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ON THE PRESERVATION OF NATIONAL ANTIQUITIES AND MONUMENTS IN DENMARK. BY J. J. A. WORSAAE, VICE-PRESIDENT OF THE ROYAL SOCIETY OF NORTHERN ANTIQUARIES, COPENHAGEN, HON. MEM. S.A. SCOT. TRANSLATION COMMUNICATED BY A. W. FRANKS, ESQ., BRITISH MUSEUM, HON. MEM. S.A. SCOT.

[A. W. Franks, Esq., Hon. Mem. S.A. Scot., communicated a translation of a Report drawn up by Monsieur J. J. A. Worsaae, Hon. Mem. F.S.A. Scot., and printed in Danish in "Aarbøger for nordisk Oldkyndighed og Historie, 1877," and in French in "Mémoires de la Société des Antiquaires du Nord, 1877." This report he considered would be useful and interesting at the present juncture, when the Legislature was engaged in a measure for the preservation of Prehistoric Monuments in the British Islands; especially as showing what great steps had been taken and how considerable an expenditure had been incurred by so small a country as Denmark, for the preservation of its national monuments and antiquities. This translation had been prepared with the sanction of its author, who has kindly read it over to ensure accuracy.]

REPORT ON THE PRESERVATION OF NATIONAL ANTIQUITIES AND MONUMENTS
IN DENMARK, DRAWN UP AT THE REQUEST OF THE IMPERIAL AND
ROYAL LEGATION OF AUSTRO-HUNGARY AT COPENHAGEN.

Inquiries both official and private have been frequently made in various countries, for instance, France, England, Sweden, and Finland, as to the measures taken in Denmark for the exploration of the national antiquities and monuments, and it is therefore considered an opportune moment for publishing as an answer to these queries the present report, prepared in

the year 1875, more especially as there is no similar publication in the archæological literature of Denmark.

A. *Antiquities*.—Until the beginning of the present century there was no special public collection for national antiquities. A few objects found in Denmark were preserved in the Kunst Kammer, established by King Frederic III. in the second half of the seventeenth century (1648–70), and containing, according to the fashion of the age, antiquities of all countries, medals, ethnographical objects, natural history specimens, objects of art, furniture, and curiosities, totally without classification. But these rarities came chiefly from accidental finds, not from careful excavations, and they consisted principally of objects of intrinsic value, of gold and silver, and belonging to the class of *Danefæ*.¹ The Danish law, in fact, (5–9–3, set out in the decree of 22d March 1737) assigned to the king or the crown, as was the custom from time immemorial, all treasure or deposit of gold, silver, and precious objects without an owner found in the earth, and the finder was obliged under certain penalties to give up his treasure-trove to the fiscal without any compensation. But as under this system many precious objects were sold or secretly melted down, to the prejudice of archæology, there appeared a decree of the 7th August 1752, which still maintained the right of the crown to the *danefæ*, under the same penalties, but at the same time assigned to *the finder* the intrinsic value of the metal; the remuneration belonged in all cases to the finder, except when the owner of the ground had caused excavations to be made with the object of finding a treasure, or had expressly reserved to himself the right to what might be found in explorations undertaken by his orders. Experience has proved that this arrangement is good in practice, and extremely advantageous to the public collections, especially as it is now widely recognised in Denmark, the finders knowing that they will obtain from the State, whose agents examine and appraise the objects found, not only a more liberal price than from private individuals, but also that any trouble taken to collect and preserve objects is acknowledged by a reward

¹ In old Norse *dánarfê*, from *fê*, property, and *dánar*, of a dead man.

in addition to the value of the metal. Latterly also, England, in modifying the old rigorous law of treasure-trove, has paid great attention to the Danish legislation and to the experience thus gained.

With the exception of the penalties imposed upon illegal detention of the *daneſæ*, the law contained no special regulations as to the sending of the objects found, nor any prohibition from selling them in the country or abroad.

