

each one has a farm, and a certain amount of stock is given him when he enters upon his work. This state of affairs is not without its benefits. It is manifest that a pastor subjected thus to share his people's labours, failures, and successes, must have a keener bond of sympathetic feeling than one removed entirely from their sphere. And as the parishioners themselves are educated men, it follows that to stand above them and command respect, the attainments of the pastor must not be inconsiderable. This, in addition to traditional love of learning, will throw some light upon the causes of the high standard that obtains. Candidates are educated first at the Latin School for five or six years, and then in the Theological College, both of these institutions being situated at Reykjavík. Some afterwards proceed to Copenhagen for further study at the University. There is a medical school for those adopting that profession, and not a few young Icelanders proceed to Denmark for the study of the law.

The Latin School, where the groundwork of these careers is laid, stands in a prominent position upon the hill eastward from the town. It is a plain white building, bare without, and far from anything luxurious within, but well equipped with an excellent teaching staff. Its library contains seven thousand volumes. Dr. Olsen is classical

tutor, and to his knowledge of Latin, Hebrew, Greek, and Sanscrit, unites a wide and accurate acquaintance with the languages of modern Europe. With true Icelandic thirst for information, he has visited the famous scenes of Greek and Roman history, photographs of which adorn his study walls.

Of organised elementary education there is none, nor is it in the least required. The mothers teach their children to read and write, and, with the fathers' aid, a knowledge of general history and geography is often added. The whole is superintended by the pastor, who gives what more may be desired. There are one or two high schools, and at Akureyri, a kind of modern side college, under the care of Dr. Hjaltalin. Good private schools exist in the larger settlements.

The influence of the Lutheran Church is practically universal, the nonconformists of the island numbering probably but one or two adherents of the Brethren, and a single Swedenborgian. Church matters recall Pajkull's



THE LION OF LUZERNE, BY THORWALDSEN.