

Fragments of English and Irish history in the ninth and tenth century in two parts / Translated from the original Icelandic. And illustrated with some notes, by Grimr Johnson Thorkelin.

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Grímur Jónsson Thorkelín, 1752-1829.
Nichols, John, 1745-1826.

Publication/Creation

London : Printed by and for John Nichols, 1788.

Persistent URL

<https://wellcomecollection.org/works/jt8r5zzd>

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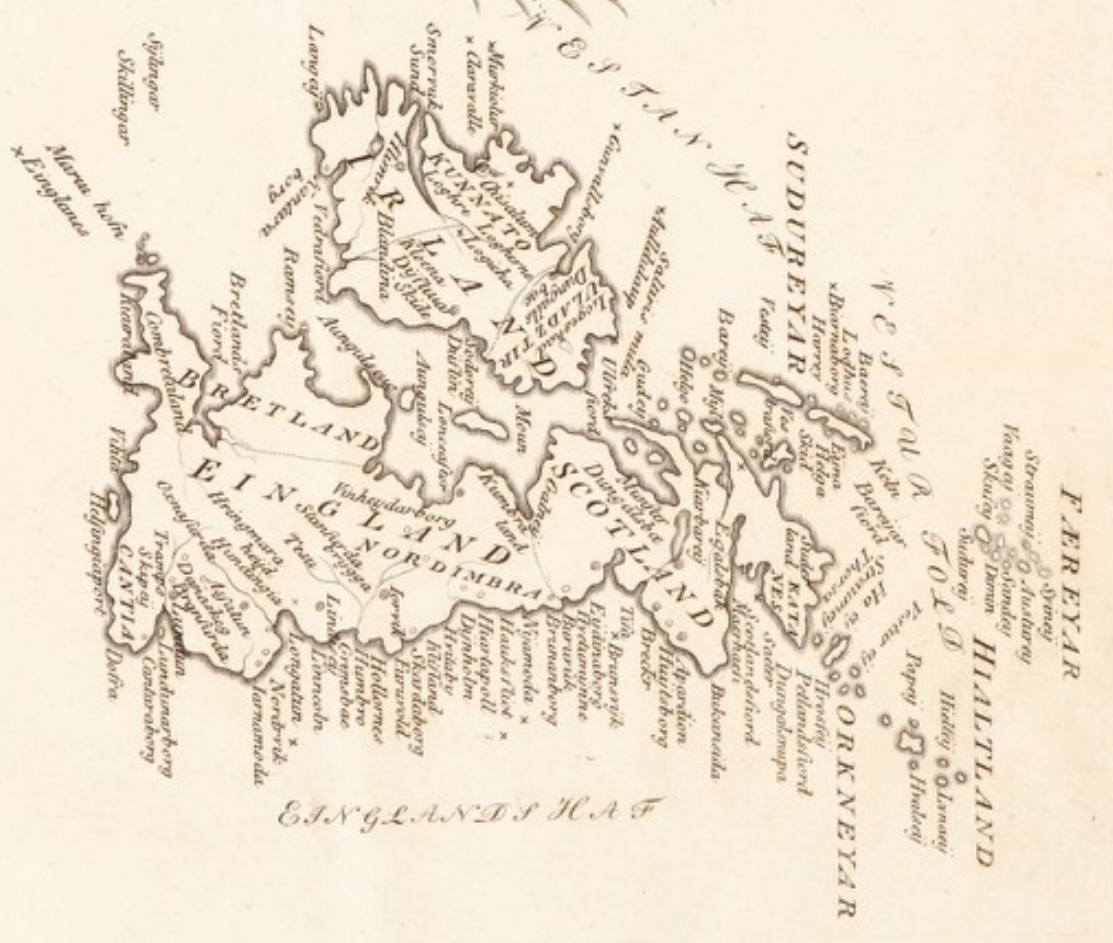
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of Alderley.*



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Mapta Geographica
 Magnam Britanniam Hiberniam
Inulas et
 Mentem Historicorum Mandorum
 SECULIS IXX. XI. XII. et XIII.



F R A G M E N T S

O F

ENGLISH AND IRISH HISTORY

IN THE NINTH AND TENTH CENTURY.

I N T W O P A R T S.

TRANSLATED FROM THE ORIGINAL ICELANDIC,

A N D

ILLUSTRATED WITH SOME NOTES,

B Y

GRIMR JOHNSON THORKELIN, LL.D.

REGIUS PROFESSOR OF ANTIQUITY IN THE UNIVERSITY OF COPENHAGEN; KEEPER OF HIS MAJESTY'S PRIVY ARCHIVES; SECRETARY TO THE TRUSTEES OF THE ARNA MAGNEAN LEGACY; MEMBER OF THE ROYAL SOCIETIES OF HERALDRY, AND ICELANDIC LITERATURE, OF COPENHAGEN; THE ANTIQUARIAN SOCIETIES OF LONDON AND EDINBURGH; THE ROYAL ACADEMY OF DUBLIN; AND CORRESPONDING MEMBER OF THE ROYAL SOCIETY OF SCIENCES AT GOETTINGEN.

L O N D O N,

PRINTED BY AND FOR JOHN NICHOLS;
PRINTER TO THE SOCIETY OF ANTIQUARIES.

M DCC LXXXVIII.

W R A C M E N T S

OF

ENGLISH AND IRISH HISTORY

IN THE NINTH CENTURY

IN TWO PARTS

TRANSLATED FROM THE ORIGINAL SCOTLAND

AND

ILLUSTRATED WITH SOME NOTES

BY

GRIMM JOHNSON THORNTON, M.D.

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LONDON

PRINTED BY A. & C. BLACK

1851

TO

THE RIGHT HONOURABLE

F R A N C I S

L O R D R A W D O N.

MY LORD,

THE Countries, which may well triumph in the scenes of action, however faintly exhibited, in the following pages, have from the earliest period of time been looked upon as the school of Heroes; in consequence of which, they have been envied, invaded, and at times brought to the brink of ruin; but it is not the less true, that they have been as frequently defended, led on to hazardous victory, and in the end to liberty, under the auspices and bravery of your LORDSHIP's illustrious Ancestors.

You, my LORD, in imitation of those great Men, have the honour of defending the rights and liberties of your country in the senate, as well as in the field: you have equally signalized yourself in both. Thus, at the hazard of your life, in

b

a war,

a war, of all others the most dangerous, and implacable; thus, through your patriotifm and unrivaled love for the Muses, you have raised yourself the most lasting monuments; the recollection of which, I trust, will be the means of inspiring each succeeding generation with that regulated zeal, in the cause of their country, which has so eminently distinguished the conduct of YOUR LORDSHIP.

Thus, actuated as I am, with the highest sense, and unfeigned gratitude, for the many obligations which you have from time to time conferred on me, YOUR LORDSHIP will still add to those obligations, if you will be so indulgent as to accept of this literary production, as a proof of that very high respect with which I remain,

MY LORD,

Your most humble,

Most obedient,

And very much obliged Servant,

G. J. THORKELIN.

P R E F A C E.

MY Countrymen in earlier times, having an opportunity of carrying on a beneficial intercourse with this happy Island, have handed down, in their numerous works, such particulars concerning the British kingdoms, as are as yet scarcely known. The present collection of Icelandic Fragments relating to the History of Great Britain and Ireland serves to prove what I have advanced.

The first of these Fragments, called *NORDYMRA*, containing an account of the Danish invasions of Northumberland in the course of the ninth century *, is published from a Manuscript which came into my Hands after the Death of Erland Olafson, Esq. Syflumadr, or a Justice of peace, for the county of Isafiord in Iceland.

* Conf. Flor. Vigornensis, pp. 585, 586. E. Gibson's *Chronicon Saxonie*, pp. 79, 80. Asserius Menevensis, edit. Franc. Wise, Oxon. 1722, p. 18, & seqq. Higden, p. 25. Matt. Westmonasteriensis, p. 161. Joh. Brompton, edit. Twisden, pp. 803, 807. Saxo-Grammaticus, lib. ix. pp. 175—177, edit. Soroc, 1644. Sim. Dunelmensis, edit. Twisden, pp. 14, 123, 142.

Langebeck,

Langebeck, in his "Scriptores Rerum Danicarum," vol. II. has a fragment which bears a close resemblance to the present; and the life of Ragnar Lodbrok, King of Denmark, published by Eric Julius Biorner, in his "Kæmpedater," or lives of the Northern Heroes, has great similarity to both. Our present fragment, though it contains many facts which are related in the two former, and the style of it is not very different from either, yet it is superior with respect to a greater variety of ancient customs and manners.

It must also be remarked, that the fragment first published by Langebeck is by far more ancient than either the life of Ragnar abovementioned, or the following account, both of which are written in the thirteenth century; for the first mentions nothing of William the Conqueror, who in the latter two is said to have opened the barrow of Ivar, King of Northumberland. This historical relic, however, loses nothing by its being written at a later period; for the facts which it contains are strengthened by the two others, particularly that which, as I have said, appears to be of an older date; besides, it throws no small light on the remoter period of the English history.

It is much to be lamented that we want similar accounts of the descents made by the Danes into England anterior to the times of Ragnar; for what either Saxo, in his History of Denmark, or the English writers of the middle age, have advanced on that subject, is too short and imperfect; and from the Death song of Ragnar Lodbrok, we only learn that this warrior spread frequently death and terror around the coasts of Britain.

The second fragment, or A VOYAGE TO IRELAND FROM ICELAND IN THE TENTH CENTURY, is taken from a history called "Laxdæla," which comprises the rise and progress of the first Inhabitants of the county of Laxardal in the West of Iceland. Snorro Sturleson*, the Author of Landnama†; Gunnlaug and Oddr‡, Authors of the life of Olave Tryggvason, King of Norway, bear testimony to the accuracy and authenticity of this work: nay, the sage Are, in his "Schedæ§," who flourished in the eleventh century, has strengthened their authority in this point.

* Landnama, or the History of the discovery of Iceland, and the rise and progress of her first Inhabitants, is written in the course of the twelfth and thirteenth Century, published at Skalholt in 1688, and at Copenhagen in 1774, at the expence of the truly learned and munificent Peter Frederic Suhm, a Lord of his Majesty's Bedchamber, &c.

† See Snorro Sturleson's Heimskringla, or the History of Norway, written in Iceland before the middle of the thirteenth Century, published by J. Peringskiöld, Stockholm, 1699-1700, and again by G. Schönning, at the expence of His Royal Highness Prince Frederic, Prince Hereditary of Denmark and Norway, Copenhagen, 1777.

‡ Gunnlaug and Oddr, both Monks of the convent of Thingeyre, in the North of Iceland, flourished in the twelfth and thirteenth century. The first having written his history in the Icelandic language, laid it before Gissur Halson (who became a principal Judge of the Icelandic republic in the year 1181), the first historian of his age, in order to receive of him the last improvement. See Flateyarbook, pp. 1084, 1289, 1307. Conf. Olafs Tryggvasonar Saga Skalholt, 1688, pp. 11, 321, 327, 328, 329. Oddr wrote his work in Latin. See Flateyarbook, pp. 1261, 1304, which has been afterwards translated into Icelandic, and published at Upsala, by J. Reinhielm, 1699, 4to. It is more than likely that Oddr, has perused the life of his Hero written in the same language, which King Edward the Confessor caused to be read before his officers, assembled at court, every Easter. See Flateyarbook, pp. 1274, 1304.

§ Schedæ, or the Essay on the Icelandic History, from the earliest period to the Year 1122, by Are the Sage. Of this Work we have three editions; the first was published at Skalholt, 1688, by Thord Thorlakson, Bishop of that See, 4to; the second by Christian Worm (afterwards Lord Bishop of Copenhagen and Sealand), Oxford, 1697, 8vo; the third by Andreas Bussæus, Mayor of Elsinour, Copenhagen, 1727, 4to.

The facts herein recited took place during the interval between the years 936 and 962.

