



COPENHAGEN.

an amphibious life—as much at home upon the rolling main as on the ploughed fields. The austerity of their motherland sent them forth on all the seas to seek new homes on all the shores.

The Danes are true sons of Balder the Beautiful, the Northern Apollo—with stalwart frames, yellow hair, and blue eyes. The first monarch of Denmark, it is claimed, was the son of Odin, the war god, himself. It was under Canute, our Anglo-Danish king, that Denmark became Christian. In the fourteenth century, Margaret, the northern Semiramis, united the kingdoms of Denmark, Norway and Sweden by the Compact of Calmar, 1397. On the Reformation they became Lutheran in religion.

Their warlike occupation gone, like Othello's, the Danes have settled down as peaceful tillers of the soil, keepers of cattle, and sailors on all the seas. They are among the best educated people in Europe. Every child between the ages of seven and fourteen is obliged by law to attend some school. It is rare to meet a Danish peasant, however poor, who cannot read or write. Every village has at least one school, and there are colleges in all the large towns, and at Copenhagen a university, founded before the discovery of America. It has forty professors, upwards of twelve hundred students, and a library of 200,000 volumes. The royal library ranks among the largest in Europe, having more than half a