

harbour along the Sound to the fashionable quarter of the city.

As we draw nearer we notice that the skyline is pierced with many spires, so that Copenhagen has been called "the city of spires." These are found not only on the churches but on many of the public buildings, such as the Exchange, the Raadhus, the railway station, and even on some of the hotels. On one of them (the Church of Our Saviour) a winding staircase ascends outside the spire 288 feet to the top.

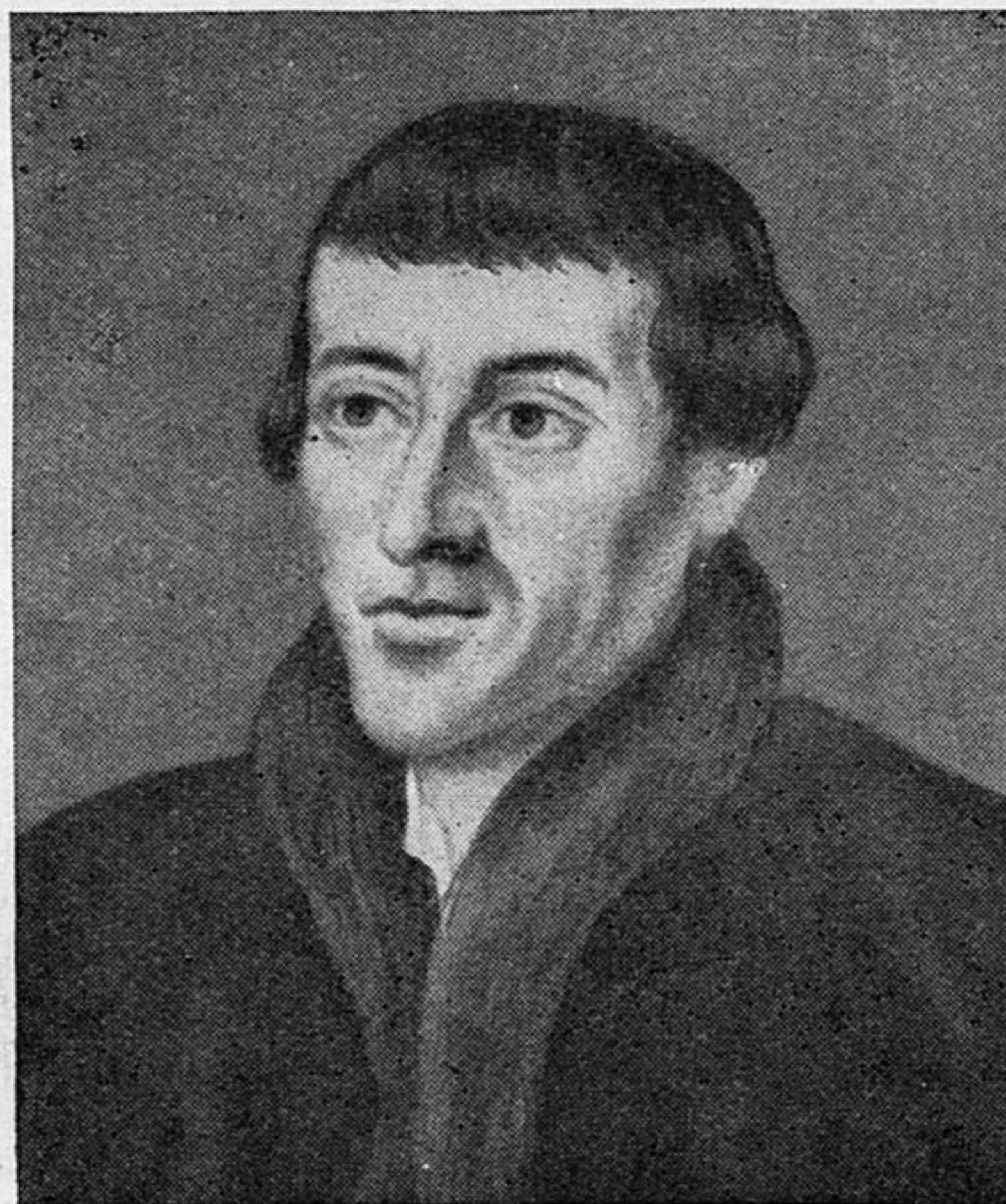
The excellent harbour of Copenhagen is formed by the deep narrow channel between the islands Amager and Zealand on which Copenhagen is situated. The city boasts many fine public buildings, museums, and art galleries. The Thorvaldsen Museum contains a collection of the works of Albert Bertel Thorvaldsen (1770-1844), the greatest of Northern sculptors. The University of Copenhagen, founded in 1478, is free to all. It has a library of over 400,000 volumes, while the Royal Library in the Christiansborg Palace contains over 500,000 volumes and 30,000 manuscripts.

