIONS, AND PUBLIC BUILDINGS

DENMARK has in the past made her contribution to the Art of Scandinavia, but until Thorvaldsen had produced no outstanding genius; though it must be recorded that in the sixteenth and seventeenth centuries the art of wood-carving and wrought ironwork reached a high level of excellence.

It was not, however, until about the middle of the last century that Denmark commenced to produce painters of the front rank, whose work, though admittedly not of the highest genius, yet will always be remembered with admiration for the great advance it showed on previous attainment.

Much that is best in national character and scenery has found expression in Danish painting since Eckersberg—who may at least in some respects be compared with Millet—first placed his easel in the open fields and painted what he saw. And during the last hundred years or so there has been a steady though by no means sensational development, and about thirty years ago the so-called “Secessionist” movement began to make its influence felt.

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The work of the leading Danish artists of the last half-century, we think, very distinctly shows that as a school they have always possessed a leaning towards reality and strength, as opposed to sentimentality and the mere "pretty prettiness" which chiefly intrigues the multitude. They have, too, just as clearly shown a decided preference for national and homely subjects, and some disinclination for development along the lines of purely imaginative work.

It is perhaps for this reason that much of the Art produced in the last few years of the nineteenth century and the early years of the present strikes the foreigner as lacking in sweetness and decorative beauty. It must be conceded, however, that there are several artists to-day whose work shows these qualities allied to a breadth of treatment which is in keeping with modern ideas.

This is not the place to specify the artists who have in these later times done so much to raise the standard of Danish painting, but the student visiting Denmark will readily gain a knowledge of these from the excellent examples of their works to be found in the various galleries and collections in which Copenhagen is so rich. There is, of course, a National Exhibition comparable to our Royal Academy held at Charlottenborg at the end of March or beginning of April in each year, and known as the Spring Exhibition. And about the same time, or a little later, there is what is known as the Exhibition of "Free" Art. As will be gathered from its title, this is chiefly concerned with the work of the more advanced painters who may, perhaps, most accurately be described as "Secessionists". They are a group of artists who

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find themselves in opposition to the restrictions imposed by the Charlottenborg officials, who occupy a jurisdiction analogous to that held by those at Burlington House. It will be found, however, that many of the leading Danish artists "show" at both exhibitions; and indeed, except in the work of a comparatively few modern art extremists, there is not a great difference to be discovered in the pictures exhibited.

Copenhagen as a city is assuredly interested in art, for works are purchased annually from the two chief exhibitions as well as from leading artists direct for the National Gallery, and private benefactors have in the past shown extreme generosity in securing for Copenhagen from time to time works of outstanding merit or interest from Danish artists for inclusion in various collections and galleries.

It is chiefly in the field of applied art that Danish craftsmen and artists have won most distinction in recent years. This is especially the case with reference to porcelain. Much that is both original and inherently beautiful has been produced at the Royal Porcelain Factory, and by other manufacturers and artists of recent years, and the work of Copenhagen and Danish porcelain artists has become world-famous. The goldsmiths and silversmiths of Denmark are still, as in ancient times, craftsmen whose work is of distinguished excellence and beauty.

Copenhagen is the national centre of Literature as well as of Art. The chief Danish publishing houses have their headquarters in the capital, and to it writers tend and, indeed, seek to gravitate. Speaking generally,

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native authors do not travel far afield for their themes or scenes of their novels. Most of them have preferred a native *motif*, and some fine works have appeared during the last few decades, a number of which have been translated into English and other European languages. Many Danish novels and romances are distinguished by great gifts of characterization and a courageous dealing with the problems of modern life. But these problems are often those rather of the spirit than of the more material things of life. A simplicity and directness of style and plot, and an avoidance of elaboration in the various scenes of their stories, characterizes the work of quite a number of the leading Danish novelists, who are distinguished for their keen observation of men and women. Often their pages are marked by both cynicism and humour. In the novels of not a few of the most distinguished Danish writers of fiction there is present a distinctly anti-religious sentiment, which varies in obviousness and intensity according to the strength of conviction on the part of the author, rather than being in any way influenced by the conventions of life or by the canons of public opinion.

Those who are able to read Danish authors in their own language will agree that most of the leading novelists possess a vocabulary of distinct and original beauty, and a gift of expression of an uncommon order. Some, of course, excel in character drawing; others in gifts of description of natural scenery; yet others possess a gift for poetic simile, and a grace of expression.

As with us, women writers are in a distinct minority, but, as is the case with English women novelists, several

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are notable for their unconventional choice of subjects and the freedom with which they deal with what are called "sex" problems. They are insurgent also in many of their ideas.

It would possibly be incorrect to call the Danes a musical nation, but they are nevertheless extremely fond of music. Really good music rarely fails in its appeal, and among the cultured classes of Denmark there is a very distinct critical faculty developed, more markedly, indeed, than with us. As a result music to please a Danish audience must be really good and not commonplace in character. Much of the music that passes muster in the United States and in England because it is tuneful, "catchy", or novel in form, would fail to arouse any enthusiasm in Denmark.

Native music is characterized by simplicity of form and seriousness of endeavour. It is also usually distinguished by a plaintiveness and sweetness of tone associated in one's mind with Celtic music and Celtic folk-songs. Many of the Danish folk-songs, however, from the fact that they have for their subjects the doings of real or legendary heroes, have often both strength and beauty.

Copenhagen possesses a world-famed Conservatoire of Music, at which the standard of education obtainable is very high. The institution is richly endowed, and is also in receipt of a State subsidy. Its foundation in its present form dates from 1866, and during that period it has had many famous and distinguished musicians attached to it.

Copenhagen is for music-lovers a city offering many

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attractions, for there music is brought within the reach of all classes of the community. Military bands play in the principal parks; and on Sunday afternoons there are good popular concerts, to which the admission fee is only a nominal sum, say twopence to threepence. During the winter months there are excellent orchestral concerts, with good soloists, with very low prices of tickets.

With theatres Copenhagen is well provided, for there are about a dozen which may be said to count. But, as is the practice in so many Continental capitals and cities, most of these are closed during the summer months. Ranking first is the Royal Theatre, which is, except for the Comédie Française, Paris, the doyen among such institutions. It has notable traditions, and from 1761 has received a grant from the King's Privy Purse. In 1772 it became known as the Royal Danish Playhouse. One curious and interesting fact in connection with it is the former privilege granted it of having the monopoly of all plays which were worth performing, whether of native or of foreign origin. Until a little more than a quarter of a century ago all the other playhouses had to content themselves with light comedies, etc., and were licensed under these conditions. Eventually, however, a change was brought about and the right to a number of plays, which had hitherto been the monopoly of the Royal Theatre, was surrendered, the State Theatre reserving about 160 plays, subject to the condition that it should produce them within a period of ten years.

The Royal Theatre produces during its season, which lasts from the first of September until the end of May, operas, plays, and ballets, and it has a large and efficient

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stock company. The actors, actresses, and dancers who hold Royal appointments are looked upon as permanent officials; they, fortunately for themselves, are pensioned on their retirement, and some do not retire until a good old age. Many of those attached to the theatre have been connected with it for periods of half a century, having entered as children in the ballet school, till they have worked their way up and have been absorbed in opera or drama.

In Copenhagen few go on the stage without having had the best possible training, for in addition to the school for teaching dancing there are others for actors and actresses, in which all the intricacies of the actor's art are taught.

In the *repertoire* of the Royal Theatre are the most famous tragedies, dramas, comedies, and operas in all languages, but most of the ballets are of Danish origin, for Denmark has produced many notable dancers.

Shakespeare is frequently and admirably staged, and Holberg, who has been named Denmark's Molière, is often acted. Ibsen is also popular, and he stands in a class by himself. All his plays were first produced at the Royal Theatre, just as all his published works were first issued in Copenhagen. Light comedies are produced, but only occasionally. The actor's art is looked upon very seriously, as his mission is considered to be the finished interpretation of life in its many-sided aspects.

For this reason, in Copenhagen, actors and actresses of the higher rank hold a very good position in Society, and are nearly always very cultured quite apart from their own art. The ballets at the Royal Theatre are always



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distinguished for the beauty of the dancing and the excellence of the wordless acting. In scenic effect, however, and in the elaborateness of the production, they are often less striking than those produced in London, Paris, or Milan.

Other theatres that one cannot afford to overlook in making a reference to theatrical life and acting in Denmark include the "Dagmar", famed both for the excellence of its acting and high literary character of the plays in its *repertoire*, where tragedy, comedy, and farce are all produced.

At the Folk Theatre, which in a measure describes its character by its name, melodrama, farce, and comic opera hold sway, and quite a number of London successes falling into one or other of these categories have been tried, some of which have done very well. The Casino caters for a very similar public, and of the New Theatre perhaps the same may be said.

Copenhagen has fallen, as have most other large cities, under the spell of that spectacular and light entertainment known as *revue*, and the wit in some of those produced at the Scala, which also sometimes stages farces and operettas, is caustic and effective. The same may be said of the entertainments of the Nørrebro Theatre, which caters for patrons with similar taste to those frequenting the Scala. These two theatres possess an advantage for visitors to Copenhagen, as they have both summer and winter seasons.

An interesting theatre, founded by the wife of the well-known writer the late Peter Nansen, and known as the Betty Nansen Theatre, produces dramas, etc., in

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which the actress appears, as did Sarah Bernhardt at her theatre, excelling in modern plays.

One of the most interesting theatres in Copenhagen was the Arbejdernes Theatre, founded in the interests of the working classes. It was owned and carried on by working men and women, from whom were drawn not only the audience but the actors and actresses. Its start was ambitious and interesting, as showing the trend of thought among the industrial classes of Denmark. Its original ambition was to become a "Free" theatre in which the plays of such realists as Strindberg, Emile Zola, Edvard Brandes, and Björnson (or adaptations from their works), could be produced.

Thus the early plays dealt almost exclusively with the perplexing problems of modern life. But in the end the audiences made it clear to the promoters that they knew enough from personal experience of these things and that when they patronised the theatre it was to be taken out of themselves and to be amused. So drama, comedy, and farce of the usual kind, but invariably of a good type, prevailed at the cost of the problem plays and original intention of the founders and promoters.

The actors received their training from a leading member of the profession, and the performances took place every Sunday evening from October till April. The prices charged were very low. This was possible, for the salaries of the actors were but the equivalent of about two guineas per month, so as to obviate their actually being out of pocket. The idea met with considerable success, and the sign of "House Full", which is in Denmark the showing of a red lamp, had often to be exhibited.

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Those who have a knowledge of Danish will from attending some of the Revues in the capital obtain an amusing knowledge of the foibles and failings of the time, and satirical—though never malevolent—portraits of leading public characters are presented. This form of entertainment has many supporters, and some of the actors and actresses appearing in *revue* are extremely talented.

Though the Art of the Danish theatre presents some native and well-defined characteristics, it is after all very similar, speaking generally, to that seen in other capital cities. There is, however, in Copenhagen one place of amusement that is unique—Tivoli.

It is difficult to compare it with anything one comes across in other countries. Luna Park, Paris, is not really like it, or rather is a pinchbeck version. Nothing in London in the way of outdoor amusements and resorts is comparable in any way with Tivoli.

Situated in the very heart of Copenhagen, one enters it beneath a large gateway of distinctly Moorish type. Within the gate is one of the most charming of Copenhagen's parks. It has a natural beauty which far removes it from the category of the usual "amusement parks" of other capitals. Laid out three-quarters of a century ago, it is now a delightful park-like pleasure ground adorned with beautiful trees, gay in summer with flowerbeds, and with a lake that is a portion of the last remnants of the moats of the old fortifications.

Within its area Tivoli has picturesque open-air restaurants, some of the finest of their kind in Europe, and such varied amusements that all tastes are provided

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for. The promenade which begins at the entrance is really a continuation of "Strøget", the promenade which is looked upon by Copenhageners as "the City". In Tivoli the Copenhageners find that atmosphere of cheerfulness and life that appeals to him after his day's work, whatever its character. He can take his evening meal in one of the magnificent restaurants, or simply promenade with his family under the illuminated arches, listening to the fine orchestras, gazing at the fireworks, or visiting one or other of the side-shows and dance floors.

There is the Chinese-looking pantomime theatre to entertain him, with its wonderful curtain in the form of a peacock's tail that, when the feathers fold down at each side, discloses the stage on which are performed modern ballets and old pantomime plays. In the middle of the gardens are lawns, called "Plænen", where during the afternoon performances are given by first-class acrobats and similar artists. And in other portions of the grounds are all sorts of side-shows, to which the younger visitors eagerly flock.

As dusk falls, Tivoli becomes a fairy-like place. One by one the lights appear, and then like a flash the great façade of the Concert Hall, with its Moorish-looking central dome and two flanking minaret-like towers, is illuminated by thousands of tiny lamps, and the Chinese tower behind is outlined with the same brilliance.

There is a saying that those who have not seen Tivoli cannot claim to know Copenhagen, and there is some truth in it. Here one meets among the crowds of its frequenters—which number on fête nights fifty to sixty thousand—all classes of the community, for Copenhagen



GRISCOVEN, THE KING'S PAVILION LAKE

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is a democratic city, and Tivoli caters for the man who can spend the equivalent of a sovereign on his dinner and the working-class father of a family with a couple of shillings or so in his pocket to spend. One is struck with the happiness and good spirits prevailing, also by the absence of the more objectionable attributes of a holiday crowd.

To see Tivoli at its brightest and best one should visit it on a fine summer evening, for preference dining on the terrace of one of its famous restaurants, of which Wivel, with its statues, ornate decorations, and vast dining saloons, is world-famed, and watching the great world go by. On fête nights, when there are magnificent displays of fireworks and the tree-shaded walks are gay with fairy lamps of all colours of the rainbow, the scene is charming; the merry laughter of children mingling with the deeper murmur of crowds in motion, while the music of the several bands comes to one through the openings in the trees in rising and falling cadences. When some magnificent set piece is lit, or maroons or rockets of unusual splendour quiver or rush into the air and star the dark vault of sky with twinkling lights of varied colours, there comes a murmur increasing to a hoarse roar like surf beating along a rocky shore.

