

II.

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BARLOW

Revelations of a Writing-case

at Copenhagen -

After the cheerful Svendborg, the dreary aspect of Korsør makes one anxious to get away from it as fast as possible, & as the train starts ^{over} after the arrival of ^{the} steamer our wishes are ^{gratified} ~~accomplished~~. The rail ^{way} runs through Slagelse and Sorø, where good old Saxo Grammaticus wrote his Danish Chronicle, through Ringsted and Roskilde, and stops at Copenhagen near the much renowned Tivoli. As our drosky drove over the drawbridges, and beneath the frowning archway of the fortifications, on its way to the Hotel d'Angleterre, huge omnibuses filled with lively occupants going to the places of evening amusement in the environs, came reeling and staggering out, as if every moment in danger of ~~rolling~~ ^{rolling} down with all their gay and giddy freight, and causing in their ruin the crowd of leper carriages that crowded about them - but happily the danger was more apparent than real and we got safely through. A glance at the map of a city will give a better idea of it than a ^{whole} volume in quarto, and so of Copenhagen. In shape it is nearly circular, & is bordered in part by the sea which flows through it in a stream from N.E. to S.W. thus separating the southern portion of it, the island of Amak, from its more aristocratic neighbour. Bastions and curtains bristle up all around ~~the circumference~~, and an imposing citadel faces the road-head. Streets and canals meet & jostle one another almost at every turn, tall ships float up to the very doors of the houses, and ^{independent} bowsprits all but thrust themselves in at ^{the} bed-room windows. Nearly in the very centre of these picturesque combinations, is a large ~~irregular~~ open space in form irregular and at least

one sixth of an English mile wide, it is called "the King's new market" though
 no market is ever held there; it is the most ample and handsome place in
 the whole city; ~~and~~ in a conspicuous part of it stands a vast barrack-like
 looking building with fifty-one windows in front, the Hotel so universally met
 with whenever Englishmen congregate, the Hotel d'Angleterre. In Danish this
 open space is called Kongen's Nijetovv, it is the great centre of circulation in this
 busy, cheerful, pleasant city of Copenhagen, through it pass all persons and things
 that traverse the capital from morning till night; twelve streets pour into it their
 living streams, and receive from it as many in return; it is ^{cropped} ~~traversed~~ like
 the ocean, or the great desert, in regular courses, and the hearings are taken
 from opposite points. It is curious to observe here the ^{currents} ~~currents~~ of people and
 carriages, as many going one way as ^{the other}, so that a due balance is kept up
 in the moving ^{map} ~~currents~~. Groups of gaily dressed fashionable women with light-hearted
 pleasant ^{and} jaunting along, ^{with} quantities of pretty children; staid men of business ^{are} going
 about their daily affairs; smart officers, soldiers, sailors, students and ^{people} ~~persons~~ of
 every sort of honest calling, all talking, all very much interested about something
 or other, ^{they take their daily courses} while the rosy-faced Amigiers, who frequent the markets, with their caps
 of gold lace and long pendants and ribbons, add their picturesque ^{presence} ~~persons~~ to
^{the ever changing} ~~the ever changing~~ panorama, and complete this ^{varied and} animated scene. ~~at once so varied and~~
~~so lively~~ Of the carriages that rattle over the Town, the greater part con-
 sist of the common vehicle of the country, a sort of barge shaped light wag-
 gon square fore and aft, and drawn by two horses. A better sort of
 conveyance, mounted on springs, with seats placed as in a row-boat
 one behind the other, ~~but~~ still preserving the primitive barge-like

shape is much used by holiday folk; on Sunday mornings ^{strings of them} in summer, ~~they~~ may be seen ~~and~~ ^{carve} carving across the Torw, in the direction of the east-gate of the city, filled with sleek citizens, their wives & families, all hying away to the Forest to sit under the leafy shade and hear the sweet birds sing. For the Danes have a national passion for forest-glades ~~and~~ green fields & trees, they love the woods as their native home, probably inheriting this feeling from their primitive ancestors.

The Hotel d'Angleterre stands in very good company, close by is the City guard-house where a trumpet-screams early in the morning, so that the inmates of the Hotel do not need being called, at eleven ^{they are regaled with} ~~there is~~ a military concert. Nearly opposite is the Academy of the Fine Arts, where Thorwaldsen spent the latter years of his life. There also is the Military School, ^{close by is} ~~a~~ the Theatre, which opens for the season on the first of September & closes in May, it is a model Theatre for the accommodation it affords. On the other side of the Torw is the handsome Tottske Palace, in which is the ^{fine} ~~fine~~ collection of Danish and Dutch pictures; and in the centre of, on an oval grassplat, an equestrian statue of Christian V.th rears up trampling under foot the monster envy, surrounded by the figures of four virtues all equally monstrous.

