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Editorial Settings.

THE EVANGELICAL ALLIANCE AT COPENHAGEN.

COPENHAVN, as the natives call it, is a very fine city of 225,000 inhabitants. Its immediate suburbs contain 175,000 more: so the capital of Denmark may be said to include one fifth of the whole population. Many of the public buildings are large and handsome, such as the royal palace, the museums, for there are a variety of them, the theatres, and the hotels. The parks and squares and boulevards are also numerous and beautiful. Owing to its insular position there is water everywhere—clear sparkling sea-water. The harbour is unlimited in extent and from the number and diversity of the shipping presents a very interesting and busy appearance. Here you find ships of all nations and steamers of all sizes. The navy yard is a sight to see—men-of-war on the stocks, building: in the dry dock, undergoing repairs: riding at anchor, festooned with bunting: housed over and laid up for a season. At least twenty large ships of war—including some heavy ironclads—were in the last named condition. Has the time come when even the Danes shall study war no more? Not at all. They have a large fleet on the high seas and these are only their “reserves” and each of them will be duly commissioned in turn. The fortifications at the main entrance to the harbour have a formidable appearance and bristle with mammoth guns, but as the machinery of war has so greatly changed since Nelson gained his famous battle of Copenhagen in 1801, when he compelled the Danes to abandon their alliance with Napoleon, it is not easy to say what power of resistance these forts may represent at the present

time. Indeed the entire kingdom is so small it seems a wonder it has not ere now been annexed by some of the neighbouring powers. The reason may be that the key to the Baltic is considered by these great powers safer in the hands of the Danes than it would be with either of themselves; and England would have something to say about it, of course. The extreme length of the Danish peninsula is about 300 miles, and its greatest width about 100 miles. Notwithstanding its northerly situation, the climate is on the whole pleasant, and although the soil is by no means very fertile, it is carefully cultivated and the people are thrifty, contented and comfortable. They are slow in their movements, but kind-hearted, honest and sincere. They do not know what it is to *rush* business of any kind, but are conspicuous for their plodding patience and perseverance. They enjoy life more than most people and are by some charged as being lovers of pleasure overmuch. As to that, we have no personal knowledge, but so far as observation may be trusted, we saw nothing to detract from the good name of the people as a whole. We saw not a single case of intemperance during our sojourn of a week—nor a single instance of abject poverty. The simple and unostentatious example of the Royal Family has doubtless a corresponding effect on their subjects, who occupy, as their ancestors have done before them, an honourable position in the intellectual world. We do not forget that it was the Danes who sent Ziegenbalg and Plutschau, the first Protestant missionaries to India in the year 1705, and that ever since that time, they have taken an active part in the good work of sending the gospel to heathen countries. The commerce of the country is in a thriving condition, although chiefly confined to the products of the soil.