Because of its splendid harbour and its wonderful location at the entrance to the Baltic Sea, and in spite of numerous fires and bombardments, Copenhagen has grown from a small fishing village, in the middle of the 11th century, to a flourishing commercial maritime city, with many beautiful suburbs. It was made the capital of the kingdom by Christopher II in 1443. In its harbour in 1801, Nelson, acting under Sir Hyde Parker, destroyed the Danish fleet to prevent it from falling into the hands of Napoleon, and in 1807 the city was bombarded by the British fleet and a number of public buildings were destroyed. On the latter occasion no fewer than 16 line-of-battle ships were surrendered.

Where Hans Andersen Lived

The industries embrace shipbuilding, distilling and brewing, sugar refining, the manufacture of porcelain, soda, machinery, and textile fabrics. The chief exports are grain, butter, cheese, and cattle. Abroad, Copenhagen is perhaps best known as the home of Hans Christian Andersen, and as the source of the beautiful Copenhagen porcelain, which has found its way all over the world. Population, excluding suburbs, about 510,000.

NICOLAUS COPERNICUS



This great astronomer proved that the sun was the centre of the universe, and that the earth and other planets revolved round it.

COPERNICUS, NICOLAUS (1473-1543). In the little town of Frauenburg, Poland, in the month of May 1543, an old man lay dying. But on his face was a smile of content, for he held in his hand a copy of his new book.

The man was Nicolaus Copernicus ("Koppernigk," in Polish), the founder of modern astronomy, and his book, which was in Latin, bore a title which may be translated "Concerning the Revolutions of the Heavenly Bodies." In this work Copernicus proved—contrary to the beliefs of a thousand years—that the earth was not the centre of the universe, around which moved the sun, moon, and stars. Our earth, he showed, is one of several heavenly bodies which, turning on their axes, all revolve about the sun.

The man who thus upset the teachings of the Church and science alike was the son of a Polish trader. His father had died while he was still a child, but his uncle, a bishop, had looked after the education of the lad. At the renowned University of Cracow, in Poland, he had studied mathematics. Afterward he went to Bologna, in Italy, where he varied his study of Church law with studies of the stars; and a few years later he studied medicine at the University of Padua.

Then he went back to Poland, and through his uncle's influence became a canon of the church at Frauenburg. Here he divided his time between the duties of his office, medical service to the poor, and the study of astronomy.

Completion of a Great Work

He had finished his great book, setting forth the proofs that the sun is the centre of the universe, 12 years before his death. But at first he would not publish it, fearing lest he should be condemned as a heretic by the Church. Finally one of his pupils persuaded him to give his book to the world, and a printed copy of it came to him just a few hours before his death.

Although his views, as set forth in his book, were at first bitterly opposed, the Copernican system is accepted by all astronomers at the present day.

Michel Angelo, the great artist, was born two years after Copernicus, and on the day that Michel Angelo died (Feb. 18, 1564), Galileo, the great defender of Copernicus, was born. In the year that Galileo died, 1642, the illustrious Newton, who was to perfect the Copernican system, was born.