The street architecture of Copenhagen has a German character, especially in the older part of the city where the houses are not built in parallelograms, ^{but in accidental lines,} ~~but~~ ^{and} after the fashion prevalent in England ^{some} three-hundred years ago. Wooden buildings with gable ends towards the street, stories above overhanging those below, and ^{small} windows set in a row close together. But the more important edifices of the

earlier period and buildings in the Tudor style, such as the Exchange, the Rosenborg Palace, and two houses in the Amager Town. Rosenborg Palace, built in 1604, is suggestive of Hermit's Hospital at Edinburgh, and is believed to be by the same architect, Inigo Jones. The Exchange would require a chapter with itself - It is a long ^{red brick, very quaint} low building, with tall gable ends, a horizontal & perpendicular bands, and strap work ornament, & pigeon hole windows in pairs of twos and threes, the lower ^{being distinguished} ~~stone~~ ^{being distinguished} from the upper by narrow cornices supported by brackets and decorated with trophies. An avenue of lime trees, under the protection of Neptune and Mercury, leads to the entrance porch, ^{where is} ~~with~~ the date 1624, with a royal crown, crop, & bell symbolical of the world & those who navigate its waters. From the ridge of the high roof a curious steeple shoots up, ingeniously composed of four sea monsters (ichthyosaurs) with their tails twisted ~~into~~ into a vanishing point, and their gaping jaws turned to the four cardinal points of the compass. At the end of the large hall is a painting representing the visit of Christian IV. to Tycho Brahe in the island of Huen 1592.

Neither the Churches nor the Palaces of Copenhagen are remarkable for fine architecture - the former are State churches where the royal crown and cipher usually take the place of the crop and chaidian monogram; the interiors are in some ~~cases~~ rather curious and contain interesting specimens of carved altars and pulpits. The church of our Lady, (the Fruekirke) takes the precedence of all others, not for its antiquity, for it has none, having been built in 1829, nor its architecture, but because it is the Cathedral and contains Thorvaldsen's celebrated ~~group~~ figures of Christ and the twelve Apostles. Externally there is a tall heavy tower,

and a domed portico of six columns meant to resemble a portico at Paestum. In the tympanum of the pediment is the Baptism of John, & under the architrave Christ riding into Jerusalem, executed by the great Danish sculptor.

In plan the church is a basilica, with an arched & paneled ceiling and an apse, in ~~the~~ the niche of which stands the Christ. The galleries are formed by greekian dorie columns resting on piers, against which ^{are placed} ~~stand~~ the twelve apostles. They cannot, however, be seen here to advantage, we must reserve our account of them until we meet them again in the Museum. A

payment of three marks admits, at any time during the week, a party of twelve persons. The best time for seeing Churches on Sunday is the half hour before the service begins, from half-past eight to nine, or a little later, and the half hour after the service closes, from eleven to half-past or twelve, for in Protestant countries abroad people go to church in good time, & then have leisure for Sunday recreations. Before service commences visitors

may write or sketch without offending proprieties, not that the cheerful Danes are morbidly sensible of disturbances during their devotions, but the seriousness of their demeanour, & the profoundness of their attention to the Word, albeit not eloquently ^{spoken} ~~uttered~~, ^{yet} with a sincere conviction of its truth, command our utmost respect and reverence, and when the service has commenced there is nothing else to be done than to attend or sit it out. Entering, on one occasion, a place of worship where prayer was being declaimed, as it is in Scotland, a well-dressed gentlemanly man, as soon as he saw us, left his pew, came forward with a formidable book in his hand, which he presented while at the same time he ^{the owner of a seat} ~~opened a~~ ~~founder~~ - We politely declined taking either, stating

That the object of our visit was merely eye-service, at which he smiled and bowed, withdrew the book, closed the pew door, and returned to his seat, we also sitting, at the same time, on tip-toe to make our observations elsewhere.

During the celebration of the service at the altar, the priest wears a very showy chasuble of red silk with a broad gold laced cusp down the back of it, but when preaching he appears in black, with a cloak of the same colour, and stiff broad ruff around his neck like our primitive puritans.

The sacrament of baptism is commonly administered after the service, that of the Lord's supper before it begins, and is preceded by a personal exhortation. One Sunday we assisted at the admission of seven ^{infants} ~~little~~ Dames into the Christian Church, the quiet little creatures all behaved extremely well, and notwithstanding the liberal allowance of water, & the mode in which it was ^{applied} ~~administered~~, not a cry nor a scream, or even a wheeze was heard, one might have supposed they were all fast asleep in their godmothers arms, so content were they to be born again after the Christian ordinance. The meekness of these seven little Dames, contrasted with the usual obstreperousness of the infant Briton and Gaul on ^{like} ~~the~~ occasions, seemed remarkable, and might, perhaps, be taken as an indication of the natural docility of the Danish character, for, as all travellers know, a better behaved people is not to be found in Europe - nor a braver.

