

These associations have always been a thorn in the side of the Germans, who have done all in their power to stop their activity. The well-known judge Dr. Hahn tried for a long time to take the children from their parents, in order to prevent their being sent to schools in Denmark. This attempt, however, failed entirely. In spite of all persecutions the associations have been steadily growing. The Association for promoting the Danish Language shows a great increase in the membership during the years 1906-12. In these seven years the number of members has been as follows: 3,153, 3,417, 4,711, 5,071, 5,724, 6,173, and 6,354. The membership of the Association of Electors for the same period is as follows: 3,469, 4,024, 5,451, 6,420, 6,500, 6,635, 7,257, and 8,215; and that of the School Association: 4,720, 5,475, 7,212, 8,171, 8,222, 8,772, 10,725, 10,873, and 11,431. As the Germans have called forth these associations through their tyranny, so they have also brought into existence the Danish meeting-houses. The authorities for many years have attempted to obstruct the Danish meetings and the greater social gatherings by threatening landlords, whose assembly-rooms were suitable for these meetings, with severe punishment if they let the rooms to Danish people. In such cases the landlords would be required to close their premises earlier at night, and would also be deprived of the right to have dances in their rooms. This is distinctly stated in a letter of March 21, 1899, from Amtsvorsteher Stojentin in Toftlund to a landlord in that town. Even high officials have behaved in a manner which one shrinks from describing in the language that it deserves. During an election in the second ward in 1903 the Danish candidate, Andresen, a tobacco manufacturer of Aabenraa, inquired of the