

do a bit of tidying up. The next main avenue is better. Here and in the cross roads are stores, and shops, and dwelling-houses, not always easily to be distinguished from each other, for while some of the former do display the usual 'signs,' others are quite without. Here, too, is another hotel, the *Ísland*, and several of the houses of the guides, where accommodation may be had. Beyond lies the *Athalstraeti*, wherein are found the *Reykjavík Hotel*, and the more important buildings of the town, or should we call it city! for we come at once upon the cathedral of the island diocese. To the right of it stands the *Althing Hús*, the substantial House of Parliament. In front of these there lies a little square of grass, with monuments to *Thorwaldsen* and *Pietursson*; the post office, and a consular house or two. A little streamlet flowing from a lake above the town, the skating pond of winter time, intersects the site, and on the rising ground beyond it eastward are the Latin School, the observatory, the windmill, and, nearer to the sea, the governor's house and a straggling line of smaller buildings, along the road by which we entered.



IN THE MAIN STREET OF REYKJAVÍK.

West of the lake is the cemetery, reached by the western cross road, which serves as promenade. Here, too, are several private houses and attempts at market gardens. Not a few of the fishers' cots have gardens also, wherein do grow potatoes, turnips, carrots, some struggling specimens of cabbages, and more successful currants, whose little bright-red bunches make happy contrast with the catchflies, lupins, and such other homely flowers as one finds around an English country cottage. In some of the better gardens, rhubarb and radishes are grown, and in a sheltered corner stand a specimen or two of mountain ash, some nine or ten feet high.

The population, which numbered less than five hundred a century ago, has increased considerably since the abolition of the trade monopoly in 1856, though principally since 1874, the year of partial independence; and most of all within the last decade. It now amounts to about three thousand seven hundred, composed in great part, as regards the merchants, of Danes, while most of the officials, and of course the fishermen, are natives. There