However, at the beginning of this century, Professor R. Nyerup, having commenced making a special collection of national antiquities, with the object of preventing the constantly increasing destruction of them, and the entire nation being invited to lay offerings on the altar of its fatherland, in order to illustrate the progress of civilisation in Denmark from the most remote ages to the present day, the Government took the matter in hand and established a Royal Commission for the Preservation of Antiquities (1807), entrusting it with the duty of the preservation of antiquities and of the monuments throughout the kingdom. This Commission was replaced in 1849 by a committee of two directors, the keeper of the Museum of Northern Antiquities (Thomsen), and the inspector of ancient monuments (Worsaae), who jointly had the supervision of the antiquities of the whole kingdom. In 1866, the two directorates, with those of the historical and ethnographical collections, were united in the hands of one person (Worsaae) in order that the regulations should be administered with more uniformity and decision. This organisation still exists. The original Commission founded the collection which has now become the Royal Museum of Northern Antiquities; but it is only since 1815, and under the direction of Thomsen, that the collection so greatly increased. Being placed as a national institution in the department of the Minister of Public Worship and Instruction, it annually figures in the budget. Besides its ordinary grant it has funds, destined, as before, for the purchase of *daneſæ*, and also it can command further special sums for rearranging the collections, extensive explorations, or for the purchase of large collections. However, at a comparatively small expense, the museum has risen by degrees to be of very considerable importance. It has been successively

augmented by the national antiquities from the Kunst Kammer, the Cabinet of Coins, and other collections; it is enriched, moreover, by gradual acquisitions, by explorations in different parts of the kingdom, and especially by private donations, so that it comprises from 40,000 to 50,000 specimens now arranged in the Prinzen's palace. The number of the antiquities coming from all parts of the kingdom continues to increase so uninterruptedly that the idea of providing a large building to contain the national collections comes to be more and more entertained. To the museum are attached archives open to the public, which contain, besides an archæological and topographical library, drawings and descriptions, both of remarkable finds and of the monuments dispersed over the country.

It was essential that the people should interest themselves in the progress of the museum; and to awaken and sustain this interest the directors took the following measures:--

(1.) To admit the public constantly to visit the collections and to explain their contents: later, when the increase of the museum and of the numbers of visitors rendered it impossible to give oral explanations equally to all, guides were published, in several languages.

(2.) To publish in the newspapers a list of objects sent or presented.

(3.) To publish popular treatises on the antiquities and their significance, a labour in which the museum has been ably seconded by the Society of Northern Antiquaries.

(4.) To give popular lectures at Copenhagen and elsewhere.

(5.) To establish small collections in the provinces, cathedral towns, colleges, high schools, and normal schools, especially for the instruction of youth.

(6.) To encourage relations with the clergy, schoolmasters, and the higher class of peasants, who have influence over the people, and are in a position to be on the watch for discoveries.

(7.) And, lastly, to distribute money, books, and other rewards to those who distinguish themselves by their zeal and care in preserving or collecting antiquities.

Thanks to these measures, it is rare for important discoveries to occur

without being speedily made known to the museum; the objects discovered are, in fact, generally sent to it direct. The small public collections in the provinces, which have an administration independent of the state, have incorporated in their statutes the rule of offering to the central museum at Copenhagen any finds particularly interesting or instructive, and to ask in exchange duplicates of commoner objects. On account of their strong national feeling, the people make it a point of honour to gather materials for the history of prehistoric times; nor is it any longer necessary now, at least, to prohibit the export of antiquities in stone, bronze, and iron. The museum has found it succeed wonderfully to have kept up the principle of spontaneous action, and not to interfere with but rather to favour the formation of private collections; experience having shown that this has been the means of saving from destruction many objects which would otherwise have been lost, and that the private collections, or the greater portion of them, would become, sooner or later, at least, incorporated in the museum of the State.

As to the objects of the museum and its internal arrangement, of which the details are more fully given in the printed Guides,¹ it may be generally said that the aim of this institution is to throw light upon the colonisation of Denmark, its relations with other countries, and the progress of its internal civilisation in Pagan times (from the beginning of the Stone Age till A.D. 1030), in the Catholic period (till 1536), and, finally, from the Reformation, almost as long as the old style of the Renaissance lasted, or rather until the establishment of absolute Government in Denmark (1660). The classification of the specimens is strictly chronological, as far as that can be from time to time better determined; it is not limited now, as at first, to classing the prehistoric objects according to the broad periods of Stone Age, Bronze or Iron Age, but an attempt is made to distinguish more minutely the beginning or end, or the periods of transition, of each of these wide epochs, in order to demonstrate more clearly the gradual advance from one primitive stage to another more enlightened, and to

¹ See the Guides in Danish, French, and German prepared by M. C. Engelhardt, Copenhagen; 1866, 1874, and 1876

distinguish between foreign influence and native and more independent work. From this point of view it was of the first importance to class in series only such objects as were found singly, whilst the great finds of each period have not been separated, but have been kept together and arranged geographically, according to the different regions in which they were found. One is thus enabled, not only to distinguish the objects of each period, and of each subdivision, but also to recognise the characteristic peculiarities of the different parts of Denmark, the southern and eastern provinces of which were evidently reached by the wave of foreign civilisation at an earlier period than were the northern and north-western, in the same way that culture, coming from the south, penetrated sooner into Denmark than into the more northern and distant parts of Scandinavia: Sweden and Norway.