What a delightful place Tivoli really is!

In its charming gardens one sees a cosmopolitan crowd and can sense the life of this great city more fully than in any other one given spot. The restaurants are lit up brilliantly, and many of those who move in the best circles of Copenhagen society throng the more expensive and luxurious of them. Beautifully attired women and

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smartly dressed men are to be seen through the great glass windows of the dining-halls, or sitting on the terraces, there dining upon some of the most varied and wonderfully cooked food that can be obtained in any capital city.

The evening meal finished, the tables are pushed aside from the centre of the various restaurant halls, the orchestra strikes up a popular jazz or waltz, and instantly hundreds of dancers have taken possession of the cleared space, the dresses of the women making a veritable kaleidoscope of animated colour. And all the time, below the terraces of the restaurants, on the numerous walks, a great tide of humanity, happy, light-hearted and gay, flows by.

But it would be wrong to think of Tivoli, with its theatres, concert halls, switchbacks, side-shows and outdoor stages on which one watches operettas, vaudevilles, and *revues* performed, and acrobats go through their tricks, as merely a night resort. It is thronged, though not so much so as on Sundays and special fête days, of an afternoon. Everyone who visits Copenhagen is taken by friends to have afternoon tea at Tivoli in one or other of the little pavilions overlooking the placid lake, and one suspects from the company one sees there that many business people snatch a few minutes of relaxation to drink a cup of tea amid such charming surroundings and in the fresh air.

There are also plenty of children to be seen in Tivoli, and they, with their attendant nurses, add life and brightness to the scene.

In Copenhagen the children are well cared for in

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the parks and open spaces, and here as elsewhere one finds properly equipped playgrounds, with low stone-topped tables on which the children can make "puddings" with the sand, play with their toys, or draw with coloured chalks.

From pictures of outdoor life one may well turn to those in the galleries, and students of art will find much to interest them in the various collections of the Danish capital. First and foremost among these is that housed in the old Prinsens Palace, which stands near the south-west corner of Christiansborg Castle. It is a fine building in the Dutch style, was built in 1744 by Eigtved, and was a Royal residence for some considerable time, both Christian VI. and Frederik V. living there when Princes Royal. It was restored in 1906, and is now given up to the National Museum collections.

These comprise articles from the earliest times down to about 1660; the Ethnographical Collection of Antiquities; and the collection of coins and medals. It forms an admirable home for such treasures, although there is not space, unfortunately, to show some of the collections to the greatest advantage. That of coins and medals is one of the largest and most important in Europe. And the antiques comprise many items of unique interest, among them the heads from the Parthenon. The Ethnographical Collection, which was commenced in 1849, and was the first of its kind in Europe, contains the most complete collection of exhibits illustrating Eskimo civilization.

The high standing of this National Museum among those of other countries is, however, largely owing to

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its unexampled collection of Danish prehistoric survivals from the remotest times, including those of the Stone, Bronze, and Iron Ages. It was founded in 1807. The collections from later and historical periods are also very interesting, valuable, and extensive. Among the most important may be mentioned the magnificent collection of Romanesque church ornaments of the twelfth and thirteenth centuries; in it are some remarkable altar ornaments of hammered and gilded copper of native workmanship, and a very rich collection of baroque silversmiths' work, and furniture.

It is impossible, of course, to indicate even the principal objects in such a collection, the catalogue of which is a large book in itself, but no one can visit these delightful rooms and galleries in which it is contained in the charming old building without being amazed at the artistic wealth and skill of even remote times. In the fourth century there were workers, for example, whose productions have come down to us which are of high artistic merit. Some of the bronze and gold vessels from the Bronze Age to the fourth century are extremely fine examples. Perhaps one may mention as of especial value and interest—even among so much that is almost equally so—the very completely furnished grave of a woman found at Juellinge near Nakskov; the objects taken from the wooden tomb of Gorm the Old at Jellinge; the famous cross of Gunnhilde, once belonging to the daughter of Svend Estridsen; the tiny enamelled cross found in the coffin of Queen Dagmar in Ringsted Church; early figures of the Virgin and Saints; and in the room covering the period 1536 to 1660 some fine examples

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of drinking vessels. The Gobelins tapestries, depicting Danish kings, woven in 1581-84, never fail to excite admiration. They came from Kronborg Castle.

The Collection originally in the old museum, founded by Frederik III. and forming the nucleus of the Ethnographical Collection, was opened by C. J. Thomsen in 1849. It was owing to the energy and enterprise of the latter that it grew rapidly and attained to its present high place among the great collections of its kind. It consists of objects illustrating the culture of other than European peoples. Most nations of the world not excluded by this restriction are represented, from Greenland to Fiji, and from South America to China and Japan. The museum is particularly rich in antiquities of the tribes of Central Africa. Among the many objects of special note one may mention those relating to the religions of the world.

On the ground floor of the building is housed the Collection of Antiquities, founded by Frederik III. and established by C. J. Thomsen as a separate section. To this has been added the private collection of King Christian VIII. It may be justly claimed that the collection gives a connected representation of the culture of classical antiquity.

In the Grecian and Italian Sections one finds many objects from the excavations at Troy, and a very fine collection of vases dating from the seventh to fourth century B.C., showing a retrospective idea of the development of the art, and objects of the Roman Empire period from the first century before Christ.

The Royal Collection of Coins and Medals comprises

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specimens of all nations and periods. In all it contains more than 150,000 coins, medals, tokens, and bank-notes, and is one of the most extensive, richest, and most interesting in Europe. In the opinion of expert judges the Mediæval Section is richer than that of any other museum. In the collection are Danish coins from the earliest times down to the present day, including some very curious hollow, and very thin, coins dating from the twelfth century. The oldest European coin bearing a date is one struck in the reign of Valdemar Sejer, dated 1234.

No one can visit this fine museum without being struck with the admirable arrangement of the specimens and other objects, and the wonderful completeness of some of the sections.

The Art Museum belonging to the State is charmingly situated in the Östre Anlæg with a pleasant garden in front of it. In this there are a number of notable works by Danish sculptors which are of great interest. This is one of the most picturesque districts of the city. The handsome building in which the great collection is housed is only some thirty years old, and was erected from the designs of the well-known architects V. Dahlerup and George E. W. Müller. It is opposite the old Sölvgade Barracks, and is ornamented with a number of striking portrait medallions.

Here one has collected together the national art treasures, including paintings, sculptures, engravings, drawings, and casts. It is divided into several sections: The collection of paintings and sculptures, in which there is a rich and representative gathering of works by Danish artists, old masters, and examples of the work of Swedish,

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Norwegian, and Finnish artists. Another section is devoted to the Royal Collection of Engravings, comprising some 100,000 examples, prints, etchings, engravings on wood, and drawings. And yet a third to that of the Royal Collection of Casts.

In this fine building Danish art is remarkably well represented, and there are some striking examples by the better-known artists of the Funen School. Not the least interesting are works by various artists who, though not natives of Denmark, were employed in Copenhagen and elsewhere in the eighteenth century. Especially notable, too, are the works of Eckersberg, the pupil of David in Paris, who founded a new and very interesting school of painting in the early years of the nineteenth century, which was very characteristic. His pupils' works should also be noted.

The value of the works of sculpture, too, is very considerable. And most of the notable Danish masters since Thorvaldsen are represented.

The weak points in the collections of paintings are, we think, chiefly found in the Italian, German, Spanish, and Early Dutch schools, which unfortunately from a student's point of view are not at all strongly represented. The Museum, in fact, contains nothing by artists of these schools of first-rate importance. But nevertheless there are pictures of interest to students and art lovers that no one should overlook. Dutch art from the seventeenth century onwards is, however, well represented. And there are several good Rembrandts, especially "Christ at Emmaus". French art of the modern schools is as yet, unfortunately, not adequately represented.

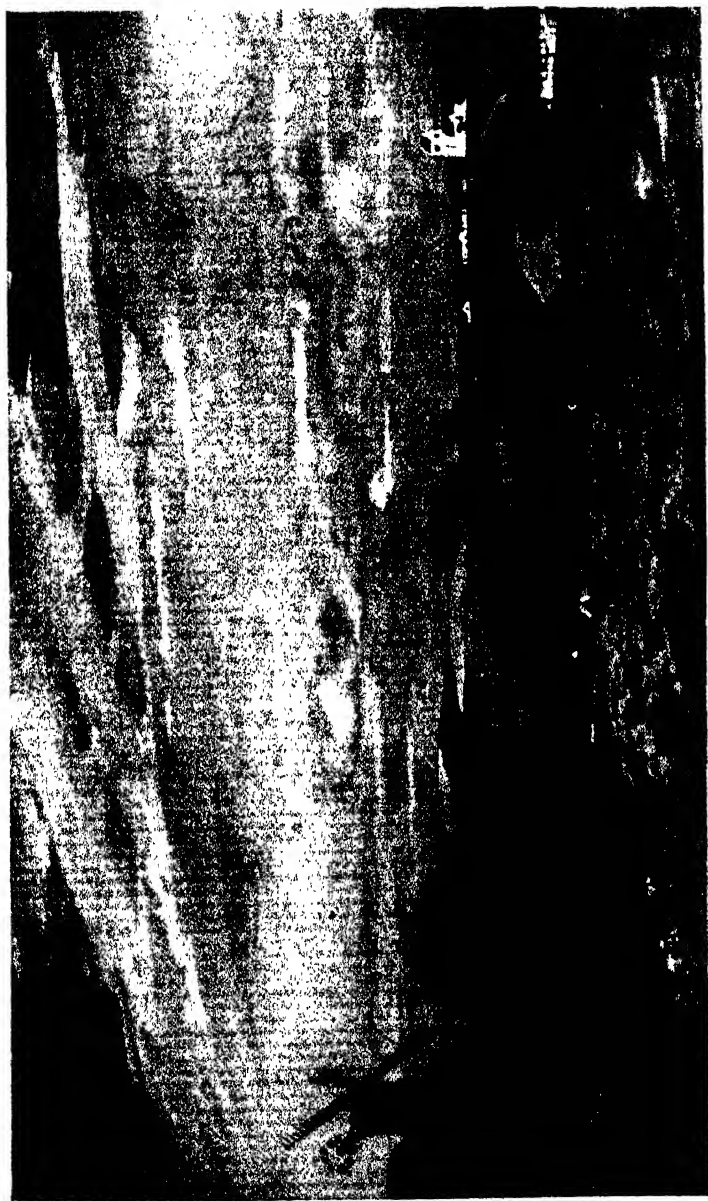
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The Royal Collection of Engravings, numbering some 10,000 examples, is rather rich in works by Albrecht Dürer, though lacking in representative works by some other masters of note. The Collection of Casts is chiefly of value because it contains those of works of sculpture for many centuries from the earliest times down to the eighteenth century, and thus affords a history of the art.

On the northern side of the Östre Anlæg is the building containing the Hirschsprung Collection. This is one of the numerous private benefactions which have marked municipal life in the Danish capital in recent and remoter times. It bears the name of the donor, and consists chiefly of modern paintings by native artists from the nineteenth century down to very recent times, and is well worth visiting.

One is quite close to the lakes, and from the end of the Dronning Louise's Bro (Queen Louise Bridge) there is a charming view to Vesterbro and Öesterbro, and of the beautiful promenade on both sides of the lakes.

Among the many fine modern buildings of which Copenhagen can boast must be placed the handsome Ny Carlsberg Glyptotek. It strikes one as admirable in every way as one approaches it across the Dante Square, with its fine dome adding to the striking silhouette which in its architecture seems to convey to the mind the purpose of the building. Erected in 1882, it was the gift to the city of Dr. Carl Jacobsen and his wife. A portion of the building was opened in 1897 from designs by V. Dahlerup, and in this are placed the chief examples of Danish and French sculptures; the latter collection being the most complete outside France. There are also



A TYPICAL DANISH LANDSCAPE, SOUTH JUTLAND

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in this portion of the building a small collection of Renaissance art, a collection of medallions and plaques, and a gallery of paintings by Danish and modern French artists.

The Antique Section contains a very considerable and select collection of Egyptian and Græco-Roman sculptures, including a unique collection of Græco-Roman portrait busts. On the ground floor of the building one has the Helbig Museum, containing the Etruscan collection; the Palmyra collection, which has the distinction of being the largest in the world; and early Christian sculptures.

Of this beautiful and interesting Art Gallery one of the most pleasing and individual features is the delightful conservatory in which there are fountains, palms, and seats, as well as some notable works of art. There are few capitals that can boast of so admirable an Art Gallery given to them as an act of private munificence, and containing on the whole so interesting a collection of works of art.

Amongst the sculptures on the exterior of the building and in the Glyptotek Garden are many interesting examples of French and Danish artists, among them works by Rodin: "The Citizens of Calais"; "The Horse-Breakers", by Vincotte; "The Drunken Faun" and "Hermes", by L. Brandstrup, and a fine statue of the great painter A. J. Carstens.

To visit another great art collection, where is gathered together so much representative of Thorvaldsen's genius, one must take one's way to the canal near Christianborg Church, behind which stands the Museum.

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It holds one of the most important art collections in the city, and comprises 700 items of or connected with the great sculptor's work.

Thorvaldsen ranks as incomparably the greatest sculptor Denmark has produced. He was born in Copenhagen on November 19, 1770, but was of Icelandic descent on his father's side, his mother being the daughter of a Jutland farmer. He inherited his artistic gifts from his father, who was a wood-carver of some repute. Thorvaldsen studied at Copenhagen under Johannes Wiedewelt the sculptor, and the painter N. Abildgaard. Aided by a Government grant he was able to travel abroad and visited and studied in Italy, going to Naples by sea and then on to Rome, where he came under the influence of Zoega the archæologist, and the artist A. J. Carstens. A rather remarkable fact is that Thorvaldsen produced no particularly notable or important work until he had attained the age of thirty-three, and it was not until 1803 that his "Jason" attracted the attention of an English connoisseur, Thomas Hope, whose order for a replica of the young sculptor's work may be said to have started him on a successful career.