In the first year of the said period Hacon the Good, or as he was commonly called the foster-son of Athelstan, King of England, ascended the Norwegian throne, at whose court Hofkuld, the father of our hero, for some time resided: and in the year 962 Harald Grafeld paid the debt of nature. This Prince showered favours on Olaf in the course of his reign. We can learn no more on this subject, either from the copies of Laxdæla, preserved at Copenhagen in the collection of Manuscripts which the late Regius Professor*, Arnas Magnuson, bequeathed to the University †, or the copy mentioned by the Rev. Mr. Ayscough among the books ‡, which I trust will be an everlasting monument of that zeal and liberality with which the Arts and Sciences are so eminently supported and patronized by Sir Joseph Banks, Bart. P. R. S. Perhaps the Chronicles of Ireland are not silent on this point, as, if I do not mistake, they mention the life of Murchard, whom I take to be the grandfather of Olaf.

* This gentleman, a native of Iceland, left to the University, by a will dated Copenhagen, Jan. 6, 1730, besides a collection of 1761 manuscripts, and several thousand original Charters relating to the history of Scandinavia, a considerable sum of money, which enables the Trustees appointed and incorporated by his Majesty's Charter, dated Fredensborg, Sept. 24, 1772, to keep a Secretary and two Clerks, whose duty it is to publish every year at least one of the Manuscripts abovementioned.

† See N^o 123, 124, 125, 126, 127, 158, on Paper; and N^o 128, 132, 162, on Parchment; all in folio.

‡ See the Catalogue of the Manuscripts preserved in the British Museum, hitherto undescribed, London, 1782, p. 890, N^o 4861.

OF TWO SHORT ACCOUNTS RELATING TO DISCOVERIES MADE BY THE ICELANDIC NAVIGATORS IN THE NINTH CENTURY, the first, p. 62, is taken from Eyrbyggia, or the history of the county of Eyrarfveit in the West of Iceland, written in the thirteenth century, and published at Copenhagen in 1786. For the other, p. 65, we are obliged to the Author of Landnama, a work of equal authority and importance.

The RECORDS CONCERNING THE ORKNEY ISLANDS, p. 71, are published from a manuscript on paper in my own collection. The originals had belonged to the cathedral of Thrundhem, and were lost in the dreadful fire which happened at Copenhagen in 1728, and proved highly fatal to the Northern literature.

Happy shall I be, if the Publick may be pleased to take the present performance of mine as a specimen not unworthy of their notice; for a part of which, viz. the English translation of NORDYMRA, written shortly after my arrival in England in the year 1786, I am indebted to my friend the truly ingenious and learned Mr. John Pinkerton.

G. J. THORKELIN.

London,
November 2, 1788.

E R R A T A.

In Nordymra.

- P. 11. l. 3. for "last," r. "his last."
l. 22. for "his," r. "their."
P. 15. l. 19. for "daughter," r. "slaughter."
P. 17. l. 13. for "in the," r. "the."
P. 19. l. 23. for "guilt," r. "guile."
l. 27. for "asked," r. "fought."
P. 29. l. 2. for "stea," r. "fles."
l. 16. for "so," r. "was."
P. 46. l. 22. for "fordites, r. "fordities."
P. 49. l. 40. for "separatam," r. "separatas."

In the Voyage from Iceland to Ireland.

P. 90. note †. "To pic" signifies here "to harbour, to be in harbour," from pic, an inlet of the sea; a word frequent in the names of places in Great Britain, viz. in *Berwick, Dunwich, Greenwich, Harwich, Hawich, Ipswich, Keswick, Namptwich, Norwich, Painswick, Sandwich, Warwick, Woolwich, &c.* To pic, &c.

P. 91. l. 3. for "although he proceeded in the night," r. "if he lay in harbour during the night."

N O R D Y M R A

S I V E

H I S T O R I A R E R U M

I N

N O R T H U M B R I A

A

D A N I S N O R V E G I S Q U E

G E S T A R U M,

S E C U L I S I X . X . E T X I .

P A R S I .

NU er þar til mals at taka, at Ragnar sitr heima i ríki sínu, oc veit egi hvar synir hans ero, ne Aslaug kona hans. Oc þat heyrði hann hvern tala af sínum mönnum, at engi matti íafnaz vi sonu hans oc hugþiz honom sva at engi væri íafn fráegr þeim. Nu hyggr hann ráð sitt, oc fær fer smíða oc lætr fella mörk til tveggja skipa mikilla; oc þat skildo menn at þat voro knerir tveir sva miklir, at engir hófdo slikir gervir verit a Nordr-londum. Oc þarmed lætr hann fara of alt sitt ríke herör, oc gera mikin vapna bunat; oc med þeirri breitni scilia menn, at hann mun atla nockora herferd fyrer fer or landino. Þetta spyrst víða a laund, þau er næst voro, oc nu ugga menn þat, oc allir konungar er fyre löndum redo, at þeir mundu egi i löndom sínom eða ríkum vera meiga, oc lætr hver þeirra vera vardhald um laund sín, ef nockorstadar beri hann at.

Þat er eitt sinn at Aslaug spurdi Ragnar hveria herför hann ætlaði fyrir fer? Hann svaradi at hann skal gera egi minna frægdarverk enn syner hans hófdo þa gert: hefi eg nu sagdi hann flest alt þat ríki aftr unnit er miner forellris menn hafa att, utan England eitt: oc þú hefi ec nú latit gera knöro tua i Lidum a Westfold, þuiat hans ríki stod alt til Dofrafialls oc Lidandis' nefs. Aslaug svarar, súa för litz mer óuarlig, er nu ætlar þu, mer þætti þat ráðligra, at þu hefder fleiri skip oc smærri: þat er egi agætt segir hann þott menn fáí unnit land med morgum skipum: enn til þess eru engi dæmi, at med tveim scipum hafi unnit verit slikt land sem England er: enn ef ec fæ úsigr, þess betr sem ec hef færri skip or landi þa svaradi Aslaug; mer synest sa egi minni fekostnadr adr þessi scip se buin, enn þott þu hefder langscip morg til þessárar ferdar: en þer vito, þat storskipum er illt at hallda at Englandi faker straums oc utgrynnis: oc ef súa verdr at scip þin tyniz,

THIS narration begins at the time when Ragnar Lodbrog, king of Denmark, ruled his dominions in peace, ignorant, as well as his queen Aslauga, in what region his sons were. But, hearing it universally said that none could compare with them in prowess, he was jealous of his own glory, and thought that not even they deserved equal praise. After much deliberation, he ordered ship-wrights to be assembled, and trees to be cut down, in order to construct two ships of great size; which, for burden and bulk, were reputed by all superior to any ever seen in the northern world. In the mean time, the arrow, signal of war, being sent through all his kingdom, the king ordered forces to be assembled, and provided with arms at great expence, so that it was certainly believed that he meant to carry on a foreign war. The tidings reaching the neighbouring countries, those kings and nations, who suspected danger to their peace, were excited to appoint sentinels to give notice of the approach of the enemy, if he turned that way.

It happened that the Queen asked her husband where he intended to lead his army. He answered, that he would perform an action not inferior to those of his sons. That, besides the dominions of his ancestors recovered by his arms, England remained; and that for this two large ships were begun to be built at Lid in Westfold (for the tract between the Dofra mountains and Lidandes-ness was subject to him). The Queen replied, that the expedition he meditated was an hazardous one, and that it would be better to use more ships, and of less size. To which Ragnar said, that there would be no merit in subduing a kingdom with a large fleet; but that it was unexampled that such a nation as the English was conquered by only two ships; and that if he was defeated, the fewer he had the better. The Queen again answered, that she thought the expence of these two vessels might suffice for many even of considerable bulk. And that he knew that it was difficult with large ships to

*These Ships were
built by Ragnar
at Lid in Westfold
the Kingdom.*

tyniz, þott menn komiz a land, þa eru þeir þegar uppgefnir ef landzherr kemr at. Nu quedr Ragnar vifo.

Spari mangi rauf Rinar
 Ef rauscr vili heitenn,
 (verr famer hoscum hilmi
 Hringa fiöll en dreingia.)
 Illt er i borgsefs bauga
 Brandraudom framstanda.
 Allmarga veit ec Iöfra
 þa er vadi lifir dauða.

Nu lætr hann scip sin bua, oc fær fer liþ sua at þeir knerir eru miöc scipadir. Nu er fiölrætt um hans fyrerætlan, oc enn quad hann vifo

Huat er þat baug or baugum
 breat heyri ec nu þiota
 At menn mundilsfara
 Mund suamidr of mer hafa
 þo skal ec þeirra raða
 þann bil ef god vilia
 Eigels alnar leygiar
 Oqvidandi bida

Oc er scip hans ero buin oc þat liþ er þeim scyldi fylgia, enn þat voro fim hundrud manna, oc þat vedr kemr er honom þotti ser vel koma, segir hann at þa mundi hann fara til scipa. Oc er hann var buinn leiddi hun han til scipa. Adr þau sciliaz quez hon mundi launa honom Serk þan er hann hafdi gefit henni. Hann Spyr med hueriom hætti þat væri, enn hon quad vifu.

þer ann ec ferc enn fida

Oc faumadan huergi
 vid heilan hug ofnan
 Or harfima graom

Mun

enter the ports of England, a country furrounded with uncertain tides, and with shoals; and that, if these two ships were wrecked, there would be but brief defence for the soldiers preserved against surrounding enemies. Then Ragnar sung,

“ Ye who wish to be reputed brave, spare not the vein of Rhine. Number of rings less becomes a bold king than number of soldiers. It is indecent for courtiers shining with rings to precede. Many monarchs have I known who have shunned death in vain.”

After which conversation he ordered the ships to be made ready, and to be well filled with fellow soldiers. Mean time, fame spread the tidings in different shapes; upon which Ragnar sung thus :

“ How various reports do I hear, because men receive less gold, the glittering gift of the sun, from me! yet my lot, and what the fates have ordained, dauntless shall I undergo.”

The ships being finished, and complete for war, and the season being fit for sailing, he intimated his departure; and was attended by his queen to the harbour. Here, as they parted, she told her husband, that she would now repay him for the garment which he had formerly given her; and, being asked in what manner, she answered in verse:

“ To thee I present this long garment, untouched with the needle, but woven with the slenderest threads of silk by the hand of friendship. No wound will bleed, no edge of steel
B “ shall

Mun egi ben blæda

Ne bita þic eggjar

i heilagri hiupu

Var hon þeim godom signut.

Hann segir at hann vill þessi rad þiggia. Enn þá er þau scilduz var audfætt at henni þotti mikit fyrer þeirra skilnadi.

Nu heldr Ragnar scipum finum til Englands sem hann hafdi ætlad. Honom gaf byri huassa sua at við England brytr hann báda knauru fina. Enn a land komz alt lid þeirra oc helldu klæþom finom oc vapnom. Oc þar sem hann kemr vid þorp oc borger oc kaftala, þa vinnr hann. I þenna tima red sa konongr fyrer Nordumrulande er Ella het, hann hafde frett til Ragnars er hann fór or lande oc sett menn fyrer at giæta vitanna, sua at hann skyldi þegar verda var vid er herinn kæmi við land. Nu foro þeir menn til fundar vid Ella konong oc segia honom herfaugo, enn hann sendir bod um allt sitt riki. Oc bad til sin coma huern mann er scilldi má vallda oc heft riþa oc þori at beriaz. Oc dregr hann saman sua mikin her at furda var at. Nú buaz þeir til bardaga Ella konongr; þa mælti hann við liþ sitt: ef ver figrumz i bardaga þessum oc verþi þer vid þat varir at Ragnar er komin, þa sculo þer egi bera vapn á han, þviat hann á þa sono efter er aldri mano af ofs ganga ef hann fellr. Ragnar byz nú til bardaga oc var ytz i filki hiup þeim er Aflaug hafdi gefit honom at scilnadi fyrir brynio, oc þat spiot i hendi er vann at orminom er la um sal þoro, oc engi þordi annara. Hann hafdi einga hlif nema hialm. Enn þa er þeir hittaz tokz bardagi. Ragnar hafdi minna liþ. Bardaginn hafþi egi lengi verit, adr liþ Ragnars fell miöc, enn þar sem hann for varþ ryrt fyrer, oc geck hann i gegnum fylkingar; oc þar sem hann hio edr lagdi i sciöldo brynior edr hialma þa voro sua

stor

“ shall bite thee ; clothed in this sacred vest, consecrated to
 “ the gods.”