Besides the Museum of Northern Antiquities and the Cabinet of Coins¹ must be mentioned the Ethnographical Museum² and the Cabinet of Antiques,³ as containing objects for comparison which can, from various points of view, give valuable ideas in explanation of Danish antiquities. But, as was natural for Danish museums, they were compelled chiefly to make the completest possible collections of such things as bore particularly upon civilisation in Denmark.

The historical-archæological museums have not limited themselves, as is the case with the Museum of Northern Antiquities, to objects dating from before 1660. In the belief that modern history, from 1660 to the present day, is not less worthy than ancient history of being illustrated by contemporary and characteristic objects, a plan until now too much neglected in most countries, an historical museum has been established in the old

¹ *Den Kgl. Mynt og Medaille-Samling paa Prindsens Palais* (Le Cabinet royal des monnaies et médailles, au Palais du Prince), Guide des Visiteurs, Copenhagen, 1869, 8vo.

² C. L. Steinhauser, *Kort Vejledning i det Kgl. ethnographiske Museum* (Guide au Musée royal d'Ethnographie), 8vo, Copenhagen, 1874. Also German translation, 8vo, 1876.

³ L. Müller, *Den Kgl. Antiksamling, Haandkatalog* (Catalogue de la Collection royale des Antiques), 2d edition, 8vo, Copenhagen, 1872.

castle of Rosenborg at Copenhagen, built by Christian IV., from 1610 to 1617, bearing the name of the Chronological Collection of the Kings of Denmark (director Worsaae), and which forms the continuation of the Museum of Northern Antiquities; in fact, it embraces the period between the reign of Christian IV. and the death of Frederic VII. in 1863, comprising the whole duration of absolute monarchy from 1660 to 1848. In the rooms, which, by a happy coincidence, have partially preserved the successive styles of the different periods, there has been arranged, treating the royal house as a centre, and in strict chronological order, a rich and valuable collection of portraits of members of the royal family, and of the celebrated men who surrounded them; costumes, furniture, personal ornaments, arms, and other objects characteristic of the style of each epoch, and of which the printed descriptions will give a clearer idea.¹ This museum, which also contains the crown jewels, thus contains important materials for the history of the industry, the art, and the recent progress of civilisation in Denmark. The Chronological Collection, which is a trust of the royal family, placed under the control of the Government, has, as such, a high administration, composed of the Minister of Public Worship and Instruction, as a representative of the State, and one of the principal functionaries of the court, as that of the royal family. The expenses occasioned by the increase and support of the collection are borne exclusively by the Treasury.

B. *Monuments*.—It was in the time of Christian IV. (1610–48) that measures were first taken for the preservation of the principal remains of antiquity, which were seriously in danger. By order of the king, some large runic stones were removed from various places to Copenhagen, where several were destroyed in the fire of 1728, and such as were saved are now in the Museum of Northern Antiquities. But during the seventeenth and

¹ Carl Andersen, *De Danske Kongers chronologiske Samling paa Rosenborg*, 3d edition, Copenhagen, 1875, 8vo; and in German, 1872. *Mindeblade fra de danske Kongers chronol. Samling*, 2d edition, 4to, Copenhagen, 1875; and in English, 4to, 1868. Dr C. Brock, *Den oldenborgske Kongeskejt især under Enevælden*, 8vo, Copenhagen, 1870.

eighteenth centuries the State did nothing for the national monuments, of which a considerable number perished, or were ruined by pretended restorations.

It was only after the Royal Commission for the Preservation of Antiquities was formed in 1807 that any serious steps were taken to preserve such as there was any hope of saving. After having received reports, often very imperfect, from the clergy of the whole kingdom, as to the condition of the monuments, the Danish Chancellerie (the Ministère de la Justice), on the proposal of the Commission, placed under the protection of the law a number of monuments of antiquity and of the Middle Ages throughout the country (1809-10).¹ But the legality of this measure was at first doubtful, the proprietors of the monuments not being obliged by any law to give up their right to them, especially without an agreed compensation; moreover, even where there was no opposition, it was omitted to register in legal form this taking possession in the name of the State that future purchasers should be duly forewarned.