Thorvaldsen's genius, however, was destined to mature slowly, but it was always progressive, and his work advanced steadily in inspiration and his reputation increased. His genius was to find its most adequate and most successful expression in a chaste interpretation of the antique, and was first appreciated at its true value by English, Scandinavian, and German art critics and connoisseurs.

His work was from the first much appreciated in

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Italy, and Canova described him as "a man with divine inspiration". On Canova's death, in 1822, the Italians looked upon Thorvaldsen as the greatest of the then living sculptors.

Until 1820 he worked almost exclusively at antique subjects; but in later years he became identified in the public mind with his magnificent religious and monumental works, which are to be seen in the Frue Kirke, which since 1920 has been Copenhagen's cathedral, and elsewhere. He became ultimately the head of a group of young sculptors to whom he entrusted the execution of many of his own designs. He lived much in Italy, but came to Denmark in 1819 for a year, after which he went back to Rome, where he remained until 1838. He returned to his native land in that year, and lived in Copenhagen and elsewhere in Denmark—with one short visit to Italy—until his tragic death in the stalls of the Royal Theatre, Copenhagen, on March 24, 1844.

The Museum strikes one as being of a somewhat strange type of architecture until one remembers that the building is not only an art gallery, but also the last resting-place of the great artist. His tomb, which is overgrown with ivy, is placed in the central court immediately opposite the entrance, and is open to the sky, the walls of the vault are beautifully decorated, and the visitor is at once struck by the impressive simplicity of the scheme and its surroundings. The building which encloses this open court was erected in 1839-48 from the designs of M. G. B. Bindesböll, who in his general scheme made a liberal use of colours which, unfortunately, on the exterior of the building have

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suffered greatly from the climate and weather conditions. Surmounting the principal façade there is a fine group in bronze the subject of which is "Victory in her Chariot", with a team of four horses, which was made by Bissen partly from Thorvaldsen's own design. The other three sides of the building are ornamented with reliefs in coloured cement representing scenes in the life of the great sculptor.

On the northern side is the representation of the reception accorded to him on his return to Copenhagen in 1838; on the western and eastern sides are scenes of the unloading of his works of art at the docks.

On the first floor of the building and northern side are contained the collection of paintings and drawings made by contemporary artists of the sculptor himself. The early works of the master are to be found in the basement.

To specify more than two or three of the works which have become famous, have especial beauty, or which strike the visitor most distinctly, is impossible, but as being notable among the best examples of the artist's work one is not likely to overlook the world-famous "Lion of Lucerne", which commemorates the stand made by the Swiss Guards during the French Revolution on August 1792 in defence of Louis XVI. and Marie Antoinette; "Alexander's Entry into Babylon"; "The Dance of the Muses"; the famous reliefs, "Night" and "Day"; "Mercury as the Slayer of Argus"—one of his most celebrated works; "The Princess Baryatinsky"; in the Christ Hall, "Come unto Me", and the relief, "Christ's Entry into Jerusalem"; and in another room

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the charming statue of the little English girl Georgina Russell.

There are also antique collections dealing with Egypt, Rome, Greece, and Etruria, and some interesting old furniture.

The Museum of Applied Art, sometimes overlooked, we fancy, on account of its name, which seems to suggest a purely technical collection, is housed in the fine building, approached through a courtyard, formerly the Frederik's Hospital. It was erected in 1752-57 from the plans of Eigtved and L. Thurah, and still retains its old-world appearance.

The collection is in the main building, which forms a long four-sided structure, the four wings of which enclose the charming courtyard shaded by its linden trees. The object of the Museum is to promote Danish art as applied to industry, and is well worth the study of those interested in such developments. In addition to works of art of European and Oriental origin it contains collections showing the development of Danish applied art from the middle of the eighteenth century onwards. The ceramic collection is the most important, and is especially notable for the number and excellence of the specimens of Copenhagen porcelain. There are some fine examples of Renaissance furniture, carvings from Slesvig and North Germany, and some 600 rare and ancient musical instruments. A special library of more than 12,000 volumes, and one relating to musical history, is also found in this interesting and comparatively ancient building.

The wonderful Rosenborg Collection, which is one

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no visitor to the Danish capital should miss seeing, is housed in the charming turreted Palace standing in the Kongens Have to the north of the great business quarters of central Copenhagen. The approach in some measure prepares one for the treasures that the building contains. The latter is one of the most beautiful of the many with which Christian IV. sought to adorn his capital. There is an element of romance attached to it, as the builder is unknown. It appears likely, however, that the King was his own builder, or at least directed the operations, and may even have been responsible in some measure for the plans themselves.

Rosenborg Palace is easily reached by way of the wide, straight Gothersgade from Kongens Nytorv, which the visitor to Copenhagen soon comes to regard as the best and natural centre from which to start his explorations of the city.

As one approaches the Castle or Palace, for it is known as both, one obtains many delightful vistas of it through the avenues of stately trees of its delightful park, and across the green lawns by which it is surrounded.

The fine old building, in the Dutch Renaissance style so prevalent in Northern Europe at the period of its erection, with its red brick walls with their white stone dressings, mellowed by age and weather, was long a Royal Palace and residence. It has a charming copper-tiled roof, and dates from 1608 to 1617. At the time of its erection it stood quite outside the city, and during the seventeenth and eighteenth centuries was constantly in Royal occupation. It was here that its builder Christian IV. died in 1648.

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Though only since the beginning of the present century given over entirely to the purposes of a Museum, the Castle was from the time of its erection the repository of many art treasures. Indeed, Christian IV. left a very valuable nucleus of the present collections. Frederik III., who succeeded him, founded it as a family museum somewhat on the lines of that of the Hapsburg family at Castle Ambras, near Innsbruck. From the time of Frederik III. many works of art, much unique furniture, costumes, weapons, jewellery, and other bric-a-brac and valuables have been deposited here, collected by the sovereigns of the House of Oldenburg, who were great patrons of the arts.

During the reign of Frederik VI. these priceless treasures were catalogued and arranged under the direction of the noted antiquary J. J. A. Worsaae.

In the year 1858 the collection became known as the Chronological Collection of the Danish Kings, and with the Danish Folk Museum it forms a connection with and completion of the old Northern Museums, that is to say, the Danish collections of the National Museum. As each king passed away it became the custom to place in the Rosenborg portions of the wardrobe, the arms, jewellery, and furniture of the deceased monarch.

The palace itself is a delightful building, very well preserved, interesting and picturesque. The fact that the furniture and decorations of many of the rooms are as they were originally adds greater interest to the interior. This remark applies particularly to some of the most historically and artistically interesting, which are those dating from the reigns of Frederik IV. and Christian VI.

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In the case of the rooms dating from the period 1746 to 1863, alterations in the arrangements have been made from time to time.

The oldest and, perhaps one may say, the most interesting part of the collection is that comprised of objects formerly belonging to the Kings of the House of Oldenburg prior to Christian VI. These are older than the building itself. The four apartments first seen after entering the Castle: the stone passage, the turret chamber, the study, and the Audience Chamber, all remain unaltered as from the earliest days.

One has in this ancient building a veritable treasure house. It is impossible to see everything of interest, much less note it, in even several visits, but among the objects that we imagine no one fails to see are the famous Oldenburg Horn in the Turret Chamber; the gold and enamel chalices which have figured in so many historic events; and the goblets of lapis lazuli, jasper and agate, and other semi-precious stones. In the Audience Chamber one sees a fine bust in bronze of Christian IV. by F. Dieussart, and an object which never fails to thrill the curious, the blood-stained handkerchief of that monarch used by him at the Battle of Kolberger Heide in 1644, near the island of Fehmern.

In the study are several objects of outstanding interest, including a magnificent riding dress embroidered with gold and ornamented with pearls and diamonds.

In the fine and spacious chamber known as the Marble room, which contains many articles dating from the period of Frederik III., one finds bric-a-brac in gold, silver, enamel, and ivory, ornamented with precious

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stones. The furniture of this room is especially interesting, and there is among it a splendid example of the famous French artist in furniture, A. C. Boulle, in the shape of a magnificent cabinet in red tortoiseshell ornamented with inlaid silver. The beautiful model of the historically famous frigate, the "*Norske Löve*", in ivory, and the fine baroque ceiling, which dates from 1665, never fail to excite the admiration of visitors.

It is not often that one sees such a bowl as that found in the last room on the ground floor. It is known as the Wismar bowl, and is cut out of a solid block of rock crystal.

The first floor is largely devoted to the collections of furniture and other articles of the period covered by the reign of Frederik IV. The magnificent silver furniture is almost entirely of Italian workmanship. There are notable tapestries which none interested in the art of weaving should miss seeing, and some fine specimens of carved ivories by the noted Norwegian craftsman Magnus Berg.

The Banqueting Hall on the second floor is a truly magnificent apartment, running the whole length of the castle. Although the tapestries which adorn the walls are fine, and of Gobelins design, they are the work of the artist Van der Eichen, and were made in Denmark. The ceiling is a very handsome one, dating from the eighteenth century. It is in this wonderfully designed chamber, the polished parquet flooring of which reflects dazzlingly the light falling upon it through the wide and lofty windows, that is placed at one end the Royal Throne made of narwhals' teeth, in front of which, a

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few paces distant, stand the three famous lions cast in chased silver.

Out of this beautiful saloon opens a tower room in which is displayed a magnificent and unique collection of Venetian glass, brought from Italy by Frederik IV. in 1709.

Days might well be spent in the inspection of the multitude of interesting and unique specimens of the craftsmen of past ages, who worked in almost every conceivable material and in every period since the first objects of these unrivalled collections were placed in their so suitable and charming environment.

Perhaps Christian V.'s room is that which in the end leaves the most deep and spectacular impression upon the mind of the average visitor. Here, or rather in the vaults underneath it, are kept the Crown jewels, of the estimated value of upwards of two millions sterling. In this estimate, however, it should be remembered that little account is taken of the sentimental value of many of the objects comprising the regalia of Denmark, nor of the fact that many of these are of inestimable worth owing to their antiquity and unique character.

In this category must be placed the wonderful mediæval crown thickly encrusted with gems.

One enters the room and there is no appearance of the treasures it is reputed to contain. But in the centre of the parquet floor the eye of a keen observer will notice that there is a square place as though a portion of the flooring had been cut out and put back without trouble being taken to remove all traces of the operation. An attendant leaves one for a moment, and gradually the

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floor opens, and the onlooker sees something ascending through the cavity. It is a steel safe, glass-sided, approximately seven feet in height, and about four feet square.

In a moment or two it has come to rest in the centre of the room, and one is almost blinded by the flash and sparkle of the countless jewels this wonderful glass-sided case contains. There are crowns, one at least older than even the Middle Ages, encrusted with precious stones; sceptres of ivory studded with gems; jewel-hilted swords; orbs glittering with diamonds, rubies, sapphires, emeralds, amethysts, and the radiance of pearls; articles of personal jewellery of great beauty and value. Indeed, a king's ransom not once but many times over.

One leaves this treasure house, of the wonderful contents of which these jewels form a part, with the impression that one has been in touch with the life and beautiful things of past ages, gathered lovingly together in this mellowed seventeenth-century Renaissance building, and with a greater and more intimate knowledge of the achievements of past masters in the arts which are so wonderfully represented in the various collections displayed in the spacious rooms.

As one leaves the Castle and makes one's way through the delightful park one comes across the statue to Hans Christian Andersen at the end of the Ladies' Walk. The park was laid out by Christian IV. in 1606, and it possesses some fine bronze statues and groups; of the latter one of the most notable is that standing near the bridge, dating from the time when the park was laid out, and consisting of a horse attacked by a lion. One of the

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most picturesque walks is that known as the Cavalier's, where stands the Hercules Pavilion, containing three works of J. Baratta and a relief by J. Wiedewelt. The present-day garden of the Castle was formerly the Royal orchard, in which is Rudolf Tegner's charming "Well of the Dancing Girls".

In the south-western portion of the city lies Frederiksberg Castle, reached from the broad Raadhuspladsen by the wide Vesterbrogade and the fine Frederiksberg Allé. It is surrounded by a picturesque park, the charm of which is considerably increased by several sheets of ornamental water. In the main the castle dates from the eighteenth century, the northern portion being built by Frederik IV. in the first decade, and the lower wings and semicircular portion by Christian VI. about 1730 to 1740. The castle stands on rising ground, and although built at various periods and the work of several architects, forms a beautiful and harmonious whole in the Italian style of architecture which was popular at the time of its erection. The Military Academy now has possession of the castle, and here, too, courts-martial are held. For a considerable period formerly, however, from the reign of Frederik IV. till that of Frederik VI. it was used as a Royal residence.

A visit is worth while if only for the beautiful view of the city obtained from its terrace, and also from the eastern side of Frederiksberg Hill.

The gardens surrounding the castle are delightful with many tree-shaded walks, and on account of the sheets of ornamental water or canals are additionally attractive. Originally laid out in the French style at the

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time of the building of the castle, the gardens were ultimately reconstructed in the English fashion at the commencement of the last century.

Close to the main entrance to the park are two long, low buildings, which were formerly the wings of the Princesses' residence, erected in 1663 by Frederik III.

Most visitors to Copenhagen know the noted café known as Josty's, which is just inside the park entrance, a great resort in summer, and near which is the landing stage for the boats on the water. One of the most charming features of the park is the so-called Chinese summer-house, standing on an islet, which was in former times used by Frederik VI. as a tea-pavilion. And near by is a house of literary interest, in that it was for some time the home of the poet Oehlenschläger.

It is in this quarter of the city that the Royal Danish Horticultural Society has its model nursery and testing grounds for seeds, and in the grounds take place the various flower shows which are so popular in Denmark on account of the love the Danes have for flowers.

