The Danish and Norwegian Lutherans in Iowa

N. G. Peterson
seemed to have entered the ranks of the Synod and proper support could not be secured for either this school or the one at Fort Des Moines. As a consequence we lost two of the most valuable assets of the church. Had those institutions remained under the control of the Synod we believe that our English Lutheran church in Iowa would far outnumber any of the foreign-speaking Lutheran churches, but our work seemed to be blocked at every turn. However, a brighter day is dawning. The last decade has been one of commendable progress and our work is being established on a permanent foundation that means success for the future.

THE DANISH AND NORWEGIAN LUTHERANS IN IOWA.

BY N. G. PETERSON.

The Danish Lutherans immigrated later than the Swedish and Norwegian Lutherans. The beginning of the establishment of Danish Lutheran churches in this State dates back to 1871 when the work was commenced by Rev. A. S. Nielson of "The Danish Church."

That Church has now eleven pastors and thirteen congregations with a membership of 4,370.

They have a college and theological seminary at Grand View, Des Moines, and at the same place they are completing an old people's home.

The other body of Danish Lutherans doing work in the State is "The Danish United Lutheran Church," having at present twenty-two pastors and thirty-three congregations, with a membership of 4,709. They have for years had a higher institution of learning at Elk Horn.

We have, then, of Danish Lutherans in this State, thirty-three pastors and forty-six congregations, with a membership of 9,079.

The work was begun among the Norwegian Lutherans by Rev. N. Brandt of the "Norwegian Synod" in the year 1851. That body has in this State at present twenty-five pastors and fifty congregations, with a total membership of 13,500. They are operating one of the best colleges in our State, Luther College at Decorah.
The second body having done work among the Norwegian Lutherans in Iowa is "Hauge's Synod," which has fourteen pastors and thirty congregations, with a membership of 5,866. They have a higher institution of learning,—Jewell Lutheran College, at Jewell.

The third body is "The United Norwegian Lutheran Church of America" having in this State fifty-two pastors and one hundred and six congregations, with a membership of 28,060. They have a higher institution of learning—Waldorf College at Forest City, an orphans' home at Beloit, and are building an old people's home at Decorah.

This gives us a total of ninety-one pastors and one hundred and eighty-six congregations, with a membership of 47,426, three institutions of learning and two institutions of mercy, among the Norwegian Lutherans.

The greater part of our Church is found in the rural districts in the north half of the State, where the woods and prairies have been changed into fertile farms and peaceful homes for the thousands of honest laboring men and women who came to this country with love for hard work and a longing for a full religious liberty, and with minds and hearts made strong by that gospel given to us in the days of reformation.

SWEDISH LUTHERAN CHURCH IN IOWA.

BY JOSEPH A. ANDERSON.

When the Swedish immigrants of the century just past came to these shores, and found abodes in various parts of our Union, some also settled on the virgin soil of Iowa. A band of Swedes, firm in the faith of their fathers, made a home for itself on the hills and in the valleys of Jefferson county. The colony there founded was called New Sweden, a name bespeaking the love of the settlers of the heritage which they possessed. In 1848, but two years after this commonwealth received its statehood, a Lutheran congregation, the oldest of the now mighty Augustana Synod, was there organized. This congregation was not a result of any pastoral care and influence exerted upon the colonists since coming to this