The king promised to use it as she requested. When they had separated, it was very apparent that the queen was much grieved at his departure.

After this Ragnar directed his course to England, as he had proposed. But a violent tempest arising, both his vessels were driven on the English shore and lost, though the men, luggage, and arms, were saved. They quickly attacked the villages, towns, and any places of strength that occurred. At that time reigned in Northumbria a king called Ella, who, as soon as he was informed of Ragnar's intended expedition, appointed sentinels to notify quickly the arrival of the enemy by lighting beacons. Ella, instructed that the foe was in his territories, by messengers dispatched to all parts of his kingdom, ordered all to assemble who could use a shield, sit on a horse, or dared to join a camp. The tidings being spread, a wonderful number of men was gathered. While Ella arranged his army, he admonished his men not to kill Ragnar, if known to them ; for that he had sons who would avenge the death of their father, by continual invasions of his kingdom. The army of Ella in fight, Ragnar prepared for battle ; having instead of habergean put on the vest, the last gift of Aflanga. In his hand he held the spear, that spear with which he had pierced the serpent that protected the dwelling of Thora ; a deed unattempted before. He had no other protection but his helmet. At the first onset the battle was fierce. Ragnar's force was far inferior in number, nor did the fight last long before his few men fell, with great slaughter of the foe. But when he advanced the enemy were scattered,

stor högg hans at ecki neitt stod vid, enn aldri var súa til hans höggvit eþa scotit, at neitt vopn yrþi honom at meini, oc feck hann alldri fár, enn hann drap mikin fiölda af líþi Ella konongs, enn þo lauk súa bardaganum at alt líþ Ragnars fell, enn at honom voro bornir scildir, oc súa handtekiun. Nu var hann spurdr huat manna hann væri? enn hann þagdi við oc suaradi engo.

þa mælti Ella konongr: seá mann mun verþa at coma i meiri mann raun ef hann vill egi segia ofs huer hann er. Nu seal kasta honom i einn ormagard, oc lata hann þar sitia miöc lengi; oc ef hann mælir nafn þat er ver megim skilia at hann se Ragnar, þa scall hann brott taca sem skiótaz. Nu er honom þángat fylgt, oc hann sitr þar miöc lengi súa at huergi festaz ormar við hann. þa mæltu menn; þessi madr er mikill fyrir fer; adan bito han engi vapn, enn nu geta honom ei ormar grandat. þa mælti Ella konongr, at hann væri flettr af klæþi þui er hann hafþi yzt. Nu var súa gert, oc hengo ormar ollum megin a honom. þa mælti Ragnar. Gnyþia mundo nu grifer ef þeir vissu huat enn gamli þyldi. Oc þott hann mælti stíkt, þa vissö þeir egi at görr at Ragnar væri þat, helldr enn annarr konongr. Nu quad hann vífo:

Orroftor hefic áttar

þær er agætar þotto

gerda ec mörgom mannom

mein, fimtio oc eina.

Eigi hugþac orma

At aldr lagi mino

þat verdr miöc mörgom

er minz varir sialfan

Oc en quad hann

Gnyþia mundo grifir

ef galltar hag viffi

mer

and their ranks broken before him ; and his blows were so weighty, that shields, harbengers, and helmets, could not oppose their force. On the other hand, he was never so assailed, either with point or edge, as that any wound followed. Though Ella's army suffered much, yet the battle had this event, that, Ragnar's men being all slain, he was at last hemmed in, oppressed with shields, and taken prisoner. After which, being asked who he was, he was silent.

Then King Ella said, " if this man will not speak, he must endure so much the heavier punishment for his obduracy and contempt." So he ordered him to be thrown into the dungeon full of serpents, where he should remain till he disclosed his name, that he might know if he were Ragnar, which done he was to be taken out immediately. The king being thrown into the dungeon sat there long, before the serpents attacked him ; which being remarked by those present, they said he must be a brave man, whom neither arms nor vipers could hurt. King Ella hearing this, ordered his vest, which alone remained to the vanquished monarch, to be taken off, and soon after the serpents stuck to him on all parts. Then Ragnar said, " the boars would make a noise if they knew what their father suffers !" From which speech it could not be known if he were Ragnar, or any other king. To this Ragnar added this song :

" Battles of high celebrity have I fought fifty and one. Many calamities have I brought upon men. I thought not that I was to owe my death to vipers. That happens to many which they have least expected."

He also sung,

" The boars would clamour if they knew the state of their father. I am taken in too serious a snare ; but even this is a

mer er gnat at graþi
 grafa mann-raunum finom
 Oc hardliga hrina
 hafa mic fogit ormar
 Nu mun ec nar at bragdi
 Oc nær dyrom deya.

Nu lætr hann lif sit, oc er hann nu færdr brott þáþan. Enn Ella konongr þickiz vita at Ragnar hefir þar sit lif latit. Nú hyggr hann fyrri fer hverso hann scyldi þessa verþa var, eþa medfara, at hann mætte hallda ríki sino fyrer þeim Ragnars sonom eda vita hve þeim brygþi við, er þeir spyria. Hann tekr þat til ráds, at hann lætr búa scip eitt oc fær þann mann til fyrer at raþa, er bæþi var vitr oc hardfengr, oc þar fær hann menn til sva at scip þat var vel scipat; oc segir at hann vill þa fenda a fund Ivars oc þeirra brædra, til at segia þeim fall faudor þeirra, þott sea faur litiz flestom uvænlig sva at fáir villdu fara. Þa mællti konongr: at þui skulu þer vandliga hyggia huerso huerom þeirra bræþra bregþr v?d þessi tíþindi; farit leidar yþuarrar síþan er yþr gefr vedr. Sva lætr hann búa ferd þeirra at þeir þurfto at eingo annara. Oc nú fara þeir oc ferz þeim vel.

Enn synir Ragnars höfdo heriat a Sudr-riki, þá snero þeir a Norþr-lönd oc ætloþo at vitia rikis sins þess er Ragnar reþ fyrer; enn þeir vissu ecki af her-ferp hans huerso hon hafþi orþit. Nú fara þeir funnan of land, enn huervetna þar er menn fretto til fara þeirra bræþra eyddo menn borger finar oc færþo se fitt i brott oc flutto undan, sva at traudt fengo þeir liþi sino mat.

“ proof of valour. For the venomous vipers eagerly suck my
 “ flesh. Soon shall I be a carcase. I am dying ! I die !”

With which words he breathed last : and was then borne out of the dungeon. But king Ella, suspecting that it was Ragnar who had thus died, revolved much in his mind how he might know the truth of the matter, by what means he was to protect his kingdom, and to be informed with what countenance the sons of the dead king would receive the tidings of their father's death. To which end he took this counsel, that equipping a vessel, with a captain of known prudence and valour, and chosen sailors, he would publicly mention that he meant to send them to Ivar and his brothers, as messengers of the death of their father. Most thought this voyage full of danger, and would not undertake it. Besides, the king ordered them carefully to remark with what countenance each of the brothers received the news : and to direct their voyage as the weather served. Matters being thus ordered, that they might receive no assistance from others, they set sail, and enjoyed a prosperous voyage.

At that time Ragnar's sons carried on wide war in the Southern countries ; whence, while the above matters were transacted, they returned to resume their own kingdom, of which they had committed the care to his father ; for they were ignorant of the fortune and fate of his expedition. As they marched, the inhabitants hearing of their progress, left the towns, and carried off their effects ; so that the brothers could hardly provide their army with provisions.

þat er einn morgin at Biörn Iarnsida vaknar oc quad vifo :

Her fylgir hueran morgin
 Hrefs of borgir þessar
 lez hella mun af hungri
 Heidar vals of deya
 Hann fari suþr um sanda
 Oc huat ver letum
 þar fær hann dauþz mans dreyra
 Dagg oc scyli hauggum.

Oc en quad hann

þat var fyrst er forum
 Freyfleika tóe ec heya
 þar er einiga átum
 Auld i Roma velldi
 þar let ek graun grana
 Gall aum of vall-falli
 At menn sferdi mordi
 Mit fuerþ dregit verþa.

Nu ber sva til at þeir koma fyrr i Dana velldi enn fendimenn
 Ella konongs oc sitia nu kyrrir fyrer meþ liþ sitt. Enn fendi-
 menn coma med lid sitt til þeirrar borgar er synir Ragnars þiggia
 veizlu, oc ganga síþan i þa haull er þeir drecka oc fyrer hafæti
 er Ivar liggr í.

Sigurþr Ormr i Auga oc Huitsercor Huati sitia at hnef-tabli,
 enn Biörn iarnsida scefir spiótscefti a hallargolfo. Oc er fendi-
 menn Ella konongs koma fyrer Ivar queþia þeir hann virduliga,
 enn hann tekr vel queþiu þeirra ; oc spyr huafan þeir se ; eþa
 huat þeir segia tíþinda : sá er fyrer þeim var, segir at þeir varo
 Enskir menn, oc þá hefir Ella konongr þángat fenda med þau tí-
 þinde, at segia fall feþr þeirra.

Huit-

It happened, one morning, that Biorn Ironside awaking
 fung :

“ A bold army passes through deserted towns every morning,
 “ though preferring to famine the death fought in battle ! Let
 “ us then return to the south, through the deserts, to seek what
 “ we have left. There we may, by unerring blows, shed hu-
 “ man blood as dew.”

And he also fung,

“ At first while we went to celebrate the games of war,
 “ that we might attack some nation in the Roman empire ;
 “ there, through coats of mail, (the air trembled with slaugh-
 “ ters !) through frequent deaths of men I led my sword.”

It happened that the brothers arrived in Denmark, before the
 messengers of king Ella ; and lived there in peace. When these
 messengers came to the town, in which the princes feasted, they
 entered the dining hall, and approached the seat of Ivar.

Sigurd Snake's-eye played at chess with Huitserk the bold ; but
 Biorn Ironside, in the middle pavement of the hall, was polishing
 the handle of a spear. The messengers saluted Ivar with due re-
 verence ; who, graciously receiving their salutation, asked them
 who they were, and what news they brought ? They told him
 the matter as it stood, that they were Englishmen sent to him by
 king Ella, to declare the death of his father,

Huitserkr oc Sigurþr láta þegar falla niðr tafsit, oc hyggia at vandliga þessi tíðindá sögu. Biörn stendr a hallargolfoino oc studest vid spiót scepti sitt enn Ivar spurdi þa vandliga med huerum atburd lif'lát hans hefði verit. Enn þeir sögdu allt sem farit hefði þáþan fra, er hann com, vid England oc til þess er hann let lif sitt. Oc nu er þessi saugo var þar comit, er hann hafði þetta mælt : gnyþia mundu grisir ; þokar Biörn höndum sinum a spót skaptino, oc sua hafði hann tekit fast, at handa staþinn fá á eptir. Þá er sendi-menn luku fra-sögn þessari, hristir Biörn spiótit i fundr sua at stauck i tua luti ; enn Huitserkr hellt tauflo einni er hann hafði drepit, oc hann kreisti hana sua fast, at blod stauck undan huerum nagli enn Sigurþr Ormr i Auga hafði hállþit a knifi einom oc scof nagl sinn er þessi tíðindi voro sögd. Oc hugði sva vandliga at þessum tíðendum, at hann kendi egi fyrr enn knifrinns stod i beini oc braþz hann egi vid. Enn Ivar spyr at öllu sem gerzt, enn litr hans var stundum rauþr, stundum blar enn lotum var hann bleikr, oc hann var sua þrutinn, at hans háurund var allt blásit af þeim grum-leik er i briofti hans var.

Oc nú tekr Huitserer til orða oc segir, at sua mætti hefndena braþazt upphefia, at drepa sendi-menn Ella konongs ; Ivar sua-rar, þat skal egi vera ; þeir skolo fara i friði huert er þeir vilia : oc ef nokot er þat, at þa skorti, scolo þeir mer til segia, oc skal ec fá þeim.