CHAPTER VIII

SOME PICTURES OF COPENHAGEN : CASTLES, PALACES, AND ITS FREE PORT

To all cities there is a natural centre to which the commerce, interest, and life appear to gravitate. One is not long in Copenhagen before realizing that the centre of traffic and of much of its varied life is round about the great Raadhuspladsen or Town Hall Square, a wide, open space overshadowed by the fine and impressive block of buildings which constitutes the Municipal Offices.

The Raadhuspladsen, too, is a perfectly natural centre, for it is but a short distance from the railway terminus, and as one emerges from the station one receives an immediate and very striking impression of the Danish capital and its cosmopolitan life.

Here from the early morning hours until towards midnight the streams of traffic are continuous and immense. Two of the most important flow in from the suburbs of Frederiksberg and Vesterbro, meeting and mingling with other streams which have their origin in the streets of the more densely populated districts of the inner town.

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The Raadhuspladsen is an excellent standpoint from which to study the types of the Copenhageners; varied, indeed, and of greatest interest to all who come to the capital. One here sees all grades of the community which in the mass make up the population. The merchant prince in his luxurious limousine, and the young or older clerk upon his indispensable bicycle; and the mannequin of one of the fashionable dress houses in her car in contrast with the humbler typist and book-keeper of the smaller businesses afoot; with, in addition, all classes of working-class men and women.

Naturally so fine a situation has been seized upon for the locale of many of the best hotels, business premises, restaurants, and newspaper offices, and with these the great Square is surrounded; while near by one finds some of the principal places of amusement, with the great Town Hall dominating the bustling scene, set back a little from a slight hollow space, known as the "Mussel shell", which has a pavement formed of mosaic. The fine tower is the loftiest of its kind in Northern Europe, and reaches the height of 342 feet above the pavement.

The first Raadhus goes back to the very early days of Copenhagen, as it was destroyed as early as 1368. The present building is the fifth in a series, and was commenced in 1892, the foundation stone being laid two years later, and the whole finished, except for unimportant details, in 1902, the official opening taking place three years later.

No one can say that Copenhagen's Town Hall is not an impressive and handsome building with its main façade, which is 420 feet in length, having a depth of

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some 233 feet. It is from designs by Professor Martin Nyrop, and is interesting architecturally, notwithstanding the fact that it is a homely rather than an ornate and striking type of edifice. In its design there is a clever blending of the Dutch and Italian schools in a novel way. It does not, however, follow strictly any ancient canon of architecture, but excels in the treatment of details and in the clever use of materials. These are chiefly red brick, granite, limestone, and terra-cotta, and the general effect is very pleasing; the red walls creating an impression of warmth.

The decorations, both of the exterior and interior, are well carried out, and among these are sculptures by Bundgaard, and some striking seascapes, which are very appropriate to the Town Hall of a great port, by Möller Jensen. The building contains some 600 rooms, and the total cost up to the present time has been about six million kroner.

On the Boulevard side of the Town Hall stands the famous "Dragon" fountain, round which in summer there is always gathered a group of admirers. It is the work of Thorvald Bindesböll and Joakim Skovgaard, and was placed there in 1904.

One feature of the exterior of the Town Hall that never escapes the curious attention of visitors to the capital is the row of figures placed along the roof, which is ornamented by crenellated battlements and small corner towers. These figures represent the ancient watchmen of the city, and are armed with long-handled staves or maces. At the corners of the roof are polar bears.

In the interior, the Great Hall strikes one as being of

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immense size, but its glass roof does not make it so impressive or decorative a chamber as a ceiled one would be. It is placed between the two wings of the building, and in it all the more important meetings and public ceremonies take place. It has balconies on three of its sides, the upper in the form of open colonnades. The fourth side of this great hall is a brightly decorated wall in which are two enormous arches decorated with mosaics and leading on to the two main staircases. That on the right is known as the President's staircase, and is decorated by a mosaic picture the subject of which is "Ægir's Daughters", by Lorenz Frölich. The Aldermen also have the use of this staircase. That on the left is known as the Citizens' staircase, placed under the great tower, and has frescoes of the city as it was in 1587 and 1611, while the ancient watchmen's rhymes may be deciphered on the ceiling. The Town Councillors use this staircase.

In the archway facing the two staircases is a statue of much interest, that by which Thorvaldsen first won fame, the subject of which is "Jason and the Golden Fleece".

When one enters the Council Chamber on the upper floor, placed between the two staircases, one is at once struck by the fine ceiling of silver fir from the woods of the Deer Park. But the general effect is unfortunately somewhat marred by insufficient lighting. The Banqueting Hall, in which so many important functions have been held, is a beautiful one, adorned with the arms of the chief Danish towns. There are some fine tapestries in the anteroom from designs by Lorenz Frölich, which

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were executed by Miss Dagmar Olrik, illustrating old Danish sagas.

The administrative departments of the city are placed in the rear portion of the building, and enclose a beautiful open courtyard containing the noted Bears' Fountain of Thorvald Bingesböll and Joakim Skovgaard. There is a charming turfed garden attached to the Town Hall in which a small fountain plays, and where there are always pigeons fluttering in the sunshine and in and out of the shadows, and descending from the pigeon cote high up in one of the wings of the buildings to strut about the walks and grass beneath.

It is worth while to ascend the tower, even though it means a climb of some 300 steps, as the view from the summit is magnificent, extending over the city in every direction, the Sound and Amager. From this vantage point one almost obtains a "bird's-eye" view and certainly realizes the extent of Copenhagen; its many waterways and numerous wooded parks and open spaces. Not far from the Town Hall one finds one of the most famous monuments in Copenhagen, known as "The Little Trumpeter", by the sculptor Petersen-Dan. It is the figure of a boy, still sounding the charge, held in the arms of a soldier, and commemorates an incident which occurred during the war with Prussia and Austria in 1864.

Not far away in a little enclosure near Jarmersplads, or Jarmers Square, is one of the fragments remaining of the old town walls and fortifications. It is known as Jarmer's Taarn or Jarmer's Tower, and is worth seeing because of its historical interest. Close to it is the

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fine bronze by A. N. Cain known as "The Lion and Lioness".

In this particular quarter of the city, immediately surrounding the Town Hall, there is much to interest one.

A little distance away one finds the chief monument of this quarter of the city, the Frihedsstøtten or Column of Liberty, placed in the middle of Vesterbrogade and serving to divide the streams of traffic which almost all hours of the day and night surge round its railed-in base, at the four corners of the plinth of which are statues. The column was erected in 1792-97 from designs by Nicolai Abildgaard, to commemorate the emancipation of the Danish peasants from servitude in the form of villeinage.

It is on Vesterbrogade that one comes across one of Copenhagen's old-time buildings in which the oldest and most interesting of its social and sporting institutions has its headquarters, known as the Kongelige Skydebane or Royal Shooting Club. It has also been known as the Trinity Guild of the Danish Company. Within its walls many monarchs during the last four or five centuries have been entertained, and even queens have honoured the Fraternity not only with their presence as guests but by membership.

The present building dates but a century back, and it was rebuilt and restored in 1898 by Professor Ludvig Knudsen. The Royal Copenhagen Shooting Club and Danish Brotherhood, to give it its complete title, was, it is thought, originally founded to counteract the influence exercised by the German Company of marksmen sup-

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ported by the Hanseatic towns. This latter organization is supposed to have been founded about 1382, as a statute exists dating from February 3 of that year. The Kongelige Skydebane has in its possession no earlier record than one dated October 14, 1443, when a reference to it occurs in some Danish laws under King Christopher III. Its oldest statutes are dated May 23, 1447. The chief qualification for membership at its inception appears to have been that those desiring to join should be "modest" men and women, whatever their social position, who should be also "honest and worthy of the Company". In those far-off times each Brother had, on admission, to pay a Rhineland gulden, and each Sister a Light gulden.

Originally it would appear that its principal object was patriotic, joined to which there was, as there is to-day, benevolent work. From the first, however, festive gatherings appear to have played an important part in the life of the organization. In connection with this side of the Club's activities there were three "Adeldrikke" or "Noble Drinks" each year: one at Christmas, one just before Lent, and the other at Whitsuntide. But they were quite decorous affairs, and there were fines inflicted for violent or bad behaviour. A fine was also incurred for refusing to dance when able! The Brethren were not allowed, we find, to carry arms or even "big sticks" on these festive occasions. In the days when Denmark in common with other countries was Roman Catholic, the Brotherhood had religious observances, with a patron Saint, St. Sören, or Severinus, and its own altar in the Church of Our Lady, and an Annual Procession.

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Soon after its foundation the Club numbered 321 Brothers and Sisters, and King Frederik I. and his Queen Sophie became members in 1527. The Club obtained its badge or mark of distinction, a parrot, which was awarded to the best shot, in the reign of Christian III., who, we are told, joined with fourteen of his nobles in 1542.

The target at the shooting matches was, and still is, a green parrot, perched on a pole with outspread wings. The bird has a golden crown on its head and a golden ring in its beak.

At the great annual shooting contest in the autumn, to bring down any portion of the bird wins for the lucky marksman a prize consisting of a handsome piece of plate, with the title of "Fuglekonge" or "Bird King" for the ensuing year. The Reformation greatly affected the ceremonial nature of the Brotherhood, although it in no other way impaired its standing or popularity. On more than one occasion there was a Royal prize-winner, for Christian V., it is recorded, on September 7, 1694, hit the parrot's head, shooting on behalf of the Crown Princess, who in consequence was awarded a handsome prize.

King Christian IX. was "Bird King" on more than one occasion, and won a prize when shooting by proxy for the late King Edward VII.

The motto of the Club is "For Pleasure and Defence". During the summer months the Brethren meet for shooting and dine together every Wednesday; meeting once a month in winter. On every shooting day a Brother acts as host, and "gives silver", as it is phrased. The great day of the Club each year, however, is the autumnal

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shooting match, when very often the King and the Princes are present. They take luncheon with the Brethren, which is a wonderful banquet comparing with that given at the Guildhall on official occasions.

On admission to the Club each Brother is expected to present to it a painted target on which is depicted his coat-of-arms, a representation of his occupation in life, or a view of his home, or some subject that has a more or less intimate connection with him or his life.

There are now on the walls of the Club and on the staircase some 1500 of these targets, which not only form a most interesting picture gallery with an infinite variety of subjects, but in a sense a pictorial history of Copenhagen down through the ages.

An evening spent at the Kongelige Skydebane is a treasured experience with foreign visitors to the Danish capital, and the hospitality shown is of the most charming and cordial nature.

The Club possesses a unique collection of silver, including goblets, cups, spoons, tankards, salvers, and other pieces of plate presented by various members past and present, many of them as souvenirs of some outstanding event in the history of the Brotherhood.

The garden attached to the building is delightful, with flower beds and overshadowing lime trees, and often on fête nights is rendered a veritable fairyland by festoons of coloured electric lamps linking tree to tree.

Those who would wish to obtain an idea of Copenhagen's commercial life as seen in the shopping districts will best do so by strolling along the streets leading north-eastward to the pretty Kongens Nytorv, with its

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equestrian statue of Christian V., known to Copenhageners as "Hesten" or "The Horse", surrounded by trees and beautifully laid out flower-beds. To reach this Square one passes through what is known as Strøget, which is looked upon as the City. This popular promenade consists almost entirely of business premises, with many of the side-streets among the oldest and narrowest in the capital. So great, indeed, is the traffic congestion in these that in the busier hours of the day, from 10 A.M. till 10 P.M., trade vehicles and cyclists are not allowed along them.

This part of Copenhagen is of very great interest to visitors. Firstly, because it comprises some of the oldest portions, with the side-streets bearing names descriptive of their origin; and secondly, because in its hurrying throng of people, which during the busy hours of the day not only take up the side-walks but overflow into the roadways of the streets themselves, one meets with Copenhageners of every type.

It is, moreover, the great shopping centre, for here, in the Østergade and the neighbourhood of the Amager-torv especially, are some of the finest of the shops. The busiest shopping hours of the day—known as "Strög" hours—when the prettiest and smartest of the feminine Copenhageners are to be seen looking into the windows of the shops, and entering and leaving the stores and dress houses in which their hearts delight, are from about 2 P.M. till 4.30 P.M., after which the throng commences to thin, and shoppers make their way for afternoon tea to the various restaurants or the terraces of the big hotels of the pleasant and lively Kongens Nytorv and Raadhuspladsen.

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Along the streets which radiate out of the triangular-shaped Amagertorv one obtains some delightful vistas of the city and its life; and from the eastern corner there is a particularly beautiful distant view of Christiansborg on Slotsholm. There is a view, too, from a different point, of the Nicolaj Tower rising above the house-tops on the right. It is all remaining to remind one of the church of the same name, which perished in the great fire of 1795. The new steeple, with its gilded globes, is a replica of the original church tower, and was presented to the city with the Church House, and Assembly Hall and Library attached.

Searchers for the picturesque will be rewarded for their pains in this part of the city, for in St. Kannikes-træde there are happily several ancient and interesting buildings connected with the city life of the long past still standing. Borch's College, at No. 12, is only interesting as an exact reproduction of the former building, which dated from 1690. Some of the original walls were left standing; so well built was the ancient structure that it was found possible to rebuild within them in the original form of the house. One of its greatest charms is the delightful garden, which forms an oasis of beauty amid an environment of bricks and mortar. There are, fortunately for the lovers of the beautiful and the picturesque, many such gardens in Copenhagen.

The far-famed and ancient building known as Admiral Geddes Gaard stands next door. The front of it dates from the Empire period, and the rest of it and the interior from 1640. It is a most interesting survival, in which tradition says the great Danish dramatist Ludvig Holberg



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once lived, and shows what the houses of old Copenhagen were like, picturesque, commodious, and of pleasing architecture. The Admiral Geddes Gaard was both admirably and sympathetically restored by Professor Carl Petersen and Henning Koch in 1918-20, and is now the home of the Copenhagen journalists, who are fortunate, indeed, in the possession of this beautiful and interesting building as a club-house and headquarters. The club premises are on the first floor. On the ground floor is a restaurant, and in fine weather meals can be taken in the charming old paved courtyard which is enclosed by the half-timbered walls of the ancient house.