The consequence of this omission did not fail to be felt, and the more so that, as the Commission did not receive any salary, and had at its disposal only small sums for carrying out the object of its mission, it had not the means of causing the monuments spread through the kingdom to be carefully inspected by competent men. Besides which, several of the monuments disappeared gradually, either without the knowledge of the Commission, or without their having ventured to prosecute the offenders.

However, the Commission attempted to persuade the owners voluntarily to give up their rights to the monuments, and to put them under the protection of the law, and in a considerable number of cases they were successful. They succeeded also in buying other monuments, where the price was moderate.

In 1847 official inquiries were made, which showed that a great number of monuments, declared national in 1809-10, were completely destroyed,

¹ A list of these monuments is printed in the *Antikvariske Annaler* (Annales Archéologiques), published by the Royal Commission, 8vo, Copenhagen, 1812, pp. 133-145, 348-370.

or partially damaged, and the necessity of resorting to more efficacious measures was felt. By a Royal resolution of 22d December 1847, a new salaried member (Worsaae) was added to the Commission, and specially nominated as inspector, later on as director, to superintend the preservation of archæological monuments, and by this title he received the Royal instructions, dated 20th March 1848.¹ A sum of money was annually placed at his disposal either for the purchase, the restoration, and reproduction of monuments by drawings, or for explorations and journeys, in which he was authorised to act in the name of the Commission.

Having become convinced that it was superflous to prohibit the sale and export of antiquities (except *danefø*), it was agreed that the same liberal spirit must be used in obtaining possession of the national monuments; and in 1848 the Government did not think it right to carry out a project for applying the right of expropriation to these monuments in cases where the proprietors should be recalcitrant, or should demand an excessive compensation.

The inspector or director of archæological monuments, lately created, after having worked eighteen months in concert with the Commission for the Preservation of Antiquities, until the dissolution of the latter in August 1849, was then placed in a completely independent position, and under most favourable circumstances. On the one side it was necessary to turn into freehold a number of leases which had belonged to the State foundations, fiefs, trustees, and to private individuals; on the other, increasing prosperity had developed a taste for the restoration of old castles, churches, and other remarkable ancient monuments.

I. Relative to the taking possession, in the name of the State, of groups of stones, sepultures, runic stones, fortifications, ruins of castles, &c., the Government decreed in 1848 that all monuments of this kind existing in the domains and forests of the State should be declared national property, and that, if any one should acquire parts of the public domain, these monuments should be expressly reserved by the State, and clearly defined

¹ It is printed in the *Antikvarisk Tidsskrift*, 1846-48, pp. 150-153, and in *Rescript-samling of Ussing*.

in acts of sale. At this juncture the director of archæological monuments visited the State lands to make a list and description of those that deserved preservation. On the proposal of the Archæological Commission (July 1848), the Ministère de la Justice invited the directors of religious foundations, the proprietors of fiefs and trusts, to make the same reservations in favour of the State in the case of the lease or sale of their property. Further, the Archæological Commission (8th July 1849), and later the director of monuments and of the museum (Nov. 1849), addressed printed circulars to all the proprietors of the kingdom to request them to make these provisions, and many of them undertook the duty with great goodwill and pleasure. In this manner, and without great outlay, a great number of ancient monuments, characteristic and important, have come under the protection of the law. Although in many cases the reservations expressed in leases and acts of sale had not been published clearly enough to avoid all disputes in the future, there would still be a base on which ultimately to support a claim. In the numerous tours which the director of ancient monuments annually made, sometimes accompanied by artists who measured and drew all kinds of monuments in the kingdom, and in his personal relations with the people, he acquired a large number of monuments for the State, some sold at reasonable prices, others presented even by peasants in humble circumstances. These journeys, which contributed essentially to remind the residents in different localities that such and such monuments had been declared the property of the nation, had also the result of causing more portable objects, such as runic stones, tombs, architectural fragments, &c., to be placed in safety, instead of being exposed to all risks, and they also were the means of important finds being deposited in the national museum.