If antiquity is to afford the measure of veneration due to places of worship, or pastoral authority, the Church of St. Peter would merit precedence. In fact it is gothic, & internally is as comfortably carpeted as any Protestant could desire for sitting out his prayers in. It contains three pictures. The resurrection of our Lord by Prof. Lund, over the altar; on one side of which is the

the agony in the garden, in which an angel exhibits the cross, while his com-
 panions support the fainting saviour, and a heavenly choir come sliding
 down from ~~heaven~~^{the sky} on beams of light, wondering spectators of the agonising scene.
 On the other side is an ascension, in a better style of art than we commonly
 find so far north; the sacristan was asked if he knew anything about it, to which
 he replied, that the only information he could give was that it was "meget
 gammel", very old, and he seemed to wonder how any-body could think
 it worth while to ask a question about it. We frequently find the churches
 in Copenhagen fitted up with ~~halls~~^{galleries} like a theatre, in three or four ~~times~~^{tiers}, they
 have windows, and are in every respect snug little boxes with neat cur-
 tains to draw in front, where ladies & gentlemen may listen to the service
 without being seen. The church called Holmens Kirke, opposite to the Royal
 Palace, is an interesting specimen of this internal arrangement, and is
 on other respects very curious and worth seeing, here is ^a very elaborately carved
 pulpit, the top like an oriental crown, and the twelve apostles standing round
 the reading desk. There is also a wonderful altar-piece, as marvellous a
 piece of architecture & sculpture cut out of wood as one could wish to see,
 on it, and about it stand a ^{great} multitude of figures of evangelists, prophets, &
 angels, among them Moses and the Baptist. The carved panels represent
 the subjects of the passion, and Christ in glory crowns the apex. We have
 never seen anything to surpass this, not even in Belgium so famous for
 carved work. The carvers of ships figure heads are said to have been
 the ingenious artists who wrought it, if so they deserve to be raised into
 a guild.

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Having said so much about Churches, ^{we shall add} a few notes how the Danes spend the Sunday. During divine service the doors of all shops are most religiously shut & fastened, but the shutters mostly remain down, so that the sheets still preserve their ordinary look. The Danes are very devout during the hours of prayer, not even an apple stall by the way side is allowed to be set out until ~~the morning~~ ^{the morning} service is over, about eleven o'clock. But after that, until the afternoon service ^{which} begins at two, the public Museums, or several of them, are opened for the instruction and amusement of the people, with the express ^{& even at the service} approbation of the Primate and the enlightened christian clergy of Denmark.

It is thought incompatible with the duties of the Lord's day to allow the people their popular recreations towards the close of it, evangelical Denmark, with the other protestant states of the North, thus conforms to the established practice of Christian Europe. Fredericksberg, about two miles from the city, abounding in pleasant promenades, is a favourite resort. The Thier-garten, or Forest, about five miles from the city, is also much frequented; and the Tivoli gardens, that most popular place of ^{evening} amusement in Copenhagen for the middle & working classes is commonly crowded. There is no disposition shown here, either by clergy or laity, to sacrifice the poor man's christian holiday to the scruples of a pharisaical hypocrisy. The children of the poor, ^{as well as the rich,} are reared in christian principles, they are all early taught their duty both to God and man. ~~having been baptised into the Church of Christ they remain true faithful servants to until death.~~ The Danes do not require an army of home missionaries for their continual conversions, but having once been baptised into the Church of Christ, they remain in it. A cheerful ~~people~~ and a moral people, with generous hearts and lively feelings,

They see nothing gloomy in Christianity, nor have any desire ^{fall down before a} to ~~make~~ a
 secular idol of religion - long faces and pious slang form no part of their
 faith, nor is there any desire shown by cunning men to extract from the
 pockets of the ignorant a tax on their credulity - they ^{manifest} ~~show~~ no wish to be
~~saved~~ by low artifice, the warnings of false prophets, or ^{intemperate} ~~intemperate~~ capoeary.

Religion, science, & art all abide in their weekly training, ~~and the good~~
 effect of which is ^{seen} ~~shown~~ in their well behaved, orderly, and humane ^{conduct,} ~~character,~~
 their high moral feelings, their courtesy, kindness, candour, and good faith.

Along with the whole German race, the Danes cultivate also a loving remembrance
 of those who are no more. The union of families, separated by death, the connex-
 ions of kindred, the ties of friendship, & the merits of the brave, all these enter
 into the thoughts of their daily life. The northern races have ever been ^{among} the
 firmest believers in a life to come, although the manner of it has changed with
 the forms of their religious credence. The Cemeteries of Copenhagen are models of
 simplicity and good taste, especially the Military and Naval Cemeteries beyond the
 East Gate, no gardens of rare flowers and choice ^{shrubs} ~~plants~~ could be kept with greater
 care, or made more agreeable to the organs of sense. The last visit we paid
 was to one of these, in company with a ^{retired} ~~retired~~ ^{Captain of Engineers,} ~~officer~~ who was very anxious that
 we should see the tumulus raised to the memory of the Danish Officers who
 fell on the 2nd of April, 1801, among whom were several members of his own
 family. But though the "Battle of Copenhagen" was so disastrous, ^{to the Danes, yet along with his countrymen} ~~yet~~ he bore the
 English no ill will, nay, on the contrary, he seemed to love his ^{former} ~~old~~ enemies as himself,
 and the courtesies and entertainments we received at his hands, were carried
 to the account of our ~~own~~ country.