Just across the way is another of Copenhagen's most interesting domestic survivals known as the Professorsgaarden, a professorial residence. Nowadays the ground floor is appropriately given over to the offices of the Society for Beautifying Copenhagen. Close at hand is yet another interesting building, Ehlers College, which was established in 1691. The original building was unfortunately burned down, but was carefully and sympathetically rebuilt.

In the same street, in what may be described as Copenhagen's Latin Quarter and the centre of the city's literary and artistic life, opposite the well-known Round Tower, is Regensen, a building of the nature of a students' Free Hostel erected in 1623 to accommodate a hundred inmates. This ancient building was founded by Christian IV., its wings being joined in oblique angles so as to enclose the quaint old courtyard in which stands a famous linden tree. The hostel has witnessed in its long existence many events of importance

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in the student world of Copenhagen, and has from time to time sheltered many men who have won high distinctions in the realm of art, science, and letters.

The Rundetaarn or Round Tower is a survival of the reign of Christian IV., having been built by that monarch in 1624 to serve the purpose of an astronomical observatory. The tower is more than 120 feet in height and about 50 feet in diameter. It has many double light windows, and a curious spiral way without stairs leads to the platform of the tower, from which there is a beautiful view. It is recorded that when Peter the Great of Russia visited Copenhagen in 1716 he rode up the spiral on horseback, while the Empress Catherine drove up to the platform. The existence of the tower has been more than once threatened, as it is an impediment to the ever-increasing traffic, but the authorities are loth to pull down so historic a monument.

A notable church which most visitors to Copenhagen endeavour to see is the Cathedral or Church of Our Lady. The history of the church goes back to the twelfth century. It was burned in the great fire of 1778, but was restored and a tower, nearly 400 feet in height with its spire, was added. When the British Fleet bombarded Copenhagen the church was again destroyed, and was not till some years afterwards re-erected in the classic style of the present building. The façade of the church is supported by six lofty Ionic columns. In and about the church there are a number of Thorvaldsen's works, and the interior, though somewhat severe, is impressive and well-proportioned. At the end of the nave in a niche is Thorvaldsen's famous

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figure of Christ, while between the rounded arches are figures of the Twelve Apostles.

In the chancel is a marble font, also the work of Thorvaldsen, the design of which is an angel holding a mussel shell. In the rotunda above the altar is a relief showing Christ going to Golgotha, and in the confessional are two reliefs, the subjects of which are Baptism and the Lord's Supper. The general impression left on the mind by the building is one of impressive simplicity and dignity, which entitles it to be considered one of the finest churches of Protestant origin in the world.

Just opposite is the Palace of the Bishop of Zealand, who is the primate of the Danish Church. The building is an old and interesting one which has seen many vicissitudes, having been formerly the Town Hall, and afterwards the University.

It cannot be said that the buildings of the University of Copenhagen are at all in character with the other public buildings of the capital, or what one would expect. They are plain and unimposing, and it yet remains for the State or some munificent private donor to give Copenhagen a University building worthy of the city and the work carried on. It is the sole University in the country, and is of so ancient a foundation that it dates back until the last quarter of the fifteenth century, and consists of five faculties: theology; jurisprudence and political science; medical science, philology and history; and for mathematics and physics. It has some 4000 students, and there has of late years, as in other countries, been a great increase in the number of women. There are some 140 professors and teachers; and the work carried on is

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upon the most modern and advanced lines. Founded in 1479, the present building only dates from 1831, and was erected from plans by P. Malling.

The interior, on the whole, is far less disappointing than the exterior. A fine staircase takes one to the main hall, which is decorated with frescoes by Constantin Hansen, the subjects having been taken from Greek mythology. The fine ceiling decoration depicts "Aurora throwing her Roses".

The Festival Hall is a really beautiful chamber, and is decorated with great frescoes. Marstrand's commemorates the "Inauguration of the University in the Frue Kirke", or Church of Our Lady; Bloch's has for its subject "Hans Tausen defending Bishop Rönnow"; "The Participation of the Students in the Defence of Copenhagen in 1659" is by Rosenstand; "Holberg at a Rehearsal of his Play 'Erasmus Montanus'" is by the same artist; and "The Reception of the Swedes and Norwegians at a Meeting of the Naturalists in 1849" is by Henningsen.

There are in the neighbourhood other buildings of an educational or administrative character directly connected with the University and its work. Included in these is the Library standing at the corner of Fiolstræde, forming one side of the Square, which contains some 700,000 volumes and many valuable MSS. In it is the famous Classen library and the Arnemagnæan collection of MSS., especially Icelandic, containing unique items of priceless value. Also some very valuable Persian MSS.

The other great library of Copenhagen is the Royal Library on Slotsholm. It is a fine modern building,

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approached through a garden in the centre of which is a sheet of ornamental water. Founded by Frederik III. it comprises the largest collection of books in the Scandinavian countries, and numbers nearly 900,000 printed books, about 35,000 manuscripts, about 4000 incunabulæ up to the year 1500, collections of music, portraits, prints, and maps. The great reading-room has a reference library of 4500 volumes. In this room are busts of the founder, Frederik III., Otto Thott, and Hjelmstjerne.

Of the several open-air markets that Copenhagen boasts the two most picturesque and interesting are to be found together close to the canal which encircles Christiansborg. The first is the Flower Market, held on the Højbroplads, which is the fine open space extending from the Stork's Fountain down to the canal. The market is centred round the Absalon statue, and here on weekdays from early in the morning until the afternoon there is a flower and vegetable market, and the "Amager" women display various other wares set out on stalls and booths erected for the purpose. The scene is a very bright and busy one, and is frequented by many of the smart Copenhageners or their maids to purchase their supplies of vegetables, or to carry off armfuls of the lovely flowers. The scene is made beautiful by the masses of colour and the environment. The market has existed for a century and a half.

The other very typical market, picturesque and interesting in its way, though, perhaps, rather less so than that devoted to flowers, is the Fish Market, held beside the canal on what is known as the Gammel Strand or

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Old Strand, at the end of which stands the fine old Lombard House or "Assistentshuset" which was originally in private occupation but was made State property by Frederik V. It is now the national pawnshop, at which needy Copenhageners and others can obtain advances upon all kinds of valuable articles on which a charge of two per cent is made.

It is in the Fish Market, alongside the quay of which are moored innumerable small boats in which the fisherwomen from Skovshoved have come to sell their fish, that one meets with many types. The scene is always a bustling and animated one. Further down the canal towards the Börsen may often be seen a whole fleet of fishing boats with rust-red and brown sails, making charming pictures.

Across the bridge near Gammel Strand and one comes to the historic island known as Slotsholm, on which stands two of the most interesting buildings in the city, the Christiansborg Palace and Börsen. It was on the present site of the Palace that in the middle of the twelfth century Bishop Absalon, who became Archbishop of Lund, built his "castrum de Hafn". He naturally selected a position which commanded the haven or harbour of that time, which was the real centre or nucleus of the city to be. The castle was destined to play a very important part in the development of the latter.

In the middle of the thirteenth century the fortress was seized by the men of Lübeck; and eleven years later, in 1259, was destroyed by Prince Jaromar of Rygen. In 1368, when Valdemar Atterdag had succeeded in getting possession of the fortress for his life, it was attacked by

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the men of the Hanseatic League, who succeeded in capturing it and levelling it to the ground. Later, under Erik of Pommern, Copenhagen's castle and fortress became the property of the Crown, and it was most probably this ruler who gave it the form which it retained under the first of the Oldenburg sovereigns.

In the reign of Christian III. the castle was considerably enlarged, and the spire to the Blaataarn, or Blue Tower, was added by Christian IV., in which his daughter Leonora Christina was imprisoned for many years.

In 1721 Frederik IV. commenced a thorough reconstruction of the ancient fabric, which lasted for some six years, but he found that the old buildings were not capable of conversion so as to accord with the architectural fashion of his day, and his successor, Christian VI., pulled down the ancient and historic castle and erected on its site a new Christiansborg, an imposing and magnificent building that forms the foundations of the castle of the present day.

Of Christian VI.'s structure little remains but the Marmorbro, or famous Marble Bridge, which everyone who comes to Copenhagen admires; the delightful Buegangene or Arcades; and the two pavilions of architectural charm and interest at the entrance of the tilting yard of the castle. The castle itself was destroyed in the fire of 1794. At that time it had four wings and a tower facing the riding ground; the chapel of the castle was also burned down. It was more than thirty years ere the castle, built by Frederik VI. to replace the one destroyed, was completed.

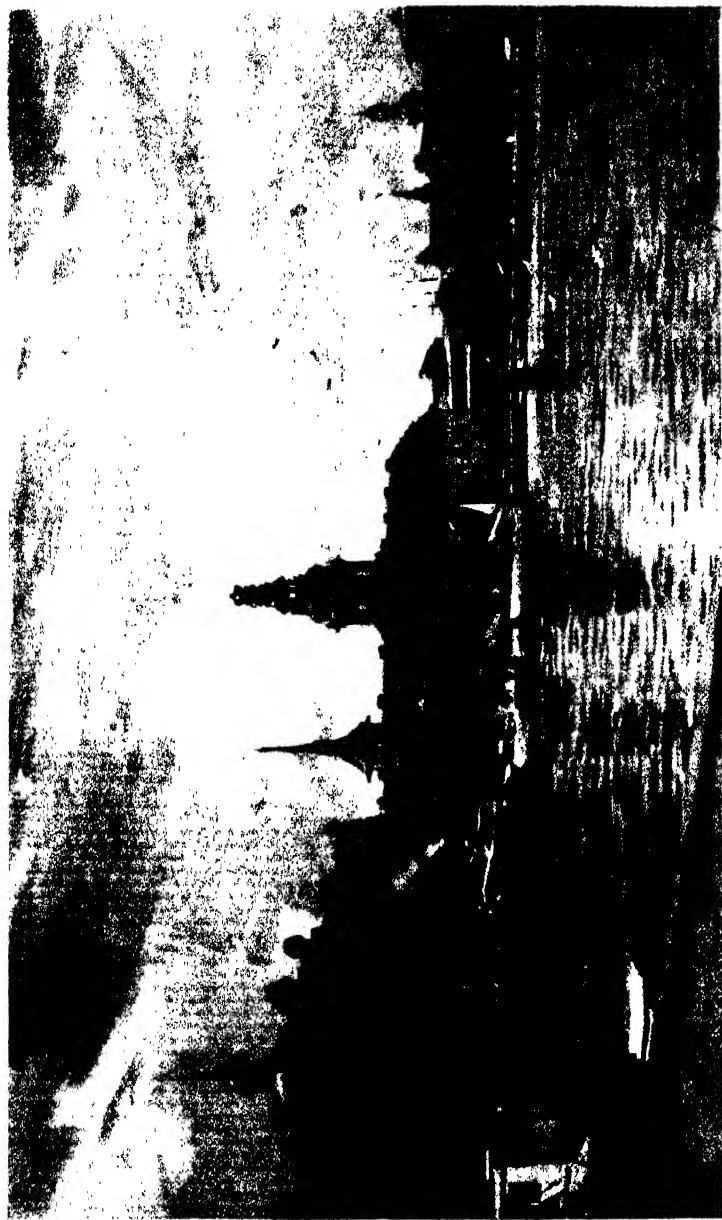
Though an impressive building it was a plainer one

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than that it replaced, and portions of the interior were never actually completed. The Royal Chapel of this period still stands. Christiansborg has been singularly unfortunate, as once again in 1884 it suffered disastrously from a fire, and the portion in which the Legislative Assembly used to meet, and where later the Folketing and Landsting, or two Houses of Parliament, held their sittings, was destroyed, and for a period of twenty years the ruins remained without any effort being made to rebuild.

It was upon these that ultimately the Christiansborg Castle or Castle of the Realm of to-day has arisen. This handsome and imposing building, with its lofty central tower, the summit of which is appropriately adorned with a crown, is also known as the Rigsborg. The foundation-stone was laid on November 15, 1907, and the architect of the building was Thorvald Jørgensen. To-day the Rigsborg has under its roof three of the most important State Departments. The Rigsdagen, or Parliament, occupies the southern wing of the building and part of that facing the Castle Square, or Slotspladsen. Originally it was intended that the King should occupy the northern wing and the remaining portion of the main wing, but this idea was abandoned, and these are now in the occupation of the Danish Foreign Office; and the Supreme Court of Justice or Højesteret is located in the remainder of the northern wing.

One is immediately intrigued by the mass and general symmetry of the building. Its isolation and the beauty of its partially copper-sheathed roofs, which are of a charming green tint, adds materially to its general impressiveness



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and effect. Built of granite, it has the dignity which that material always seems to impart, though, perhaps, it adds a note of sombreness to its appearance. The striking, partially perforated silhouette of its lofty copper-sheathed tower, rising to a height of nearly 400 feet, seems to dominate this quarter of the city, and forms a landmark from almost every viewpoint.

The Bissens, father and son, are the sculptors responsible for the fine equestrian statue of Frederik VII. which stands in front of the castle, and was placed there in 1873. Interesting relics of the old Palace are four bronze statues occupying places in the courtyard of the northern wing. These originally stood in niches in the façade of the former Palace. That of Hercules is interesting as being the work of Thorvaldsen; the remaining three—Minerva, Nemesis, and Æsculapius—are from the designs of the master executed by H. V. Bissen. Over the King's Gateway there is a tablet, placed there in February 1919, to commemorate the 250th anniversary of the defence of the city against the Swedes.

It is well worth while to visit the ruins of the first castle and of succeeding buildings, which are reached by an entrance at the back of the principal gateway. These remains were discovered during the excavations of 1906 and 1918. The former buildings comprised an irregular circle, which the present front wing of the Rigsborg crosses. In the basement one is able to see the foundation-stone of the present structure, and not far away is a well formed by a hollow trunk of a tree. The ancient stone capitals and columns which are leaning against the wall were taken from the well, into which they had prob-

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ably fallen during one of the several fires which took place, or when the attacks upon the castle were made. There is not, it is true, much remaining of the ancient castle, but what there is enables one to realize something of its construction, and is certainly of value for architectural and other students.