Oc nú er þeir hafa lokit erindi sino snúa þeir utar eftir höllini oc til scips sins, oc er þeim gefr byr, láta þeir i haf, oc ferz þeim vel, þar til er þeir koma a fund Ella konong's. Þeir segia honom fra huerso huerum þeirra hafi vidbrugþet þessa tíðinda-saugu : oc er Ella konongr heyrir þetta, þa mællti hann ; þess er van, at annat huert manom ver Ivar þurfa at óttaz, eða engan ella ; oc

As the message began to be disclosed, Huitferk and Sigurd dropped their game, weighing what was said with great care. Biorn stood in the middle of the hall leaning on his spear: but Ivar diligently enquired by what death, and by what means, his father had perished: which the messengers related, from his first arrival in England, till his death. When, in the succession of things, they came to the words of the dying king, that the young boars would make a noise if they knew the fate of their father, Biorn grasped the handle of his spear so tight, that the marks of his fingers remained; and when the narration was ended dashed his spear in pieces. Huitferk pressed the chess-board so with his hands, that they bled. Sigurd Snake's-eye, paring his nails with a knife, was so wrapt in attention, that he cut himself to the bone, yet did not perceive it. Ivar, above all, anxiously enquiring, changed colour continually, now red, now brown, now pale, with the anger and indignation hid in his breast.

Thus matters stood, when Huitferk, beginning to speak, said that it was easy to begin their revenge in the daughter of these messengers; which Ivar forbid; and ordered them to go in peace, where they would; and that, if they wanted any thing, they should instantly obtain it.

Their business duly performed, the legates passing through the hall to the door, went to their ships; and, the wind being favourable, they sailed, returning with convenient navigation to their king. Ella perceiving, from the report, what each brother had done while he heard the message, said that he foresaw that Ivar, or none, was to be feared. And that though all had shewn
rage,

mundi þeim got innan rífa; oc hallþit manom ver fa ríki varo fyrer þeim. Nú lætr hann varþ hault hafa um allt fit ríki, fua egi mátti her koma á uvert hanom.

Enn er fendi-menn Ella konong's voro brott-farnir, ganga þeir bræþr a mal-ftefno, huerfo þeir fkylldo medfara of hefnd efter feþr fin. Þá mælti Ivar; engan lut man ec i eiga oc egi fá lid til þuiat Ragnar fór fem mig varþi, hann bió illá til fína fauk i upphafi; vil ec þiggia fe bætor af Ella konongi, ef hann vill leggja til vid mig.

Enn er þeir heyra þetta brædr hans, verþa þeir reidir miöc, oc fegja at alldri fcylldu þeir fua at klækum verþa, þott hann villdi; fua mano þat marger mæla, at ofs fe mis-lagþar hendor i kne, ef ver fcolom egi hefna faudr vars; enn ver haufom víþa farit um heim, med her-fcilli, oc drepit margan man fak-laufan. Oc enn fcal þat egi verþa, helldr fcal bua huert fcip fem fæ fært er i Dana velldi, fcal fua giörfamliga fafna líþi, at huerr maþr er fciölld ma bera moti Ella konongi, fkal fara.

Ivar fegir at hann man efter fitia, oc þau fcip er hann á fyrer at ráþa, nema þat eitt er ec a fcalfr. Oc er þat fpyrz at Ivar leggr enga ftund á, fá þeir miklu minna líþ, oc fara þo egi at fíþr.

Oc þegar er þeir coma vid England, verþr Ella konongr varr vid, oc lætr þegar horn vidgialla, oc byþr til fin ölloma mönnum þeim er hanom vilia fylgia oc nú fær hann fua mikít lid at engi maþr matti tölu a coma oc fer i móti þeim bræþrom. Oc er þeir finnaz breftir i bardaga, oc fua lykr at fynir Ragnars koma a flotta enn Ella konongr hefir fígr. Oc er hann var at reka flottan,

he nevertheless presaged that his power would continue. But, to secure this, he sent scouts to all parts, lest the enemy should make an unexpected attack.

The messengers gone, the brothers took counsel how they should avenge their parent's death. And Ivar denied that he would lend any assistance; saying that Ragnar had met with a fate worthy of designs wanting counsel; and that he would take satisfaction in money, if any were offered by Ella.

Which being heard, the other brothers, stung with rage, said that, though he might act so, they would not commit such a crime. And that it would be justly observed by most men that it was no small folly to neglect the vengeance of their father's death, after they had subdued in the surrounding kingdoms, and had frequently slain the innocent. And, that this reproach might never happen, care was to be taken that all the ships in the Danish kingdom fit for sea, should be equipped; and soldiers so diligently levied, that every one, able to bear a shield against Ella, should be ordered to follow the camp.

Ivar replied that he would nevertheless remain, with that part of the fleet which obeyed him, excepting only the chief ship. When it was known that Ivar gave little assistance to the attempt of his brethren, they obtained slight aids; yet did they not desist from their design.

When at length they came to England, king Ella, informed of an hostile invasion, proclaimed, by sound of horn, that all should come to him who would follow him. Which done, so great a multitude assembled, that they could scarce be numbered: and he led these forces against the brothers. When the armies came near, a fight arose, with this event, that the sons

flottan, segir Ivar, at hann ætlar egi aftr at huerfa til liþs fins, oc vil ec reina huert konongr vill mer nockorar sæmdar unna eþa engrar, oc þycki mer fá betri, at þiggia yfer-bót af honom, enn fara slíkar ufarar fleiri sem nu förom ver. Huitserkr segir at eigi mátti lut i eiga med honom, oc at hann yrþi at fara med sin efni sem hann villdi: aldri scolom ver se taca efter fauþr varn.

Ivar suarar, at þar mundi scilia med þeim, oc bad þá ráða fyrer þui er þeir átto aller samann, en þer scolo senda mer laufa-se, sem ec kued á.

Oc er hann hafdi þetta mælt, bad hann þá vel fara, oc snyr þegar finne ferd á fund Ello konongs, oc er hann cembr fyrer hann, kueþr hann konongin virþuliga, oc hefir sua mál sitt. Ec em cominn á fund yþvarn konongr, at mæla til fáttu vid þic, oc stikrar sæmþar, sem þú villt gert hafa til min, oc nú se ec þat at ec hefi egi vid þer; oc þycki mer þat bezt at þiggia af yþr slíka sæmd sem þú villt mer veita, enn láta mina menn fleiri fyrer yþr eþa scalfan mic.

Þá suaradi Ella konongr; þat kalla sumir menn at egi se hægt at trúa þer, oc þú mælir þa oft fagurt er þu hyggr flátt, oc man ofs vera vant at síá vid þer eþa bræþrom þinom. Ec mun sagþi Ivar til litils mæla vid þic; ef þu lætr þat til, scal ec sueria þer aftr i mót, at ec scal aldri vera i móti þer. Nu spyr konongr til huers hann mælir of yfer bætor? Ec vil segir Ivar, at þú gefir mer þat af landi þino er Uxa-hud tekr yfer, enn þar utan um scál grandvaull gera, oc man ec ecki til meira mæla vid þic: oc þat se ec at þu villt mer engrar sæmdar unna, ef þu villt egi þetta. Egi veit ec segir konongr at ofs megi þetta at meini verþa, þott þu ha-

fir

of Ragnar, driven to flight, left the victory to Ella. While the victor pursued the fugitives, Ivar, who though not in the battle had accompanied his brothers, said he would not return; but would try if the king would do him any honour. For that it was far better to accept an offered satisfaction, than again to experience the same evils. Huitferk answered that they must of force permit him to do as they pleased, since he would not use sound counsels; but that the other brothers would never allow their father's ghost to be appeased with money.

Which being said, Ivar insisted that they should leave him; and requested that they would, with united care, protect his inheritance at home; and readily send him what money he desired.

So saying, he bade his brothers farewell; and pursued his journey to the presence of king Ella. Where arriving after a decent salutation, he spoke thus: "I come to thee, O king, to offer
"friendship of my own accord; and to receive what honour thou
"wilt give. For doubtless it is better, as it is manifest that I can
"do nothing against thee, to receive such favour from thee as
"thou wilt impart, than to be deprived of many of my men, or
"perhaps of my own life."

Ella answered that it was asserted by many, that it was not safe to give faith to him, who was most likely to use flattering speech, when he might meditate nothing but guilt. For which cause he was to be acted with cautiously. To which Ivar said, "I ask for
"little; and if you give it, I will confirm my fidelity with an
"oath, that I will never be against thee." And the king asking what satisfaction he asked, Ivar answered that he desired as much ground as a bull's hide could surround. That with this portion he would be content: but, if it were denied, it would be a sign that the king would bestow no honour upon him. When the

fir þetta or mino landi; oc at vifo man ec fá þer þetta ef þú villt þat fueria mer at beriaz egi moti mer: oc egi uggi ec bræþr þina, ef þú ert mer trúr.

Nú ráða þeir þetta med fer, at Ivar fuerr honom eiða at hann fcylldi aldri fcióta i mót honom, oc ecki rád leggja til meins i móti honom, enn hann fcal eignaz af Englandi þat fem Uxa-hud tekr yfer, er hann fengi mefta til. Nú fær Ivar fer öldungs-hud, eina; hann lætr hana bleita oc þrifvar þenia, oc þui næft rifta fem mioft alla i fundr. Oc er þeffo var lokit, var þueingr fá fua langr at furða var at; oc engum com i hug at fua mætti verða. Þenna þueing lætr hann breida a einom velli, en þat var fua vidt land, at þat var mikil borgar vidd, oc þar fyrir útan lætr hann marka grundvöll, fem till mikillrar borgar veggja; oc þa fær hann fer fmiða margra, oc læta reifa hus mörg a þeim velli, oc þær lætr hann gera borg eina mikla, var fu kaullut Iorvic.

Oc nú er hann hafði borg þá gera látit, hafði hann laufa fe uppgefít, enn hann var fua aurr, at hann gaf a tuær hendr; oc þótti fua mikit of speki hans at allir fóktu hann at ráþom oc vanda malom. Oc fua fciþaði hann aullum malum, at huerum þókti fer bezt gegna: gerdiz hann af þeffo fua vinfæll, fua at hann átti undir huerum manni vin.

Ello var mikit liþ at Ivari fyrer landráða faker, fua at konongr lætr hann mörgom malom fciþa, oc þarf egi til at fara fiálfr.

Oc er Ivar hafði fua comit raði fino, at þar þyckir til allrar fpectar at fiá, fendir hann menn á fund bræþra finna, þefs erindis at þeir fendi hanom gull oc filfr fua mikit, fem hann quað a. Enn er þeir menn coma á fund þeirra bræþra, fegia þeir fin erinde, oc fua huar komit var hans rád, þuiat menn þottoz egi vita yfer huerom braugþom hann bio, oc fua fciildo þeir bræþr at hann hafði

þa

king had weighed this propofal, he thought it might be done without danger; and faid he would grant his request, if he would promife on oath, that he would never bear arms againft him; for with his friendship he had nothing to fear from his brothers.

Affairs being thus ordered, that Ivar, upon making oath that he would, neither by his counfels nor arms, attempt to hurt the king, fhould receive fuch portion of land in England, as he could embrace with the largeft bull's hide; he took a very great one, and wetting, and expanding it, three times, cut it into as flender ftripes as poffible. Which being done, the joined piece was fo long, that all wondered, and it furpaffed expectation. This being extended in a rural plain, furrounded fpace enough for a large town. So drawing a boundary around it, he defcribed the circumference of a wall, fit to defend a large town: and, collecting mechanics, he reared houfes, and built a large town, to which was given the name of Iorvick.

The town built, Ivar was at great expence, for with both hands he gave gifts to all. And was fo renowned for wifdom, that all asked counfel of him, and defired the moft weighty caufes to be decided by him; which when he terminated to the content of all parties, he gained great and univerfal favour.

So that he was of no fmall affiftance to Ella in adminiftering his affairs; for in the king's abfence he fettled many fuits.

