

the pomp-loving Northerners in exchange for their valuable furs and other wares." Horace Marryatt states that "in the inventory of Gripsholm, during the reign of King Gustaf, every object noted down is of foreign manufacture." Among the importations during this reign are mentioned dye-stuffs, fruits, garden-products, glass, gold, gems, horses, confectionery, linen wares, silk and velvet, silver, tapestries,—all giving evidence of refinement, love of luxury, and an extremely cultivated taste, and yet the statement that Sweden at the present day has two universities, and upwards of 130 public high and normal schools of various grades, besides the special schools, and 9639 elementary schools; that it has over 4000 miles of railway; a commercial navy of 4441 vessels; a "Sèvres" of its own, the porcelain factory at Rörstrand, which has been the recipient of no less than ten medals, from Paris, Moscow, Berlin, Malimö, Borås, Stockholm, Bogota, Copenhagen, Philadelphia, and Vienna; an opera-house, built by the art-loving Gustaf III., which in 1882 celebrated its centennial, and in which all the operatic requirements, singers, orchestra, ballet, scenic decorations (invariably fine), even to the translation of the text into Swedish, all the Italian librettos, are filled by native artists;—this statement will excite incredulous surprise in all who read it.

The world has been so deeply impressed with the supposed fact of the wretched barbarism and ignorance of the ancient Scandinavians that it stubbornly refuses to believe that the modern Scandinavians have ever made any perceptible progress in letters or art. In England this scepticism is particularly marked; but either there or in the United States the assertion that the contrary is the case, is almost resented. Nevertheless, the *Salon* every year borrows much of its lustre from the works of Scandinavian artists, and such men as Normann, Cederström, Salmson, Hagborg, Smith-Hald, are in no danger of being eclipsed. In Johannes Jaeger's illustrated catalogue of the celebrated art-works of Sweden, Norway and Denmark,