A considerable portion of Bishop Absalon's original wall is to be seen. It stood almost under the central portion of the King's Castle, and, when erected, the island on which it was built was but a foot or so above the level of the sea.

Other details of interest to be noted are a baker's oven and a part of the wall of the later Banqueting Hall. Both of these lie within the foundations of Absalon's circular wall enclosing the original castle. Outside of this one finds an arcade, and a fine tower of ancient brickwork, which probably dates from the end of the thirteenth century. It is near this point that the exterior side of Absalon's wall, faced with white chalk ashlar brought from Stevns, becomes visible. The next thing of importance and interest is the Bishop's well, as it is usually called, some 35 feet in depth and stone lined. It is only comparatively recently that it has fallen into disuse, as it gave excellent water. There are many fragments of Christiansborg castles of various periods gathered together and placed against the walls. Among these there is a gable relief in terra-cotta from designs by Thorvaldsen, much damaged by the fire of 1884, which has for its subject the Gods of Olympus.

Some other fragments of interest to antiquarians and architectural students are the remains of the Blue Tower,

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the base of which is partly preserved, and a complete example of ancient brickwork near the façade of the present castle. This latter probably dates from the time when the building was besieged and captured by the forces of the Hanseatic League in the fourteenth century.

The Royal Chapel or Slotskirke is connected with the northern end of the castle by a low wing known as the Cavaliers' Passage. It is separated from the main building by a small courtyard, at the farther end of which stands the Supreme Court. The chapel is comparatively modern, having been commenced at the beginning of the nineteenth century from designs by C. F. Hansen, and it was completed in 1826, just ten centuries after the introduction of Christianity into Denmark. The entrance, which faces the Slotspladsen or Castle Square, has four Ionic columns, and is approached by four steps.

The gallery pews, with the King's seat, are placed over the vestibule, the organ loft is over the galleries, and the chancel is separated from the nave by marble pedestals and a wrought-iron and bronze railing. The arches of the aisles are adorned with angels in relief by Bissen, and the friezes above are the work of Thorvaldsen. The font is a remarkably fine one of porphyry, ornamented with chased bronze. Some notable statues in the niches are "Matthew", by Theobald Stein; "Mark", by H. Conradsen; "Luke", by H. E. Freund; and "John", by C. Peters.

Among the many handsome halls and rooms of the interior of the Castle the visitor is sure to remark the fine Drabantsalen, or Hall of the Halberdiers, with its perspective of handsome columns supporting the

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arched ceiling or roof, which are ornamented by large figures standing upon square plinths. The Waiting Room or ante-room to the Audience Chamber is a finely lighted and elegant one, with some interesting pictures upon its otherwise rather severely plain walls. The Audience Chamber itself is delightful with its period decorations and sense of space and dignity.

The Börsen, or Exchange, presents indeed a contrast to the huge bulk and the modernity of the great Castle of the Realm near by. Situated on the north-eastern side of Slotsholm on the picturesque and busy Holmen's Canal, the Exchange is a striking feature of this portion of the city. It is the only one in the country, and is the centre of the wholesale trade, and the headquarters of the Merchants' Guild. It stands opposite the historic Holmen's Kirke, which is that of the Danish Navy. The Börsen is one of the most interesting, oldest, and most beautiful buildings in Copenhagen, one of the survivals of the ancient city which suffered so greatly from devastating fires. It was built by Christian IV. in 1619-40, and is one of the most picturesque buildings surviving. The central spire, quaintly composed of the twisted tails of four worm dragons, is nearly 175 feet in height, and with the many dormer windows in the roof never fails to secure admiration. The building is in the Dutch Renaissance style, and of immense length, some 420 feet, looking longer because of the comparative lack of height; two stories, and the roof. It is some 60 feet in breadth, and is approached from the Slotspladsen by a wide slope, on either side of which are two sandstone figures symbolical of "Neptune" and "Mercury", by J. C.

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Petzoldt. This slope leads up to the main entrance, situated in the finely ornamented western gable. Over the portal is a tablet with a lengthy inscription in Latin, the cypher of Christian IV., and the date 1624.

The Hall of the Exchange is reached through a vestibule and is a handsome one, divided into a great middle hall, and two aisles of ten pillars. There is a fine marble fireplace with a bronzed zinc statue of Christian VI. by Thorvaldsen, and on either side of this on the wall is a charcoal drawing by L. Frölich representing respectively "Justice" and "Diligence".

Out of this main hall opens a reading-room in which there is a fine historical painting of "The Visit of Christian IV. to Tycho Brahe on the Island of Hveen", by C. F. Höyer. The famous painting known as the Exchange picture is placed in the Hall of the Merchants' Guild Association, and in it are a large number of portraits of the leading merchants of Copenhagen, painted in 1895 by the well-known artist P. S. Krøyer. In connection with the Börsen there is a valuable statistical department, and a library of some 30,000 volumes.

Holmen's Church, or Holmen's Kirke, just across on the right-hand side of Holmensbro, though one of the principal churches of Copenhagen, is so rather from the historical point and the sentimental than on account of its size or beauty of architecture. The latter, indeed, is not attractive. The church stands right on the canal with its wall washed by the waters. It is the Naval Church, and dates from 1610, when Christian IV. converted two buildings, one of which was an anchor foundry and the other a mint and school for teaching navigation,

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into a church for the use of those connected with the fleet. Rather more than twenty years later it was enlarged by the addition of two wings, and took its present form.

Somewhat strangely the church escaped in the numerous great fires which from time to time destroyed so much of the ancient city, and is not only much as when built but its furniture and interior have been but little if at all altered. The interior is worth seeing, and contains a fine altar and pulpit, the work of the well-known artist Abel Schroeder of Kjöge; a magnificent altar cloth in silver and gold; a sandstone crucifix, originally intended for the tomb of Christian IV. in Roskilde Cathedral; portraits by Wuchters, Carl van Mandern, and other artists; and two fine pictures by A. Dorph, the subjects of which are "Jesus Blessing Little Children", and "The Crucifixion". The curious epitaphs should be noted by those who understand Danish, as some of the inscriptions are very quaint.

The walls of the mortuary chapel stand on granite foundations set right in the canal. The building was erected in 1705, and in it are buried some of the most famous of Danish naval heroes. Here lie Niels Juel, his wife and two children; and Tordenskjold in a sarcophagus of black marble. The church has a pretty garden with trees and a tiny churchyard, and in the chancel garden, lying between the wings towards the canal, is to be seen a beautiful bronze statue of Tordenskjold by the younger Bissen, protected by a fine iron grille.

There is much of interest in this portion of the city, and to make one's way along the Havnegade to the

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Amalienborg Palace by the waterside is a good plan. One obtains a retrospective view of the fine old Börsen with its green copper roof and elegant spire; and many delightful pictures of the older houses, warehouses, and shipping of Christianshavn across the water. In the quayside streets of Nyhavn, the narrow channel extending up to the outskirts of the Kongens Nytorv, there are many interesting houses of the older period, with high gables, tempting to the artist and the amateur photographer alike. It is a quarter very typical of the seafaring element of a great port. And in it one finds many types, including seamen of all ranks, marine store dealers, fisher-folks from the islands, and in fact types of almost all those who go down to the sea in ships and have their business in the great waters.

The Amalienborg Palace, which is the residence of the Royal Family when in Copenhagen, stands back a little distance from the waterside, between it and which runs the wide straight Ny Toldbodgade. In reality Amalienborg consists of no less than four palaces in the Rococo style, from plans by Eigtved. The buildings only date from the middle half of the eighteenth century, and they were erected by various noblemen, to whom Frederik V. gave the ground on the condition that the buildings erected thereon should be uniform in style and from designs by the then favourite architect. The conditions were carried out by those to whom the land was granted, and the impression made upon the mind by the palaces is one of far greater beauty, notwithstanding their over-elaboration of ornament and detail, than would have been the case had the buildings lacked uniformity.

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As one comes through the colonnade into the Square, which has a mosaic pavement, and in the centre a bronze equestrian statue of Frederik V., which is the finest in the city, and cost a million kroner, the palace first erected, known as that of Christian VII., is on the left. This is used for State ceremonies and receptions, and in it are the fine Banqueting Hall and Throne Room. Also the great Knights' Hall. It was erected by Count A. G. Moltke in 1754. On the right is the Palace of Christian IX. Opposite is the Palace occupied as a residence by the Royal Family, built by Baron Joakim Brockdorf in 1760; and the other Palace, occupied as a residence by Frederik VIII., father of the present sovereign, was built by Count C. F. Levetzau in the same year.

It is only since the period of the great fire which destroyed the Castle of Christiansborg in 1794 that the Danish Royal Family have occupied Amalienborg as a residence. To enable them to do so the four great palaces underwent very considerable alterations and reconstruction under the direction of one of the best of Danish architects, C. F. Harsdorff. The beautiful Ionic colonnade, forming a connecting link between the former Moltke and Schack palaces, is also his. By many it is considered his best work, the pity being that it had to be carried out in wood instead of stone owing to lack of money.

In the somewhat secluded and spacious square at noon each day the Vagtparade or "Changing of the Guard" takes place. It is a spectacle that never fails to excite the interest of visitors to the Danish capital as well as



COPENHAGEN, THE AMALIENBORG PALACE

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that of Copenhageners themselves. The Guard, whose uniforms are somewhat similar to those of the English Life Guards, marches through the city headed by its band, generally accompanied by a crowd of spectators, who watch the movements of the bearskin-busbyed soldiers with rapt attention.

Just westward of the Amalienborg Palace stands one of the most notable of Copenhagen's churches. It is known variously as the Marmorkirke or Marble Church, and more commonly as Frederik's Church. From it one obtains a fine and uninterrupted view of Amalienborg Square. The immense dome of the church, with its stripes of gold, more than two hundred feet above the pavement, forms a striking landmark, and is a familiar object in many pictures of Copenhagen. It has a curious history, as it was commenced about the middle of the eighteenth century, and was left unfinished until the end of the nineteenth century.

It was originally intended that this church, the foundation-stone of which was laid by Frederik V. on October 30, 1749, on the tercentenary of the commencement of the Oldenburg Dynasty, should be so magnificent that it should not be excelled by any other church outside of Italy. Unfortunately the money for its erection became exhausted, and the work of the French architect, Jardin, who was responsible for the building, came to an end. It was allowed to fall into a ruinous condition, although up to its abandonment no less than 5,000,000 kroner had been spent upon the building. Eventually the site on which the ruins stood and the derelict church itself were made over to a rich banker,

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C. F. Tietgen, upon the condition that he completed the building.

This he did, though not upon the magnificent scale originally planned. The church was completed and ready for the dedication on August 10, 1894. The very beautiful and impressive dome is only a few yards less in diameter than that of St. Peter's, Rome, and the magnificent altar, in the form of a temple, is famous, as are also the colossal statues of notable men in the religious hierarchy from Moses to Luther, and similar statues of leading men in the Danish Church, from Ansgar to Grundtvig, which are on plinths round the building.

One needs time in which to discover all the interesting buildings and charming features of this truly picturesque and in many ways gracious city, the life of which impresses one with its vivacity and general well-being.

One comes across old survivals, here and there, however, though these are rarer than the antiquarian could wish. For example, the beautiful old Chancery building with its many-windowed façade and air of quietude, over the main entrance of which is a semicircular pediment richly decorated. Or one may stumble on the charming Passage with its shady trees, flower-beds, and picturesque line of low-built, tile-roofed houses leading out of the Frederiksberg Gardens to the Roundel. And there are many other beauty spots to be discovered which space will not permit one even to mention.

Only distant about half a mile stands the Citadel officially known as the Kastellet. It is still surrounded with a double arrangement of moats, and is most easily

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approached by a bridge spanning the water and leading to the southern gate. Constructed in 1661 and onwards from that time, it was originally planned to serve as fortifications guarding the inner harbour and southern portions of the city; evidence of this is afforded by the ramparts and moats. The chief buildings date from about the period we have named, and form interesting relics of the Copenhagen of the past. The Castle nowadays has little military importance, only a section of the city garrison being accommodated here, and it is probable that the time is not far distant when it will be abandoned altogether as a military establishment and converted to a civil use, with possibly the laying out of the grounds as a pleasure park. From the ancient walls some beautiful and extensive views are obtained of the harbour and the ever-interesting and busy Sound.

There are still standing two fine old entrance gates, the Sjællandporten or Zealand Gate, and the Norgesporten, or Norwegian Gate, with two quaint little guard-houses, one on either side. There is an interesting little church in the citadel, and behind it stands an old windmill, the sole survivor of the many which were once to be seen on the walls of the city, with its sails clear-cut against the sky. Near to this is the old State prison where Struense was imprisoned.

One is at once struck by the peace and quietude reigning within this old fortress in contrast to the ever restless life of the city outside. The public are already admitted to the fine promenade known as "Smedelinien", which lies between the moats on the west.

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This quarter of the city is one of the most beautiful and picturesque, largely on account of its numerous open spaces and parks, and the beautiful Sound. There is a fine promenade, which, though ancient in origin, has been modernized.

The southern portion of Langelinie begins at the Esplanade and ends at the viaduct near the Gefion Fountain; the middle part runs from this point past the yacht harbour to the viaduct behind this; and the northern portion extends from this point over the great viaduct above the railway, skirting the coast to Gefion Square. From these viaducts most magnificent views of the city and the Sound are obtained, the latter rendered ever interesting by the many passing steamers and other ships.

At the back of the Langelinie Promenade is a tree-shaded road skirting a charming sheet of water. Langelinie leaves an ineffaceable impression of beauty on the minds of those who have strolled on a fine day along its charming sea-walk, and have watched the ever-changing scene in the Sound and the constantly passing shipping of all kinds, from big liners and rust-red cargo boats and tramp steamers to the white-winged yachts and other pleasure craft.