By reason of the close connection between the direction of monuments and the Museum of National Archæology, in the archives of which had to be deposited all drawings of monuments and of antiquities made on the tours of inspection, it was agreed to prepare, to as great an extent as possible, archæological maps of each parish, on which should be indicated the precise positions of monuments saved from the ravages of time, and

thus to furnish materials for the great archaeological map of the kingdom. For the information of the clergy, schoolmasters, and others who were willing to assist in this undertaking, there was distributed in 1849 a pattern, on which were marked the signs to denote the various classes of monuments; but as there were no funds granted for this work, which was left to private munificence, naturally enough archaeological topography progressed but slowly.

Notwithstanding the advance of the work of preservation, it was obvious that a director of monuments, residing at Copenhagen, might travel as much as he could, but that in course of time he would not suffice to inspect satisfactorily the numerous monuments scattered all over the country, and more exposed than ever to destruction in consequence of clearings of ground, restorations of buildings, construction of railways, &c. By a circular of November 20, 1866, the director of monuments applied to the keepers of the archaeological collections in the cathedral towns of Denmark (including Iceland), and proposed to them to form diocesan commissions, composed of such persons in the diocese as had greatest taste for archaeology, and to nominate diocesan inspectors to work, in concert with the central Direction in Copenhagen, for the preservation of monuments in each diocese. But, though the scheme obtained numerous adhesions, it was never put into execution for want of pecuniary resources; although it was very desirable that it should be, as it will probably be at no distant period. Notwithstanding this, well-founded complaints continued to be heard as to the destruction of national monuments, and as the direction had not funds sufficient to arrest these ravages, it addressed (through the Ministry of Culture and Public Instruction) the Danish Parliament, which had frequently shown evidence of its good disposition in this regard, and requested to have the means to make a complete inquiry, and to place under the protection of the law all the most important monuments of the country. The proposition, amply supported by evidence, was made on the 8th February 1873, and expressed the following desires:—

1. That an inquiry should be made as soon as possible as to all the monuments of antiquity remaining in Denmark.

2. That this inquiry be confided to archæologists and draughtsmen, who should plan, draw, and describe the most important monuments, especially such as were of sufficient importance to be placed for the future under the protection of the law.

3. That to arrive at this result, if it could not be obtained by other means, the Government should arrange with the proprietors to purchase the said monuments.

4. That a sum of 9800 francs be granted annually, for about ten years, to make these acquisitions.

These propositions were unanimously adopted by Parliament, as well for the financial year from the 1st April 1873 to 31st March 1874, as for the following years.

In consequence of these arrangements, the Direction of Monuments have been able, during the last few years, to send out several commissions of inquiry, each composed of an archæologist and a draughtsman, into the different quarters of the kingdom, where they have everywhere met with a good reception and willing assistance. Numerous monuments have already been purchased by the State, and many were offered gratuitously, partly by peasant proprietors. Besides the archæological maps which have been prepared, drawings of a great number of monuments have been made, which will be hereafter of inestimable value for the study of art in Denmark, and will, besides, have a more practical use in the restoration of ancient buildings, which is now being carried on throughout the kingdom to an extent hitherto unknown.

II. Private individuals, as well as the State, show great energy in the restoration of fortresses and houses, churches, and other buildings of mediæval and modern times. It is chiefly during the last twenty years that this movement has shown itself, chiefly in consequence of the development of a taste for art, of national sentiment, and of religious life, accompanied as they have been by a constant increase of prosperity. While formerly the architectural style adapted to certain edifices was a matter of small moment, or was entirely disregarded, the Direction of Monuments has endeavoured to preserve the original style in all buildings restored by the State, and

has, moreover, been met with the greatest readiness in this respect by all public institutions and large communes. With regard to restorations undertaken by private individuals, the Direction has confined itself to friendly advice, which has been generally very well received. It is comparatively rare for them to combat in vain against false styles, which are now almost entirely limited to the smaller places.

Among the large public buildings, for the restoration of which the State has allowed extraordinary grants, often very considerable during the last few years, may be mentioned the ancient tower, called Gaasetaarn (goose tower) of the fourteenth century, formerly part of the ruins of the castle of King Valdemar the Great at Vordingborg in Zealand, to the expenses of which a private benefactor has generously contributed; the remarkable Zealand castles of the style of the Renaissance—Rosenborg, Kronborg, and Fredericksborg, burnt in December 1859. For the last, however, the burden of the expense was borne by King Frederic VII., or was supplied by a national subscription. Apropos of royal castles, it must also be remembered that the Government has restored and ornamented in a suitable manner almost all the ancient royal sepultures dispersed through the kingdom.