Ivar, when he had carried matters fo far, that all perfuaded themfelves that their fafety lay in his hands, fent meffengers to his brothers, defiring them to fend as much gold and filver as he defired. The envoys coming to his brothers tell their bufinefs; and, when they faw them doubtful what counfel to take, related the progrefs of Ivar. Which revealed, the brothers underftood

þa egi scaps muni efter þui sem hann var vanr. Nu senda þeir slikt fe sem hann aquapþi, oc er þau como til Ivars, gefr hann þau öll fe enom stæzsto maunnom i landino, oc dregr sua lid undan Ella konongi; oc allir heto þui, at kyrrir mundo sitia, þott hann gerþi þangat herfaur. Oc er Ivar hefir sua lid dregit undir sic, þá sendir hann menn á fund bræþra sinna at segia þeim at hann villdi at þeir biþi ut leiþangri of þau laund aull er þeirra riki stod yfer, oc þeir scorþi huercom manni er þeir feingi.

Oc þa er þessi Ord-sending kom til þeirra bræþra, bregþa þeir vid sciótt, scilia at nú mundi þeir fá figr, oc samna liþi um alla Danmaurk, oc Gautland, oc aull þau laund er þeirra vauuld var yfer, oc drogo uvigan her saman, oc hafa almenning úti. þeir hallda scipom sinom til Englands bæþi dag oc nott, oc villdo nú sem sifst at niósn fari fyrer þeim.

Nu er sú herfaga saugd Ella konongi hann safnar ser liþi, oc fær litit, þuiat Ivar hafdi mikit lid undan honom dregit. Ivar fór þegar imót Ella konongi, oc segir at hann mundi enda þat er hann hafþi suarit; enn ecki má ec, sagdi hann ráþa tiltekum bræþra minna: enn þui má ec ráþa at finna þa, oc vita ef þeir vili stödua her sin, oc gera ecki meira illt, enn þeir hafa ádr gert. Konongr iátadi þessu oc ferr Ivar a fund bræþra sinna, oc eggjar þá miöc at þeir scylldo sem bezt framganga, oc sem bradaz láta bardaga verda, þuiat konongr hefþi miklo minna lid. þeir suara at egi mundi hann þurfa at eggia þa, oc at þeim væri it sama i hug nú sem fyrr.

Nú ferr Ivar oc hittir Ella konong, ec segir honom at miklo voro þeir ákafari oc óþari enn þeir villdi á hans ord hlyþa, oc þá er ec villdi um grid leita yþar i mílli æpto þeir gegn. Nu man ec enþa mina suardaga, at ec man egi beriaz imoti þer, oc man

that he was in another mind than formerly; and sent the money he desired. Ivar distributing it among the chief men of the kingdom, so alienated their minds from king Ella, that they promised to remain quiet, if it happened that he made war on the kingdom. By which means when he had strengthened himself with aid, he sent a messenger to his brothers, requesting them to raise soldiers, and gather as large forces as possible in all the regions subject to them.

The message received, the brothers understanding that Ivar was in great hopes of an avenging victory, grant his desire; and by general edict raise an army out of Denmark, Gothland, and the other provinces subject to them. This done, they sail with their fleet to England, night and day, that they might forestall the news of their voyage.

When king Ella heard that the enemy had invaded his kingdom, he commanded the attendance of his army; which being corrupted by Ivar, few came. And Ivar, going to the king, testified that he would constantly keep his sworn faith; adding that the designs of his brothers ought not to be imputed to him; and that, if the king pleased, he was ready to meet them, and try if they would agree to a truce, and to abstain from further mischief. The king consenting, Ivar went to his brothers, and advised them to give proofs of their valour, and quickly attack an enemy far inferior in number. The brothers answered that there was no occasion to excite them, already in the same mind.

Ivar, returning to Ella, said that his brothers were too vehement to yield any thing to entreaty; and they had received the proposition of a truce with jeers. "But I," he added, "will abide by my promises confirmed by oath, never to bear arms
5 " against

ec vera kyrr hia oc mitt lid, enn bardagi gengr med ydr fem verþa má.

Nú fiá þeir Ella konongr lid þeirra bræþra sua geyft at furda var at. Þá mælti Ivar. Þat er nú till Ella konongr, at þú fylkir liþi þino, enn ek get þefs at þeir veiti þer harda atfokn. En þegar þeirra lid hittiz, sneruz margir af haufþingum frá konongi, enn þo vard bardagi mikill oc ganga þeir hart fram sýnir Ragnars gegnum fylkingar Ella konongs, oc sua varo þeir ákafir at þeir hyggia at þuí eino at gera at verkom sem mest. Var su orrofta bæþi laung oc haurd, enn þo lauk sua at Ella konongr kom á flottà oc varþ handtekinn, enn mikill þorri fell af liþi hans.

Þeir bræþr minntuz nú á huerfo faþer þeirra var pindr, oc mæltu at skyldi breita um lif-lat hans : er þat nú rád segir Ivar, at minnaz huern daud-daga hann valldi feþr varom : nú skal fá madr sem oddhagaztr er marka aurn á baki honom sem innilegaz, oc þann aurn skal rióda med blóþi hans enn fá madr sem quaddr var till þefforar sýflo, gerir sem Ivar baud honom, at hann rifti aurn á baki Ello oc scar fidan aull rifin frá rygginum sua at þar voro lungun utdregen. Sua segir Sighvatr skalld i Knuts-drapo.

Oc Ellu

bak at let

Hann er fat

Ivar ara

Iorvik skorit.

Ella konongr var miöc farr ádr þessi sýsla lykr, oc lætr nú lif fit.

Efter þessa orrofto gerdiz Ivar konongr yfer þeim luta Eng-landz, sem hans frændr haufdo fyrr att. Hann átti tua sons frillo-borna, het annarr Yngvar enn annar Hufto ; þeir pindo Iat-
mund

“ against thee ; so shall, with my men, look on, whatever fate
 “ the battle may have.”

Which being said, Ella saw the enemy advance very speedily. Then Ivar advised the king to arrange his army, for that quick attack was to be feared. When the armies met, many chiefs deserted the king's banners ; yet was the conflict fierce, till the sons of Ragnar broke the ranks of Ella, endeavouring with all their force to commit as great slaughter as possible. After a long fight, strongly conducted on both sides, king Ella, after the slaughter and flight of most of his men, was taken prisoner.

Which done, Ivar and his brothers, remembering what torments their father had suffered, thought it proper, that the captive king should endure as great. Then Ivar said, “ As we re-
 “ member what death he inflicted on our father, let us order some
 “ man, eminently skilled in painting, carefully to inscribe an
 “ eagle on his back, and tinge it in blood.” The man, to whom this business was committed by Ivar, obeying his orders, cut the form of an eagle on Ella's back ; separated the sides from the back-bone ; and drew out the lungs through the aperture. Which Sigvat the poet witnesses, in his poem called Knut's Drapa,
 “ And in the back of Ella, Ivar at York caused an eagle to be
 “ inscribed.”

Ella, suffering great torments before this punishment was ended, died.

After this battle, Ivar was made king over that part of England which his ancestors had formerly possessed. He had two sons by a concubine, Yngvar and Hufto ; who, by command of their
 G father

mund konong en helga efter bodi Ivars, oc lagdi hann þat riki únder sic.

Lodbrocar fyner foro um maurg laund med hernadi, England, oc Frackland, oc Valland, oc ut um Lumbardi. Enn sua er fagt, at þar hafi þeir framaz komiz, er þeir unnu þá borg er Luna het, oc um eina stund ætloþo þeir at fara til Ruma borgar at vinna hana; oc hefir þeirra Hernadr frægstr verit áf Danfski tungo.

Oc er þeir koma aftr i riki fit, þá skifta þeir laundom med fer, tók Biörn Iarnsida Upsála riki oc alla Suiþiod, oc þat er þar til heyrer.

Sigurdr Ormr i Auga hafþi Selund, oc Scan, oc Halland, oc alla Vikina, oc Agdir til Lidandes nes, oc mikin þorra af Upplaundum. Enn Huitferkr hafdi Reidgota land oc Vindland.

Sigurdr Ormr i Auga átti Blæo dottor Ello konongs: þeirra baurn voro þau Knutr oc Aslaug, hun var tuiburi vid broþr fin.

Aslaug var moder Sigurdar Hiartar, faudr Ragnhilldar, modar Haralds Harfrga, er fyrstr red aullum Noregi einn.

Knutr er kalladr var Haurda-Knutr tók riki efter faudr fin i Selund, Skaun, oc Hallandi; enn Vikin huarf þá undan honom.

Hann atti þann sun er Gormr het, hann var heitinn efter foftra hans syni Knutz fundna, hann helt land af sunom Ragnars medan þeir voro i hernaði.

Gormr Knuts sun var allra manna meftr oc fterkafr, oc enn meftri atgervi madr um alla luti. Enn egi var hann sua vitr, fem verit höfdo enir fyrri frændr hans. Gormr tók konongdom eftir faudr fin. Hann feck þyri, er kaullut var Danmerkr bót, dottor Klackharalds, er konongr var i Jotlandi, enn er Haraldr var andadr þá tók Gormr þat riki alt under sic. Gormr konongr for
med

father, martyred Saint Edmund the king, and seized his kingdom.

The sons of Ragnar Lodbrook infested many regions, as England, France, Italy, and Lombardy. It is said that they came at last to the town called Lucca, which they took; and proposed to go to Rome and subdue it. Their actions are famous above all that spoke the Danish tongue.

Being returned to Denmark, they divided their inheritance. Biorn Ironside had the kingdom of Upsal, all Sweden, and the subject regions.

Sigurd Snake's-eye had Seland with Sconen, Halland, Vik, and Agdes even to Lidandesness, with a part of Upland. Huitferk had Reidgothland, and Vindland.

Sigurd Snake's-eye married Blæa, daughter of king Ella, by whom he had Aflauga and Knut.

Aflauga, twin with her brother, was the mother of Sigurd the Stag, the father of Ragnhilda, the mother of Harald Harfagre, first king of all Norway.

Knut was commonly called Haurdaknut; and succeeded his father in Seland, Sconen, and Halland; another having Vik.

Gorm was his son; which name was given in memory of his foster-father, Gorm, son of Knut the foundling, who, in the absence of Ragnar's sons, managed their kingdom.

Gorm, son of Knut, though he excelled all in stature and strength, and was well skilled in all arts that become a prince, yet his prudence was not equal to that of his ancestors. Succeeding his father in the kingdom, he wedded Thyra, surnamed Denmark's Delight, the daughter of Klachharald, king of Jutland; and obtained that kingdom on the death of his father-in-law. Upon which,
entering

med her yfer alt Jutland, oc eyddi aullum Nes-konongom, alt fudr til Sles, oc fua vann hann mikít af Vindlandi, oc margar orroftor átti hann vid Saxa, oc gerdiz hann hinn ríkasti konongr.

Hann atti tua fua funo, het inn ellri Knutr, enn Haralldr inn yngri; Knutr var allra þeirra manna fegrstr er menn hafa fet. Konongr unni honom um fram huern mann, oc þar med aull þþida : hann var kalladr Dana áft.

Haralldr liktiz i modor ætt fina oc unni hun hanom egi minna en Knuti.

Ivar inn Beinlaufi, var lengi konongr a Englandi, oc vard fottdaudi, oc þa er han lá i bana fott finni, mælti hann, at hann fcyldi þángat færa er her fcátt væri, oc þefs quedz hann vænta at þeir mundo egi figr fá er þar kæmi vid land. Oc er hann andaz, var fua gert fem hann mælti fyrer, oc var þá i haug lagþr. Oc þat fegia menn at þá er Haraldr konongr Sigurdarfon for til Englands, at hann kæmi þar at, er Ivar var fyrer; oc at Vilialmr baftardr, þá er hann kom i land, færi til, oc bryti haug Ivar's; fendi hann þa mann úfúin. Hann let gera bál mikít, oc brenna Ivar a þui báli.

Efter Ivar tók konongdom i Englandi Adalmundr; hann var broþr fun Iatmundar ins helga, oc kriftnadi hann vida England. Hann tók íkatta af Nordhymbra landi, þat var þá heidit.