This is without question the most delightful promenade in the city which possesses many. It stretches in a curve running from south to north, from a point known as Karantænehus, near the fine Pavilion of the Royal Danish Yacht Club, to the tiny Lystbaadehavn, or Pleasure Boat Harbour, in which the smaller yachts can lie safely in all weathers. Along the promenade is the

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famous bronze statue of Hans Andersen's "Little Mermaid", which, because of its charm, has not inaptly been called "The Peter Pan of Copenhagen".

Langelinie dates its present form and extent from the creation of the Free Port in 1894. The different portions of the grounds are so cleverly connected by viaducts that one receives the impression that they consist of an unbroken area.

Northward lies Copenhagen's greatest commercial undertaking, of which the city and citizens are justly proud, the world-famous Free Port. From its position on the main route by sea to the Baltic and the ports of Sweden, Germany, Finland, and Russia, Copenhagen has for centuries been an important commercial and shipping centre. Its harbour, which passed through the centre of the city in former days, and divided it into two almost equal portions, served to ensure Copenhagen the enviable position to which during the passing of the centuries she has attained. The old harbour and docks towards the end of the last century threatened to become out of date and quite inadequate for the needs of the ever-growing city. The opening of the great German Kiel Canal was a threat in itself to the future prosperity of the Danish capital as one of the world's greatest commercial centres.

This menace was overcome by the Act which gave Copenhagen the power to construct a Free Port. Ultimately a company known as "København's Frihavns Aktieselskab", or Copenhagen's Free Port Co. Ltd., was given the concession to work it for a period of eighty years under certain restrictions, relating chiefly to the

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financial arrangements between the harbour authorities and the Company.

The new port was opened for use on November 9, 1894. It provided many things that the old port lacked, including a sufficient depth of water, easy navigation, extensive modern warehouses, and all up-to-date mechanical devices for the speedy loading and unloading of cargoes. These have been added to from time to time as necessity dictated, and at the present day provide an object-lesson in efficiency.

The great facilities for the transit trade which the port provided and created have had an enormous influence on the prosperity and use of the Free Port. So far as the Custom House authorities are concerned it should be noted they have nothing to do with the handling of goods within its jurisdiction, nor with their despatch from thence to foreign destinations, but nevertheless the boundaries of the Free Port, which is enclosed by railings, are guarded by Customs officials where there are openings at crossings of streets.

The position of the Free Port with its wide and direct opening into the Sound itself is an admirable one; and navigation is greatly assisted by the entire absence of tides. The Free Port is built chiefly upon the shallows to the north of the city beyond Langelinie, with its main entrance at the end of Søndre Frihavnsvej.

One of the most interesting and striking features, which never fails to impress the casual visitor, is that the Free Port has all the appearance of being a little township in itself. It possesses its own post office, telegraph office, station, restaurants, electrical works, fitting and

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other shops, social and other organizations, and its own railway system, which latter connects all the various and numerous quays and warehouses with the State Railways, and with the ferries to and from Sweden.

The Free Port is not, of course, confined to the landing of goods which are intended in due course to be re-shipped to other countries. Goods come to it also intended for distribution and use in Denmark, and the handsome building standing just inside the main entrance is the Custom House.

One cannot in a book of this kind deal with the many fine commercial buildings to be found in Copenhagen, and especially in the Free Port, but there is one in the Custom House area which, because of its historical associations, must not be overlooked. This is the West Indies Warehouse, originally in the possession of the West Indian Company, but since the middle of the last century owned by the Customs authorities. It is a beautiful structure of red stone with a tower built in 1780. It has historical interest in that it was from a room in the top floor that Frederik VI. saw the Battle of the Roads in 1801, when the British Fleet under Admirals Nelson and Parker bombarded Copenhagen.

In the vicinity of Östre Anlæg Park is one of the most interesting quarters of the old city, known as Nyboder. It was built by Christian IV., of whom there is a statue by the younger Bissen in this district. Here there are still standing the quaint streets of low houses with tiled roofs which were erected for the personnel of the Navy in the sixteenth and eighteenth centuries. In an open space near the end of several of these streets,

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within a railing, stands a column, with a lion at the foot, on which there is a bust of Admiral Suensen, the victor in an engagement fought off Heligoland. The district is directly under the control of the Admiralty, and is governed by a naval officer having the title of Commandant. Nyboder also has the distinction of possessing its own police force.



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CHAPTER IX

LIFE IN TOWN AND COUNTRY, WITH SOME CUSTOMS AND SUPERSTITIONS

THE home life of the Danish capital may be taken as typical, with but slight modifications, of that of the towns generally. It is very pleasant and has, indeed, much in common with that of England. Hospitality is considered a duty not only to one's friends and relatives but also to strangers; and so those who are fortunate enough to be permitted to become an occasional visitor in a Danish family circle are soon impressed with the good temper and affection that appear so generally to prevail.

The day is commenced with a light breakfast such as is common in most Continental countries, with tea or coffee and plenty of bread and butter; the former often hot from the baker's oven. The tea is not better than that found in most Continental countries, and not nearly so good as it is in England; but the coffee is much better. It is a favourite beverage with the Danes of all classes, and an astonishing quantity is consumed by most families. Luncheon is usually taken about mid-day—rather before than after—and the meal is rather more substantial than

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is the case with us, when an elaborate meal is served for dinner or supper in the evening.

In the country and the humbler homes the principal meal is taken about noon and is called dinner.

In Copenhagen and the towns generally, dinner is at about six to half-past six in the evening; seldom later than seven, even with the Court. This comparatively early hour for the principal meal of the day with the better classes is largely owing to the fact that the opera and theatrical performances commence at an earlier hour than with us, usually at half-past seven. This has led to the practice in well-to-do houses of taking a supplementary meal later in the evening on returning from the theatre or other entertainment. At these the principal beverages are beer or tea, and the eatables various cakes, sandwiches, and bread and butter in several forms. The Danes are also very fond of what is known as "Smørrebrød" or bread and butter on slices, on which are placed various kinds of sausages in slices, meat (roast, boiled, smoked, or salted), salads, ham, cheese, fish of different kinds, *pâté*, sliced hard-boiled eggs, etc. "Smørrebrød" forms a very appetising dish because of its infinite variety, and is very popular for the extra meal late in the evening to which we have referred. Restaurants serve it extensively, and many Copenhageners drop in to these ere returning home after the evening's entertainment.

In the homes of the poorer classes in the capital the evening meal usually consists of only two courses, one, "Ske-Mad" or "spoon food", of the nature of soup; and the other a meat course. But in better-class house-

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holds the meal is far more elaborate, consisting of several additional courses, and almost always distinguished by the choice of dishes offered, for the Danes are both fond of food and are good cooks.

We have said that the Danes are fond of good food, and this is more especially true of the Copenhageners, and as a consequence his tastes are well catered for, and in the restaurants of the capital one is struck by the variety and excellence of the dishes obtainable.

Indeed in Denmark the menu of a dinner is considered a matter of the first importance, whether it be a meal to be given at home or in a restaurant. A successful dinner—that is, one elaborately and carefully planned and comprising a variety of dishes distinguished by their epicurean value—is talked of by the guests next day, and discussed much as we should a new play or some public event. The climate may have something to do with this national characteristic, and certainly the bracing air of sea-girt Copenhagen induces a good appetite in the visitor as well as the native.

One result of this has been to create a very high standard of culinary skill in the average home, as well as in the public restaurants. Even in the hotels of the smaller towns in the provinces, provided time is allowed for its preparation, one may rely upon obtaining a good meal, well-cooked and served, a thing that is certainly not possible in towns of corresponding size and unimportance in England. One is bound to record this fact at the risk of being esteemed unpatriotic. Cooking is, indeed, a very neglected art in both the middle-class homes and the smaller towns of England.

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Naturally Denmark possesses some national dishes not found in other countries, or at least only in those of Scandinavia. Generally speaking, however, these native and peculiar dishes have declined somewhat in favour with the better classes, who have shown a partiality for what are generally known as Continental dishes. And as regards some of the old-fashioned native Danish fare one can only say small wonder. Milk plays an important part in Danish cookery.

One dish that we think it requires a Dane's palate to appreciate is composed of special beer into which black bread is placed and made into a dish of gruel-like consistency, to which cream is added. It is called "Ollebröd", and is a standing dish on Saturdays for some unexplained reason. If this concoction is found somewhat unpalatable by foreigners, it must be granted that the native soups, for which, indeed, Denmark is famous, are excellent, and many of them delicious. Another favourite dish known as "Rodgröd" is compounded of fruit juices and potato flour, eaten with cream and sugar. Coffee in many families takes the place of English afternoon tea.

In Denmark still—although it must be noted there is, as in other countries, a tendency for them to die out—there survive a number of customs and festivals which are either peculiar to the country or are celebrated in a manner different to that followed in other lands.

It is still the practice in many households to shake hands after a meal, or at all events after dinner, and express the wish that the food may agree with one. And in most families the children say to their father or

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mother "Tak for mad", "Thank you for the meal or food", often when so doing kissing their parents as well.

In Denmark it is customary to keep up family anniversaries, especially birthdays, punctiliously. In the life of a Danish boy or girl the first important event is confirmation, which always takes place on a Sunday and is performed by the pastor, instead of, as with us, by the Bishop of the diocese. All save the poorest people endeavour to arrange that the boy or girl to be confirmed shall be taken to the church in a carriage and pair or nowadays in a car or taxi. When the ceremony has been performed the relatives and guests return to the house of the parents of the children, when an elaborate dinner-party is given. All those attending the celebration bring gifts; those for the girl are usually jewellery, fans, lace, and dainty articles of clothing or personal adornment; in some cases articles of furniture are also given for personal use. The boy receives a watch and chain, silver fork and spoon, pocket-knife, sets of studs, sleeve links, smoking outfits, or other articles suitable for his needs.

Confirmation in Denmark also has the significance of being "out" in the case of a girl; and in that of a boy, of entering into the wider world of men and women. In the peasant and industrial classes boys who have been confirmed generally have a day or two's holiday to celebrate the event, and they spend their time walking about in their confirmation clothes—a new black suit—wearing gloves of the same sombre hue, often carrying a new umbrella, wearing a buttonhole, and smoking a big cigar. They frequent the cafés, and generally

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“ carry on ” to the admiration and envy of their younger relatives and friends.

In the case of the girl her entry upon young womanhood is less ostentatiously carried out. She puts up her hair (if it has not been bobbed or shingled), and somewhat lengthens or shortens her frocks according to her inclination; and is by these signs deemed to have made the announcement that she has “ come out ”.

On the engagement of a girl in Denmark cards are sent announcing the event, and a plain gold ring is exchanged with the *fiancé*. In all classes of society the ring is deemed indispensable; and as in the case of the poorer classes the cost of the ring is a matter of some consequence, we are told that it is often obtained upon the instalment plan.

Long engagements are not favoured among the peasant and industrial classes; but in the upper circles of society, more especially among the men of the officer and student classes, lengthy engagements, often considered by relatives as being too long, are by no means infrequent.

The more important festivals of the Church are made the excuse for much social festivity, although it cannot be said that with the majority of the population they are regarded from the religious standpoint as of any great importance. Of these festivals Christmas is the most popular; but not, as with us, Christmas Day, only Christmas Eve. At Christmas time, as is the case in London, the streets of Copenhagen are crowded by eager throngs of shoppers who greet each other cheerily as they pass along, or struggle through the crowds of sightseers

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outside the windows of the principal shops. The Christmas tree is a universal feature of the celebration in the home. However poor the family may be it must have its tree. Tens of thousands are imported yearly from Norway and Sweden. The Christmas fare consists chiefly of rice porridge with an almond in it, roast goose—turkey is far less common than in England—and apple cake. Placing an almond in the porridge is following out the same custom that we have of placing sixpences, charms, and other things in the Christmas pudding. The lucky finder of the almond receives an additional present; and consequently the search for it is conducted with some amount of excitement and keenness.

Around the Christmas tree, which is brightly lit up at dusk with candles, it is the custom for all the members of the party to dance and sing. The dinner is served, the presents given, and afterwards the family usually amuses itself with dancing and round games for the younger members of the party. Christmas Day itself is kept quietly, but the succeeding day (St. Stephen's Day) is given over to gaiety and amusement. Many visits are paid during the day to friends, and people go from house to house to "skaale" or drink healths with them.

On New Year's Eve there is much gaiety. There is often a dance for the younger people, a supper and fireworks, and at midnight all members of the household and any guests who may be present assemble and drink healths in hot punch.

The practice is, however, growing in Copenhagen as elsewhere for the wealthier people to have supper and see the New Year in at one or other of the many restaurants

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and hotels at which special arrangements are made to celebrate the event.

The Monday before Lent is a general holiday in all schools. Quite early in the morning the children of the house, armed with decorated sticks called "Fastelavns Ris", wake up their parents and friends. Anyone found asleep after a specified hour is compelled to pay a fine, which is used for the purchase of Lenten buns. Later in the day poor children parade the streets dressed up in various costumes, and ask money of passers-by as do English children on Guy Fawkes' Day.

Peculiar to Denmark is the festival celebrated on the fourth Friday after Easter, when all business premises shut down so that people may attend church. This is known as the "Store Bededag" or "Great Day of Prayer". Here, as is the case with Christmas, it is the eve of the festival that is kept. On the evening before "Store Bededag" the church bells are rung, and the people go out into the streets attired in their best. Then the beautiful tree-shaded Langelinie Promenade along the shore of the Sound is usually thronged with people, if the weather is fine, who have come out to listen to the chimes.

Whit Sunday is kept by the young folk, many of whom rise early to see the sunshine on the waters of the Sound or of the fiords. As with us, Easter Monday, Whit Monday, and St. Stephen's Day are general holidays, and given over to excursions and amusement; and are, in addition, church festivals with services both morning and evening.

On Midsummer night it is the custom to light bon-

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fires all over Denmark, and people gather in crowds to watch them burning. Those lighted on the shores of the fiords and lakes, and on hilltops casting reflections in the water, are indeed a beautiful and impressive sight.