But incomparably more important is the restoration of the churches, which has taken place everywhere, so to say, for many of them, on account of their extent, could not be completed without great outlay and much difficulty. The establishment of the Reformation (1536), which deprived the churches, and especially the cathedrals and monasteries, of the greater part of their revenues, for a considerable time injured their architectural character. Very few of these edifices remained in the possession of the State; the greater number fell into the hands of those who paid the tithes, and many were given over to individuals with the tithes appropriated to their support, but on condition of their preserving them suitably. To force these to fulfil their obligations the State reserved to itself the duties of inspecting the churches, and confided this duty to the provost or chief minister of the canton, with several skilled workmen. But on the one hand these inspectors were generally void of all enlightened artistic

sentiment, and on the other, the tithes and other revenue belonging to the larger monasteries and cathedrals (with some exceptions, such as the abbey church of Sorø and the cathedral of Roskilde) were quite insufficient to cover the enormous expense necessary for the good preservation of considerable buildings. It is only on very urgent occasions, such as a fire, a falling in of the building, &c., that the churches received extraordinary assistance, coming either from general subscription or from a subsidy from the State, and as much as possible from the parish itself. Under such circumstances many of the most remarkable religious buildings would gradually fall into a deplorable state of ruin.

The law of the 19th February 1861, on the inspection of churches, was a great advance towards bettering this state of things; it fixed the general rules to be followed for the future for the restoration of churches in their original styles, and for the preservation of their furniture and monuments, and it reserved the power, for the benefit of the National Museum, of acquiring such articles as were out of use; and further, it directed the nomination of a special and competent committee of inspection of the most remarkable churches. This committee, which was composed of several of the best architects, with an experienced archæologist, and which exerted a great influence on restorations commenced or undertaken since, is presided over by the present Director of Monuments. A step not less important was the authority given to the Minister of Public Instruction to divide among the poorer churches the surplus of the receipts of the richer ones, which were placed as independent institutions under the direction of the diocesan authorities. Since then it has been at last possible to proceed with the urgent restoration of the churches without funds, and the more so that the State contributed towards it by extraordinary grants, the inhabitants of the respective parishes by an increase of rates, and private individuals by voluntary contributions. In this manner about 140,000 francs have been collected during the last few years for the restoration of the ancient monastic church of Maribo, in the Isle of Lolland, built in the commencement of the fifteenth century. In the same way the remarkable brick church of Kallundborg (Zealand), built in the

twelfth century, in the form of a Greek cross, has been restored with its five towers, of which the largest, that in the middle, had fallen down; the cost amounted to 170,800 francs. Next year the restoration of the cathedral of Viborg, in Jutland, which is entirely constructed of blocks of granite, and is of the twelfth century, will be finished, at a total cost of about 1,057,000 francs. After which will be undertaken the most ancient Danish brick church, that of the monastery of Ringsted (in Zealand), dating from about 1160, and the cathedral of Ribe, in Jutland, built in the Romanesque style in the first half of the twelfth century.

In Jutland the following restorations have been effected at the expense either of the churches themselves or of the parishes; the interior of the cathedral of Aarhus built of bricks, originally Romanesque, of the thirteenth century, which has already cost 84,000 francs, and the exterior of which, in course of restoration, will require 280,000 francs.

In Fünen, the church of St Knud at Odense (built in brick, with a crypt recently discovered, of the pointed style), of the thirteenth or fourteenth century; the whole cost 358,000 francs.

In Zealand, the cathedral of Roeskilde (a brick building in the transitional style of the beginning of the thirteenth century), at a cost of nearly 420,000 francs.

The wealthy academy of Sorø, in Zealand, the property of the State, has, at last, restored at a great expense the imposing church of its ancient monastery, a remarkable brick building, of about 1170, and the still more ancient church of the village of Fjenneslevlille, of which it has the patronage; and the twin tower which was in a sad condition, has been restored to its original state.

In all these churches, the whitewash which covered the ancient paintings or mural decorations has been removed; the old altar pictures, the baptismal fonts, the epitaphs, the tombstones, the paintings, and other remains of antiquity, have been carefully restored and preserved. After what has been observed, especially of the village church of Fjenneslevlille, it scarcely needs to be said that the example of the restoration of the large churches has had a very good influence upon that of the smaller ones.

COPENHAGEN, *October* 1875.