Efter hann tók konongdom, fun hans er Adalbricht het, hann var gódr konongr oc vard gamall. A hans daugom ovarlega kom Dana herr til Englands oc voro formenn herfins Knutr oc Haraldr fynir Gorms konongs. Þeir laugdo undir fic mikít ríki a Nordhumbra landi, þat er Ivar hafdi átt. Adalbrikt konongr fór moti þeim, oc bördoz þeir fyrer Nordan Kliflaund, oc fell þar margt af Dönom. Oc nockoro fidarr gengo Danir upp vid

entering Jutland with his forces, he expelled all the kings of the promontories, even to Stea, on the South; and subduing a great part of Vindland, and diminishing the Saxons in many battles, he became a most powerful monarch.

He had two sons; of whom the eldest was called Knut, the other Harald. Knut was blest with so fair a face and form, that he was esteemed more handsome than any born before him; and was in the greatest favour with his father, and the people, whence he was called Denmark's-love.

Harald resembling his mother, was in as great favour with her as Knut.

Ivar reigned in England till his death; and died of a disease. Lying in his last sickness, he ordered his body to be buried in a place, where the enemy often landed; for he presaged that those who landed there in future would not gain the victory. When dead, his orders were obeyed; and a hill so reared on the spot. It is frequently reported that Harald, son of Sigurd, coming to England, landed at the spot where Ivar lay: and that William, the bastard, upon seizing England, opened the hillock, and finding the body of Ivar free from putrefaction, committed it to the flames.

To Ivar in his English kingdom succeeded Adalmund, nephew by the brother to Saint Edmund, who subjected to tribute Northumberland, then pagan.

After whom his son Adalbricht obtained the throne. He was a king of illustrious goodness, and lived to old age. In the end of whose reign an army of Danes, under Knut and Harald, sons of Gorm, invading England, subdued a great part of Northumberland, formerly ruled by Ivar. Upon which Adalbricht meeting the enemy, and fighting a battle at Clifland towards the north, routed the Danes with great slaughter. But soon after the Danes

Skarda-borg, oc baurdoz þar oc fengo figr. Sidan foro þeir sudr til Iorvikr, oc geck þar undir þa allt fólk, oc ugdo þeir þá egi at fer. Oc einn dag er heitt var, foro menn á fund, oc sua sem konongs synir voro á fundi milli skipanna, lupu menn af landi ofan, oc skuto á þa; var þá Knutr loftinn auro til bana: toco þeir þá likit oc flutto a skip. Oc er landz mennspyria þetta, samnaz þeir saman sua at Danir fá enga uppgauugo faker samnadar landzmannanna, oc fara sidan heim til Danmarkar.

Gormr konongr var þá a Iotlandi er hann spurdi þessi tidindi, þá hne hann afr á bak, oc sprack af harmi.

Annan dag eftir at iafn-lengd, tók konongdom eftir hann yfir Dana velldi Haraldr sun hans, hann tók fyrst trú oc skirn sinna ættmanna.

leading their forces to Scharborough, fought, and obtained the victory. Then marching south to York, they subdued the inhabitants; and passed some time in peace. Here when, one day, the heat of the air invited men to swim, it happened that, when the royal princes swam among the ships, the inhabitants descended to the shore, and shot at them with arrows; of which, one hitting Knut, he died; and his body was put in a ship by his men. Which being discovered, the English suddenly assembled, and hindered the Danes from landing, so that they were forced to return to Denmark.

Gorm was appointed king in Jutland when he heard this, and was so concerned at the tidings, that falling backwards he was suffocated.

The next day, at the same hour his father had died, Harald succeeded to the kingdom of Denmark. Who, first of his nation, received baptism in the Christian faith.

E O dirigenda est narratio, ubi Ragnarus domi regnum moderatur, æque ac Regina Aslauga inscius, quo in loco filii res agerent : id vero omnes uno ore loqui, nullos cum iis comparari posse, sæpius audiens, ipse pari laudē dignum neminem esse judicavit. Qua re penitus animadversa, fabros arcessit, fylvamque cædi jubet, ad construendas duas naves ingentis molis, quas onerarias, et cunctis in orbe boreali visis majores fore omnes sibi persuaserunt. Interim missa per totum regnum sagitta, belli indice, militem Rex imperat, et arma magno apparatu expedit, qua ratione, in exteros bellum meditari, certo credebatur. Res nova ad vicinos lata, Regibus, populisque, quorum paci periculum strui videbatur, excubiis hostem, si forte adveniret, excipere suadebat. Evenit aliquando, ut Regina conjugem, quo exercitum ducere constituisset? percontaretur. Respondebat Rex se facinus editurum, haud minus quam filiorum; esse præter Angliam, majorum Regna armis a se recuperata, et ob hoc naves duas onerarias Lidis in Vestfoldia (etenim tractus Dofrinos montes inter et Lidandesnæsam illi parebat,) construi ceptas esse. Regina regerente, dubium videri iter, quod meditatus esset, et consultius esse pluribus, sed minoris molis navigiis uti, dixit, nullam esse in eo virtutem si numerosa regnum classe subjugatur; carere exemplo binis tantum navibus domatam fuisse gentem, qualis esset Anglica; præstare, habuisse quam paucissima, si vinci contigerit. Quibus auditis Regina respondit, putare se has naves, non minori parari sumptu, quam si plures longæ naves earum loco instructæ fuissent: nec eum latere, cingi Angliam fluxu maris incerto et vadis, propter quæ, difficillimum esse portus cum magnis navibus intrare; his naufragio percuntibus, militis servati brevem fore defensionem contra hostes undequaque irruentes. Tunc Ragnarus cecinit,

Parcito nullus venæ Rhenanæ
 Qui fortis audiri cupis,
 Minus decet strenuum Regem
 Annulorum copia, quam militum.
 Indecorum est aulicos annulis
 Splendentes ante stare.
 Plures novi Principes
 Mortem frustra vitavisse.

Quibus dictis naves parari sociisque bene instrui curavit. Quæ dum geruntur, rumor novitatem rei in varia late torquet; de quo ita cecinit,

Quam ultro citroque
 Audio vagam volitare (famam)

I

Quod

Qvod viri folis
 Munera sic minus a me recipient.
 Tamen ego fortem
 Et qvod dii decreverint
 Fatorum statores
 Impavidus subibo.

Effectis armatisque navibus, nactus ad navigandum idoneam tempestatem, abiturum indicit, et a Regina in portum deducitur. Hic ut ab invicem discederent, illa conjugis abiturum dicit, jam se remuneraturam indusium, quod sibi olim dederat; et rogata, quo id fieret? carmine regessit.

Tibi voveo indusium hocce demissum
 Equidem fatum neutiqvam
 Verum amica mente textum
 E filis serici tenerrimis.
 Haud mittet vulnus sanguinem,
 Aut mordebit te acies
 Sacram indutum vestem,
 Quæ diis consecrata fuit.

Rex ejus consiliis se uti velle promisit. Ubi ab invicem discedunt, facile apparuit Reginam conjugis abiturum ægre ferre. His peractis Ragnarum in Angliam, ut proposuerat, cursum dirigit, sed violenta tempestate usus, utramque navim littori allisam, nautis tamen cum impedimentis atque armis servatis, perdidit. Hic oppida, urbes, et obvia quævis munimenta, ocius oppugnavit. Id temporis Northumbriæ præfuit Rex nomine Ella, qui ut Ragnarum abiturum parasse, certior factus erat, speculatores misit, qui adventum hostis, accensis hunc in finem pyris, ocius indicarent. Ella hostes arma sibi intulisse doctus, nuntiis in omnes regni partes ablegatis, omnes adesse jubet, qui clipeo uti et eqvo insidere possent auderentque castra sequi. Re nuntiata mira hominum multitudo cogitur. Dum aciem Rex Ella instruit, suos coram monet, ne Ragnarum, si resciri contigerit eum adesse, letho tradant, siquidem illi essent nati, qui mortem parentis ulturi, continuis invasionibus sibi graves forent. Exercitu Ellæ viso Ragnarum se ad pugnam parat: loco lorice extremum induerat, indusium, ab Aslauga sibi datum; manu vero gerebat hastam, qua serpentem ædes Thoræ cingentem transfoderat nemine antea id auso. Præter galeam tegumento nullo utebatur. In primo conflictu ingens pugna oritur. Ragnarum manus numero multum inferior erat, nec diu pugnatum, ante quam sui magna strage cadunt. Verum ubi ipse incessit, raris fuit hostis, & ordines perrupti, tantosque inflixit ictus, ut eisdem clipei, lorice & cassides avertendis impares essent. E contrario, nunquam ita petebatur, ut sive cæsim punctimve id fieret, aliquid fumeret inde vulnus. Qua re tametsi Ellæ regis copiæ magnam paterentur cladem, tamen pugna eum eventum habuit, ut Ragnarum ad unum omnes caderent, ipse vero clypeis circumdatus, in hostis manum perveniret. Quo facto interrogatur cujus sit. Silet ille, nihilque respondet. Tunc rex Ella; vir hic, inquit, necessum est, graviore lauat pœnas, si noluerit, quis sit, nobis aperire, jussitque ut carceri serpentibus plenam traderetur,

ubi

ubi ille permaneret, donec nomen ediderit, unde posset intelligi, eum Ragnarum esse, quo facto educeretur, quam ocius fieri poterit. Rex in carcerem conjectus, diu ibi federat, antequam a serpentibus impetum ferret. Quod ubi praesentes animadvertunt, esse fortem ajebant, cui nec arma nec viperæ nocere possent. Quibus auditis rex Ella jussit vestem exui, quæ suprema victo erat; nec multo post ex omni parte, serpentes illi adhæserunt. Tunc Ragnarum; frenderent, inquit, Leones, si noverint, quæ pateretur eorum pater. Quæ tametsi diceret, non potuit tamen inde disci, Ragnarum magis adesse, quam alium quemvis regem. Dictis carmen addidit,

Pugnæ pugnæ
 Quæ celebres habebantur,
 Feci multis mortalibus
 Damna, quinquaginta unam.
 Non putavi me viperis
 Exitum vitæ debiturum,
 Id accidit valde multis
 Quod minime expectaverint.

Et adhuc cecinit,

Frederent leones
 Si patris statum noscent
 (Exceptus sum joco nimium serio
 Fortitudinis Indice)
 Nam acriter venenatæ
 Me suserunt viperæ,
 Jam brevi cadaver ero,
 Letho proximus moriar.

Quibus dictis vitam finit, & a carcere effertur. Verum rex Ella suspicatus Ragnarum ibi mortem subiisse, animo multum voluit, quomodo rei veritatem ediscere valeat, quibus tueri regnum modis, & fieri certior, quo vultu, de morte patris nuntium filii regis mortui acceperint. Quem in finem id capit consilii, ut instructa nave, cui praefectus prudentia & fortitudine insignis, nautæque delecti dabantur, palam faceret, se velle eos mittere ad Ivarum & ejus fratres, paternæ mortis nuntios; quod iter alæ plenum censuerunt plurimi, nec id subire voluerunt. Cæterum rex eos jussit probe observare, quæ singuli fratrum vultibus res novas acceperint, iterque, ut tempestas permiserit agere. Rebus ita institutis, ut aliorum auxilio non indigerent, vela faciunt, & secunda tempestate perfruuntur.

Id temporis Ragnari filii per Australes regiones arma late tulerant, unde dum hæc acta sunt in septentrionem revertuntur ad recuperandum regnum, cujus curam patri antea dederant, etenim de factæ ab eo expeditionis fortuna, et exitu, quem habuerat, ignari erant. Ut vero ab meridie profisciscuntur, incolæ accepto de adventu eorum rumore oppida linquunt, fortunaque auferunt, quo factum est, ut fratres exercitui comœatu ægre providere possent.

Accidit mane quodam ut Biornus Ferreum latus expergefactus caneret.

Exercitus transit quolibet mane
 Alacris has urbes

Præferens

Præferens inediæ
 Quæsitam pugna mortem.
 Redeat ergo austrum versus per deserta
 Petitum quod linquebamus.
 Ibi poterit fangvinem humanum
 Roris instar effundere ictibus haud vanis.