Another national holiday is the anniversary of the granting of a Free Constitution to the people of Denmark by Frederik VII. It is known as "Grundlovsdag", and is marked by numerous processions headed by the bands of the various towns, and is the occasion of the parade of various trades' unions and much speech-making. Children's Day is another holiday in the schools, on which the scholars dress up in national costumes, and grown-up people—for children are not allowed in Denmark to be employed for that purpose—collect money in aid of the various hospitals and sanatoria. Very large sums are annually raised by this means.

Among the Danish children there are several pretty and quaint customs. One is the picking of the first snow-drops that appear to send to their friends, and of enclosing with them a piece of paper on which is written a poem. This letter is known as "Vintergække-Brev". It is not, however, signed with the name of the sender, but merely with ink blots corresponding in number with the letters of the sender's name. The puzzle for the recipient of the flowers and poem is to guess from these who has sent them, which must be done within a week. If he or she is not correct in the guess a present must be given to the sender should he or she claim it.

Naturally, as in most other countries, the differences in the life and general characteristics of the people of the towns and of those in the country are

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marked. In Denmark there would appear to be a tendency for these things to be more marked as the years pass. This doubtless arises very largely from the fact that the Danish people are not a town-dwelling race, but an agricultural people with a great love of the soil.

It cannot be denied that the Danish farmer is a man of progressive thought and habits in many ways, but a certain conservatism still remains with those of his class and permeates their life in the country. Indeed, it is a common saying and attitude towards life in general in Denmark that the best lives are lived in the country. The country dweller has few things in common, or even any great sympathy, with the dweller in such a great centre of population as Copenhagen.

One has not to live in Denmark very long before discovering this general preference for their own sphere of life among the country folk; and although many are to-day gravitating towards the towns—especially is this the case with the younger generation—they do not seem to lose their love of the countryside and of the open spaces and freedom that they have enjoyed there.

Those who know Danish beech forests, fiords, placid lakes, moorlands, and pleasant meadow-lands that make up a countryside of great charm, will agree that it has much to recommend it.

The life of a Danish village differs materially from that passed in an English. The Danish village strikes the observer as less circumscribed; it is more scattered, and at first sight seems, indeed, to consist rather of a series of hamlets than a village as we understand the term, with the houses gathered round the village church,

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and one big farm and the manor-house comprising the principal houses. The Danish village, on the other hand, usually consists of congeries of well-kept farmsteads, with the cottages of the farm workers gathered closely round them, and the whole usually, at least partially, surrounded by trees and gardens. The dwelling-houses have low walls but high-pitched roofs, and often are so placed as to form a rough square, with the big barn rising above the other roofs. The old farmsteads are charming with their whitewashed walls, dark oak beams and timbers, and moss-grown thatched roofs with ridge poles.

In the gardens, which are usually gay with simple flowers like those of English homesteads, there are often a number of beehives, as the Danes are fond of honey. And sometimes the roof is made quaint by the presence of a stork's nest on the housetop.

The stork is still regarded in Denmark as a privileged bird which brings good luck and happiness to the homestead on which it has its nest. It used to have a great place in legend, and it is still regarded as a great crime to kill one of these birds. Because of the protection offered them they become remarkably tame, and we have seen one of these birds following the plough, and even walking with stiff gait along the roadside in the remoter portions of Denmark. They are more numerous even in Jutland than formerly, but we were told that some villages have more than a score of the birds coming to them in the summer.

Though it cannot be claimed for the Danish countryside that it possesses ancient, quaint, and historic buildings

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to the same extent as that of England, there are certainly picturesque villages to be met with, and here and there are the manor-houses or country seats of the nobility, often very handsome buildings of red brick with the characteristic features of Danish architecture, high gables, towers and turrets, some in the style of the Dutch Renaissance period. Round many of these one still finds existing the ancient moats which once defended them from assault in troublous times. Often, too, they are surrounded by well-wooded parks, in which herds of deer can be seen cropping the herbage, and regarding passers-by with wide-eyed wonder.

In these great houses the life led during the time that the various owners are in residence—most of them spend some portion of the year in the capital—is of the most delightful description. In the shooting season, where there are game preserves, there are a succession of house parties, and English sportsmen who have been entertained by Danish friends are agreed that no more enjoyable time can be spent than in the hospitable Danish country house, where a dinner of unusual excellence invariably forms the finish of a day's good sport. Game, however, is not so much preserved or so plentiful as in England. But though the bags in consequence are not so heavy, the sport is often exceedingly good. Although there are fine stretches of heather and moorland, grouse is unknown; snipe, pheasants, partridges, hares, deer, and ducks being the chief birds and game shot. To shoot a fox is not a crime but even a virtue in Denmark, where fox-hunting has never become popular.

We have referred to Danish hospitality generally, and

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to that in the towns. In the country, where the houses are larger and have more spare rooms, it is much practised, and relatives, friends, and even the friends of the latter, are made welcome. In summer, motoring, fishing, walking and picnics form the staple amusements, with boating and bathing added where the house is near the coast or a lake. In the evening there are games, including whist and bridge, billiards, singing and dancing; and in the winter, skating, wildfowl shooting, and sleighing. The social life of the countryside is very homely; and if staying for any length of time at a village or small town, one soon gets to know the principal inhabitants.

Just as in England the different counties have their customs and distinguishing characteristics of their people and dialects, so in Denmark the provinces have these peculiarities. Perhaps the most distinctive and interesting are found in Jutland, the inhabitants of which have, so many people agree, some characteristics and qualities in common with the inhabitants of Yorkshire and some portions of the North of England. They are somewhat slow of movement and speech and in acquiring new ideas, but they are undoubtedly shrewd, keen in driving a bargain, and have a vein of dry humour.

The Jutlanders, though they are no respecters of persons as such, have many solid qualities which make them good Danes and excellent members of the community at large. They are very proud of being Jutlanders, which they think the most important and most enlightened portion of the kingdom of Denmark. And should one say to a Jutlander, "Surely you come from Jutland", it is more than likely, in proudly admitting the impeach-

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ment, he or she will say " And thank the good God that I do ".

They are as a rule saving, and good business men. Indeed, many of the most wealthy of the country people in Denmark are Jutlanders, who have risen to become great farmers, merchants, and dealers in cattle and produce, from the humblest beginnings.

From his close association with cattle rearing, the breeding of horses and other stock, the Jutlander is usually kind to his animals, and takes a pride in them. Fairs in the towns and larger villages in the provinces are still very popular; largely as a means of meeting with other people in distant villages, and for the opportunity there is for buying and selling produce and other goods.

Indeed, a Jutland fair is an interesting and very lively spot. The contents of the various booths never fail to attract the " foreigners " as much as the Danes themselves, and the cake stalls are indeed marvellous. Here one meets with cakes in bewildering variety; honey cakes and those made with pepper as a flavouring, and there are many relying on their fantastic shape for their chief attraction. These are in the shape of men, women, horses, cows, pigs, cocks, and of hearts in which are set almonds and sugar-plums. The last-named often also bear in sugar sentimental inscriptions, and are bought in large numbers, to be taken back as presents to those who have not been lucky enough to come themselves to the fair.

Knitting is one of the chief household occupations in the way of needlework in Denmark. One often meets women, and even men, knitting as they walk along the

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roadside or are tending cattle or sheep. And embroidery is another branch of needlecraft much followed: some of the work is extremely fine and elaborate.

Unfortunately in Denmark, as in so many other countries, old-time costumes and customs are dying out. The national dress, which in former days was slightly different in various portions of the kingdom, is but very rarely seen, but, of course, the further off the beaten track one is able to get the more likelihood there is of coming across an occasional example of the peasant costumes of the past—a few are still worn in Fanö—and of the ancient customs which once prevailed and, from all accounts, were so interesting and picturesque.

Even the Jutland gipsies, we were told, have almost disappeared. They were a curious people living chiefly on the moors and in the waste places, having a dialect of their own, strange customs, and, to strangers, often a somewhat terrifying appearance.

Naturally in an agricultural country like Denmark the customs in connection with the cultivation of the land have survived longest. The harvest is a very important time; there is plenty of hard work to be done, but it must be said that it appears to be carried on very cheerfully when the harvest is a good one. The workers are sometimes paid a fixed sum for the whole of the harvest, not so much a week; and they are well looked after. Plenty of good though quite innocuous drink is provided, generally described as "Drikkelse", as harvesting is "dry" work.

There is still a superstition and ceremony in connection with the last sheaf which has to be tied. In

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various parts of the country it is known by different names; for example, in some parts as "Enken", the widow, and "Gamle" or the old woman, and it is often, after being tied, decorated with flowers and carried home to the stackyard in procession. The first sheaf is given in some parts of the country to the rats and mice as their particular portion, in the hope that their depredations in the stackyard will be less as a consequence.

There is a quaint rhyme in connection with this which runs something after the following manner:

This sheaf, oh rats and mice, is thine;
In gratitude pray don't eat mine.

Feasting in Denmark has always been very popular, and on such occasions as weddings, christenings, and funerals, is still so in the country. In former times—possibly the term is shortened nowadays—a week used to intervene between the death and the funeral, and the feast that was in many districts prepared for the day of interment, and this is still so in some parts of the country, was a matter of great thought and preparation for days before.

Weddings, though still considered important functions, are not to-day in the country districts what they used to be. Several customs and practices at these ceremonies have as the years have passed fallen into disuse. Half a century or less ago, weddings, both as regards the number of guests and the feast prepared, were astonishingly lavish affairs. Sometimes the guests at the wedding of a well-to-do farmer would number upwards of two hundred, and this was not reckoning mere spectators

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and the hangers-on that are always found on such occasions. The amount of food consumed was prodigious, as one gathers from old records which have been preserved.

The wedding feast entailed such an amount of skill and labour that the services of the professional cook of the district, who devoted her life to social functions of the kind, was generally called in. It was therefore necessary to fix the wedding for a day that would suit her other engagements. Even the clergyman was of less consequence. She was by far the most important person in connection with the proposed festivities!

It was also the custom to employ a professional inviter, who either went round on foot or horseback, attired in his best clothes; and sometimes he was dressed up with white trousers tucked into top boots and wore a festal nosegay in his coat. The matter of selecting the guests to be summoned was a very delicate one. As a rule each farmstead had its own set of friends and acquaintances; the bride's parents had theirs; and if the young people were moving to a new village some of the people had to be invited from that place. The "inviter", armed with his list, set forth, and for safety's sake, and so that no mistake, likely to cause offence, might be made, this "Bydemand" had a written copy of the invitation with him, which had a fixed phraseology, varying, however, in the different parts of the country. One that we have been shown ran as follows (when translated): "I bring word from Erik Jacobsen and from Amalie Wied to ask you to come and eat breakfast with them on . . . at ten o'clock, and then go with them to church and hear their

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marriage service, and return with them home again and have a meal or two, and then have dancing and games the whole night, and then come next day, and take the same places you had before ”.

The “ Bydemand’s ” duties, however, did not end with the inviting, for he was expected to act as Master of the Ceremonies; to supervise the often elaborate decorations at the farm; to engage the musicians for the feast and dancing which followed; and where the resources of the house were insufficient in the matter of table linen, crockery, knives, forks and glasses, to borrow the necessary articles from neighbours. In connection with this there were sometimes girls employed to assist him, known as “ Laanepiger ” or “ borrowing girls ”.

Not only had a proper list of borrowed articles to be kept by either the “ Bydemand ” or his girl helpers, so that the things should go back correctly and uninjured to those who loaned them, but other duties of organization had to be performed by them. The neighbours always lent willingly, and often contributed gifts of food to the feast, which were sent in a prescribed manner, according to custom, to the house of the bride’s parents.

The guests on the wedding morning were always received with music, and were given refreshments immediately on their arrival. The whole party then set out for the church, the musicians in the first conveyance, the bride and bridesmaids in the next, then the bridegroom. Sometimes the guests used to take refreshments, in the shape of cake and “ Smörrebröd ”, with them, which they bestowed on the children and poor people whom they passed on the way.

Life in Town and Country

Formerly there were a number of customs governing the behaviour of the bride and bridegroom in the church, and on their return to the house; and some of the most curious of these, which appear entirely to have died out, were founded upon ancient superstitions. The arrangement of the guests at table, according to the station and relationship, was a complicated task. The wedding breakfast often ended with the singing of a hymn, and then everyone would embrace and say "Tak for mad" ("Thanks for the food") while shaking hands. Anciently, it is said, it was the custom for the pastor to take up his position against the wall or some piece of furniture, and then all the women and girls and children walked past him, each one kissing him.

Though not so common as formerly, spinning, weaving, and carding still play a part in the indoor winter life of the peasants; and so as to get on quickly with the work of carding the wool, parties are made up by inviting some of the young girls to come and help in the operation. Any housewife does this who is in need of help, and the girls are in the habit of coming for the afternoon and evening, and are well entertained, tea or a meal being given them, tales being told, and later on in the evening some of the young men who have heard of the carding party come in and there is dancing and games. It was the custom for the first girl who arrived to be the "carding sweetheart" of the first of the young men to do the same, and there were special songs for them, of which they sang a verse in turn, the songs varying in the different districts.

In the winter evenings the men were often employed

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in carving, and many of the peasants are still skilful with their knives, and Denmark can show some of the finest wood-carving in old oak of any country in Europe. Carving is not so popular to-day as even a quarter of a century ago, however, and has, as is the case with many other home industries, declined in Denmark as in other countries with the march of mechanical progress. The best period of wood-carving in Denmark was that covered by the latter part of the reign of Frederik II. and the first part of that of Christian IV.

Of late years new interests have sprung into life in the Danish country town and village as in those of most other lands, and the establishment of libraries has provided means of both recreation and instruction.

It is true, on the whole, however, to say that the country dweller finds most of his or her interests centred in the work of the farm and in the agricultural and other employment in which they seek to earn a livelihood, and to this fact may be attributed in no small measure the progress that Denmark has made and the prosperity which has come to her.

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