Et iterum cecinit,

Erat primum, dum ibamus
 Mavortios celebratum ludos
 Ut quandam impetiremus
 Gentem in Romano imperio
 Ibi feci per clamides
 (Tremuit aer cædibus)
 Per frequentes virorum mortes
 Meum gladium duci.

Factum est, ut in Daniam fratres prius appulerint, quam legati Ellæ regis, ibique pacate egerint. Legati autem, ubi ad urbem veniunt, in qua convivio principes excepti erant, triclinium ingrediuntur, soliumque, cui Ivarus insidebat, adeunt.

Sigurdus Vermioculus cum Huitferco Alacri latrunculis ludebat, sed Biornus Ferreum latus in medio aulæ pavimento constitutus manubrium hastæ poliebat. Legati Ivarum, qua par erat reverentia salutabant, quo illorum officio comiter accepto, ille, qui sint percontatur, quidve novi referant? Illi, quæ res erat, referunt, se viros esse Anglos a rege Ella ad eum missos, ad narrandum patris mortem.

Quæ exponi coeptis, Huitfercus, Sigurdusque ludum intermittunt, quæ dicerentur, summa cura perpendentes. Biornus in aulæ medio innixus hasta stabat, Ivarus autem diligenter inquisivit, quo genere mortis, quævisve modis pater vitam finierat; quæ legati omnia a primo in Angliam adventu, ad exitum usque docuerunt. Ubi vero in serie rerum ventum erat ad regis moribundi verba, quod fremerent Juvenes Leones, si statum parentis noverint, secundum hastæ manubrium, Biornus tanta vi manus movit, ut earum vestigia remanerent, finitaque oratione in partes hastam concussit. Huitfercus latrunculum, quem ceperat, tam fortiter inter digitos compressit, ut singuli fangvinem mitterent: Sigurdus autem Angvioculus, cultello dum nova narrabantur, ungvem rasit, ita vero in audiendo attentus fuerat, ut non ante sentiret, quam cultellus in osse staret, nec tamen id eum movit. Ivaro super omnibus diligenter roganti, color in horas mutabatur, & alius alii successit, nunc ruber, nunc lividus, & pallido ora corpus mirum intumuit ira & indignatione, quæ sub pectore latebant.

Rebus ita constitutis Huitfercus fari orsus, ultionem dixit facillime posse incipi a cæde legatorum, quod Ivarus prohibuit, iussitque eos pace frui, quocumque ire velent, orans sibi indicarent, siquid deesset, ocius illud obtenturi.

Negotiis rite peractis legati secundum aulam foras exeuntes ad navem se recipiunt, & oportunam tempestatem nacti in altum vehuntur, commodaque navigatione usi sunt, donec ad regem pervenirent. Rex Ella percepto ex nuntiis, qui, quæ
 2
 finguli

singuli egerint, dum res novas audierunt, exponebant dixit ominari se aut Ivarum, aut neminem timendum esse tametsi omnes voverint sub corde iram, præfagire vero continuam sibi fore regno fruendi potestatem. Quem in finem exploratores in omnes partes mittit, ne liceret hosti ex inopinato invasionem facere.

Legatis discedentibus fratres consilium ineunt, quomodo parentis mortem ulciscantur. Et Ivarus negat se aliquid conferre velle, ullisve auxiliis subvenire Ragnarum dicens habuisse exitum qui inceptis prudentia carentibus par fuisset; malle satisfactionem pecunia numeratam, si quæ ab Ella offerretur.

Quibus auditis fratres ira peracti negant se, tametsi id ageret, tantum scelus commissuros; etenim a plurimis iuste observari, haud mediocrem id esse stultitiam, ultionem paternæ cædis negligere postquam regna circumquaque sita armis subjugaverint, & innocentes frequenter occiderent, quod ut nunquam eveniret, curandum esse ut singulæ naves in regno Daniæ mari aptæ instruantur, milesque tam studiose conscriberetur, ut quilibet contra Ellam clypeum ferre valens, castra sequi juberetur.

Regressit Ivarus se nihilo minus remansurum, cum ista classis parte, quæ sibi parabat, excepta prætoria nave. Ut innotuit Ivarum molimini fratrum exiguam impendere operam, rara illi auxilia obtinebant, nec tamen ab instituto destiterunt.

In Angliam venientibus, rex Ella de hostili invasione certior factus cornu (tuba) signum dari jubet, omnesque ad se venire, qui eum sequi velint. Quo facto tanta confluit multitudo, ut vix potuerit numerari; illasque copias adversus fratres duxit. Uterque ubi convenit exercitus, pugna oritur; eum vero fortiebatur eventum, ut Ragnarum filii in fugam versi, victoriam Ellæ relinquerent. Victor ubi fugientibus acrius insistit, Ivarus, qui prælio non interfuerat, notum facit, se ad suos reverti nolle, experturum an rex velit aliquem sibi honorem exhibere; etenim multum expedire oblatum accipere satisfactionem quam repetitis vicibus, quæ jam experti fuerant, mala pati. Respondet Huitserus ferendum esse, ut, cum sanis consiliis uti nollet, quod placeret, exsequatur; cæteros vero fratres nunquam passuros paternos manes pecunia expiari.

Quibus dictis Ivarus asseruit ab invicem discedendum esse, petiitque, ut, quæ sua domi esset hæreditas, communi cura tuerentur, ut pecuniam quantam postulaverit, alacres mitterent.

Quibus dictis, fratribus ille valedixit, iterque ad regem Ellam persequitur: quem ubi convenit salutatione decenter peracta in hunc modum alloquitur. Te, o rex, igitur adii, ut ultra tibi amicitiam offerrem, quem dare decreveris honorem reportaturus: etenim nullus dubito, satius esse, uti manifestum est, me contra te nihil valere, gratiam a te accipere, qualis me participem fieri volueris, quam pluribus privari viris aut ipsa forsan vita.

Respondet Ella complures asserere, haud integrum esse illi fidem adhibere, qui phaleratis potissimum uti verbis solet, ubi præter dolos nihil meditaretur, ob quam causam caute cum eo agendum esse. Ad quæ Ivarus; parva inquit sunt, quæ peto, quæ si dederis fidem tibi sacramento faciam, me adversus te nunquam fore. Regi, quam rogaret satisfactionem? quærenti Ivarus respondit, sibi in votis esse tantam fundi portionem quanta posset bovina cute complecti; hac limite circumdata plus

se non petiturum: negatam esse indicem, regem non velle aliquem sibi honorem largiri. Rex ubi perpenderit, hoc absque periculo posse fieri, annuit ejus precibus se id daturum, si jurejurando promiserit, se velle nunquam adversus regem arma ferre, siquidem illo amicitiam colenti, nihil ab ejus fratribus timendum esset.

Rebus ita utrinque in ordinem redactis, ut Ivarus jurejurando, quod nec consiliis, nec armis regi nocere tentaret, perfoluto, Angliæ partem, quanta tegi corio bovis maximo poterit, nancisceretur, tauri cutem sumit, quam madefactam ter expandit, & in lorum quam fieri potuit tenerrimum dissecari curat. Quo facto apparuit lorum adeo longum, ut admirationi esset, omniumque superaret expectationem. Hoc in campestre planitie explicitum, spatium permagnæ urbis cepit, quod ducto extrinsecus limite descripsit in modum muri amplissimum oppidum defensuri: fabrisque collectis domos exstruit, ingentemque urbem condit, cui Iorvici nomen dictum.

Posita urbe, ingentes ille fecerat expensas, etenim utraqve manu liberaliter cui-libet dona dedit, tanta vero sapientia cluebat, ut ab eo consilia omnes peterent, & gravissimas causas illius arbitris secari vellent; quas cum communi utriusque partis gaudio decideret, magnam apud universos gratiam consequeretur.

Qua re Ellæ haud mediocri in rebus administrandis auxilio fuit, siquidem rege absente plurimas lites componebat.

Ivarus ubi eo res deduxerat, ut tutissimum apud eum præsidium esse, omnes sibi persuaderent, nuntios ad fratres mittit, petituros, argentum aurumque mittant, quantum ille poposcerit. Nuntii fratres adeuntes negotia explicant, & ubi, quæ moliretur consilia ambigi animadverterant, quantum Ivarus profecerit referunt. Quibus compertis fratres intelligebant, jam esse illi aliam mentem, quam olim habuerat, & pecuniam, ut rogaverat, numerabant. Quam acceptam Ivarus inter summos regni viros distribuens, eorum animos a rege Ella in tantum alienos fecit, ut promitterent, se quiete domi mansuros, si contigerit eum arma regno inferre. Quibus modis ubi se auxiliis muniverat, legatum ad fratres ablegat, qui eos certiores faceret, rogare se militem imperent, & per omnes subjectas illis regiones quantas possent, copias contrahant.

Accepto nuntio, fratres, quod intelligerent Ivarum spe vindicis victoriæ haud mediocriter ali, rogatis ocius annuunt, & exercitum ex Dania, Gothia, cæterisque provinciis sibi subjectis edicto generali colligunt. Quibus factis classe in Angliam iter metiuntur nocte dieque, ut nuntium itineris anteverterent.

Rex Ella hostem ubi invasisse regnum audit militem imperat, qui, ut erat ab Ivaro donis corruptus, admodum rarus venit. Et Ivarus regem adiens, contestatur, se datam jurejurando fidem constanter servaturum, nec esse sibi imputandos fratrum ausus, quibus si regi placuerit, obviam iret tentatum si inducias facere & malis, quæ coeperant, finem imponere, velint. Rege in hoc consentiente Ivarus fratres convenit, hortaturque, ut virtutis documenta edant & hostem copiis longe inferiorem celeri pugna adoriantur. Respondent fratres haud necessum est eos acuere, quibus jam ac olim eadem mens esset.

Quo facto Ivarus ad Ellam reversus, fratres dixit magis esse vehementiores, quam ut vellent precibus aliquid dare, eosque oblato fœderis condiciones fannis excepisse.

Ego

Ego autem addidit, promissis jurejurando confirmatis, arma nunquam adversus te ferendi, stabo, cum meis acturus spectatorem, quemcunque demum pugna finem fortietur.

Quæ ubi dicta sunt, conspexit Ella hostium copias celerrimo cursu advolare. Tunc Ivarus monuit regem, ut aciem instrueret, etenim metuendum esse acrem impetum. Ut agmina convenerunt, magnatum quam plurimi regis signa deseruere, tamen acriter pugnatum & Ragnaris filii ordines Ellæ perrumpebant, omnibus in hoc viribus nixi, ut strages quam maxima ederetur. Pugnata diu, & summa utrinque contentione, pugna rex Ella, suis partem maximam cæsis, fugatisque, capitur.

Quo facto Ivarus fratresque in memoriam revocantes, quos pater cruciatus subiisset, dignum esse judicarunt, ut parens pœnas captus daret. Tunc Ivarus, ut inquit meminisse juvat, quid mortis genus parenti adsciverit, virum præ cæteris pictoriæ artis gnarum jubeamus, aquilam tergo studiose inscribat sanguineque tingat. Homo cui hoc negotii ab Ivaro datum erat, jussa secutus, aquila in tergo insculpta, costas a spina utrinque secavit, perque rimas pulmones eduxit. Quod Sigvatus Poeta testatur in carmine Knuts Drapa dicto.

Et Ellæ

In dorso fecit

Ille, qui fedit

Ivarus aquilam

Eboraci, exarari.

Magnos Ella antequam hoc finitum esset dolorem perpeffus occubuit.

Post hoc prælium Ivarus rex factus, super ea Angliæ parte, quam ejus olim majores possederant. Erant illi ex concubina filii duo Yngvarus & Husto, qui jussu patris Sanctum Edmundum regem martyrio subjecerunt. Ejusque regnum occuparunt.

Ragnaris Lodbrocæ filii regiones plurimas infestarunt, Angliam puta, Galliam, Italiam, atque Longobardiam. Memoriae proditum est eos tandem venisse ad urbem, cui Luca nomen est, quam expugnarunt, proposuisse autem Romanis ire animo eam subigendi. Eorum gesta præ omnibus aliis, qui Danicam loquebantur linguam claruerunt.

Reversi in Daniam hæreditatem dividebant. Biornus Ferreum latus regnum Uppsalense, Sveciam totam, subjectasque regiones capiebat.

Sigurdo Angvioculo Selandia, cum Scania, Hallandia, Vikia, & Agdis, usque ad Lidandisnesiam, magnaque Uplandiarum parte, cessit. Huitserci sortem Reidgotalandia, Vindlandiaque faciebant.

Sigurdus Anguioculus Blæam Ellæ regis filiam uxorem duxit, quorum liberi erant Allauga & Knutus.

Allauga cum fratre eodem partu edita mater erat Sigurdi Cervi, patris Ragnhildæ, matris Haraldî Pulcricomî, cui Norvegia soli primo paruit.

Knutus qui vulgò vocabatur Haurdaknutus patri in Selandiam, Scaniem, & Hallandiam, successit, Vikia alii cedente.

Illi filius erat Gormus, quod nomen ei inditum est in memoriam Nutritii sui Gormi Knuti inventi filii, qui absentibus Ragnari filiis, regnorum iis subsectorum curam egit.

Gormus Knuti filius etsi omnes & statura corporis & viribus præcelluit, & artibus, quæ principes viros decent probe instructus fuit, tamen non erat illi par prudentia, qua majores sui claruerunt.

Patri in regnum succedens uxorem duxit Thyram cognominatam Daniæ delicias, filiam Klachharaldi regis Jutiæ, illudque regnum genero mortuo nactus est.

Qvo facto ubi Jutlandiam cum copiis lustravit, omnes inde promonteriorum reges ad Sleam usque austrum versus expulit, magnaque Vindlandiæ parte subacta, & Saxonibus frequentibus præliis attritis Augustissimus rex factus est.

Duos habuit filios, quorum majori Knuti nomen erat; alter Haraldus vocabatur. Knutus tanta vultus corporisque venustate beatus erat, ut formosior haberetur omnibus ante eum natis, maximaque apud patrem, subditosque gratia floruit; unde Danorum amor vocabatur.

Haraldo maternum genus referenti a matre non minor quam Knuto gratia dabatur.

Ivarus ad mortem usque in Anglia regnavit, & morbo decumbens naturæ debitum solvit. Qvo lethali morbo ut detinebatur, jussit se illuc efferi sepeliendum ubi frequentes esse solent hostium invasiones, ominari quippe se victoria non fruituros, qui ad istum locum ex navibus ascenderint. Mortuo quas præscriperat, exsequiæ parabantur, ut tumulus factus est, cui illatum funus. Ea frequens circumfertur narratio Haraldum Sigurdi filium in Angliam venientem appulisse ad locum, in quo Ivarus jacuit, Wilhelmum vero Nothum occupata Anglia tumulum aperuisse, inventumque corpus Ivari a putrefactione immune flammis imposuisse.

Ivaro in Angliæ regno successit Adalmundus ex fratre nepos Sancti Edmundi, qui tributo Northumbriam id temporis Ethnicam subjecit.

Post quem filius ejus Adalbrictus imperium obtinuit: fuit ille rex bonitate insignis, & usque ad senectutem vixit. Cujus vergente regno Danorum exercitus Knuto, Haraldoque Gormi filiis ducibus Angliam aggressus, magnam Northumbriæ partem ab Ivaro imperatam subjugavit. Qvo facto Adalbrictus hosti occurrit, pugnatæque ad Kliflandiam, septentrionem versus pugna, magna Danos strage fudit. Sed brevi post Dani ad Scardaburgum copiis eductis prælium ineunt, victoriæque potiuntur. Inde austrum versus ad Eboracum profecti incolas subjugant, & temporis aliquantum securi transigunt. Hic ubi die quodam aeris calor homines ad natandum invitabat, accidit, ut dum principes regii inter naves natarunt, descenderent ad littus incolæ, & sagittis eisdem lacerent, quarum una Knutus transfossus obiit, & corpus navi a suis impositum fuit. Qvo comperto Angli repente confluunt, Danosque a descensu in terram prohibent: quæ res eos coëgit in Daniam redire.

Gormus rex in Jutiâ constitutus erat, dum hunc nuntium accepit, qvo percepto retrorsum inclinatus moerore suffocatus est. Altero post die eadem hora qvo pater obierat Haraldus in regnum Daniæ successit. Qvi primus in sua gente Christo fide data baptismo ablatus est.

A N N O T A T I O N E S.

PAG. 2. *Knerir*, fing. *Knör*, vel *Knaur*, navis oneraria, profunda & a prora puppiqve celsa.

P. 33. *Præter Angliam*. Angliæ partem quintam ab Ivaro Vidfadme rege Daniæ, Sec. VII. cujus ex filia abnepos erat Ragnarus subjugatam fuisse testatur Snorro Sturleson in *Heimskringla*, tom. I. p. 54, editionis Havn. 1777. Quæ auspiciis Serenissimi Principis Hereditarii Daniæ Musarum artiumqve Patroni Opt. Max. prodiit.

Ibid. *Sagitta bellica*. Literis apud majores nostros nondum introductis, symbolorum frequens erat usus, quæ animi sensa absentibus indicarent. Quæ pro diversitate rerum *publica* vel *privata* erant, illa autem *ecclesiastica* vel *civilia*. Utraqve *Bod* & *Bodkastlar* dicta sunt. Cum publicis hic nobis agendum erit. In his præcipua sunt.

I. *Merki*, *Herteikn*, *Fana* seu Signa militaria, quæ in acie alter ab altero distinguere posset exercitus. His Ethnici intexuere diversi generis animalium figuras: (*α*) *corvi*, avis Othino sacræ tam propter sagax, feroxqve ingenium, quam indicium hosti dandum, esse eum corvis in escam destinatum. Tale vexillum corvi specie insignitum & Raven inde dictum Dani amiserunt in Anglia, A. D. 878, teste Chronico Saxónico, p. 84. Ex scriptoribus mediæ ævi nemo hoc melius descripsit quam Asserius Menevensis in rebus gestis Ælfredi, edit. Oxon. 1723, p. 33. “ Diluculo inquit super
“ Paganos ex improvise irrumpunt Angli & a primo tempore hostes hostiliter cum
“ rege suo maxima ex parte, paucis ad naves per fugam elapsis, prosternunt, ibi-
“ que acceperunt spolia non minima, in quo etiam acceperunt illud vexillum, quod
“ *Reafan* nominant. Dicunt enim quod tres sorores Hungari & Habbæ filiæ scilicet
“ cet Lodbrochi illud vexillum texerunt, & totum paraverunt illud uno meridiano
“ tempore, dicunt etiam, quod in omni bello ubi præcederet idem signum, si victo-
“ riam adepturi essent, appareret in medio signi quasi corvus vivus volitans. Sin
“ vero vincendi in futuro fuissent, penderet directe nihil movens.” Confer. Ethelredus Monachus & Henrich. Huntendonienfis. Quibus addi potest encomiastes Em-
L mæ

mæ agens de Danis initio seculi XI. Angliam invadentibus. “ Erat, inquit, iis vexillum miri portentum, quod licet credam esse impossibile lectori tamen, quia verum est, veræ inferam lectioni. Enimvero dum esset simplicissimo candidissimoque intertextum serico nulus figuræ in eo inserta esset imago tempore belli semper in eo videbatur *corvus*, acsi intextus, in victoria suorum quasi hians ore excutiens alas, instabilisque pedibus & suis devictis quietissimus totoque corpore demissus. Quod requirens Thurketillus primi auctor prelii: pugnemus inquit viriliter focii, nihil enim nobis erit periculi: hoc denique testatur instabilis corvus præfagientis vexilli.” Fuit etiam Sigurdo Crasso Northumbriæ comiti, qui anno MLV. obiit, vexillum *Reaven Land ey*, sive corvus terræ terror dictum. Vide Joh. Brompton, apud Twifden, p. 945: & Lelandi *Itinerar.* tom. IV. p. 142. Verum non soli erant Dani, qui signo corvi utebantur, etenim Norvegos illud diu coluisse certum est. Sic Olavi Trygguaasonii regis Norvagiæ anno 1000 mortui vita refert matrem Sigurdi Orcadam comitis filio dedisse “ Vexillum miri artificii in speciem corvi efformatum, qui dum vento illud pandebatur, in hostes volasse visus fuerit.” Et quis nescit corvum in nummis Olai Norvegi regis Northumbriæ eodem fine apparere. Vide Fountaine’s *Tabb.* in *Hickesii Thesauro Antiquitat.* Septentr. (β) *Draconibus* omnes feræ nationes originis potissimum Schyticæ pro signis olim usæ sunt, & Sineses, Wandaliqve in hunc diem iis uti gaudent. De Anglis, vide *Math. Westmonaster.* De Dacis *Claudianus* pluribus locis, itemqve *Ammianus*, libr. xvi. qui *δρακοντεια φλαμουλαι* ea appellat. De Saxonibus *Witichindus Saxo*, lib. v. Et tantus fuit apud Danos Norvegosqve Draconum usus, ut non modo eorundem capita in navium proris erigerent, verum etiam in caudas puppes desinere fecerint, quæ ratio est, cur naves forma serpentum fabricatæ, etiam post religionis purioris introductionem Dracones sæpius appellentur. Lege vero cautum fuit nequis pacatam adiret navi terram, antequam Draconis caput in prora erectum abstulerit. Vide *Egilli Skallagrimii* vitam.

Tandem Christiani

Cæsar’s vexilla linquunt

Eligunt signum crucis

Proqve ventosis Draconum

Qvos gerebant palliis

Præferunt insigne lignum

Quod Draconem subdidit.

Qui mos ad Anglos perlatus Mercios puta & Northumbros, ab iis in Norvegiam seculo x transit. Etenim illi non modo in signis, verum etiam in clypeis aurea cruce usi sunt. Hoc testatur *Snorro Sturlason*, in vita Olavi Trygguaasonii, edit. Skalholt, tom. I. p. 92.

“ I þann tíma var Adalbertus Biskup i Brimum a Saxlandi, hans Lærisveinn var þangbrandr sun Vilibaldi greifa af Brimaborg; hann var þa roskinn at aldri er Hugbertus af Cantarabyrgi baud Adalberti brodr sinom til sin oc gaf honom godar gjafer oc foronautum hans aullum, at þessu heimbodi var þangbrandr med biskupi, oc þa er gjafernar voro frambornar. þa mælti Hugbertus biskup til þang-

“ þangbrands: med þui at þu ert litfkadr sem riddarar, þoat þu fert klerkr, þui gef
 “ ec þer skiöld er markadr er a krosf med liknefkio drottins vors, i. e. hoc tem-
 “ pore Adalbertus Bremæ in Saxonia episcopus, discipulum habuit Thangbrandum
 “ filium Vilibaldi comitis Bremensis. Ille, ætate provectus ab Hugberto Cantuariæ
 “ (in Anglia) episcopo, invitatus multa cum suis omnibus accepit dona. In Adal-
 “ berti comitatu erat Thangbrandus. Ut vero dona distributa sunt, Hugbertus
 “ Thangbrandum alloquitur. Quoniam inquit equestribus exercitiis operam navas,
 “ etiamfi clericali ordini adhæreas, dabo tibi clipeum, cui inscripia est crux cum
 “ imagine Domini nostri de illa pendentis.” Qvi clypeus Olavo Tryggvasonio a
 Thangbrando postea datus in tantum placuit, ut crucis insigne, non solum ab hoc
 rege sed etiam ab ejus successore Olavo Haraldí filio, symbolum signumqve militare
 esse juberetur. Testis erit Snorro, tom. II. Rex Olavus, inquit “ Snorro, in navi
 “ sua centum viros loricis annulatis & galeis Gallicis munitos secum habuit. Ple-
 “ riqve milites *alba scuta* gerebant, alii *cruce aurea* distincta, alii vero crucibus rubro
 “ cæruleoqve colore illita. Qvin & galeis in fronte crucem albam creta inscribi rex
 “ jussit. Eodem modo Dani vexillum alba cruce decoratum diu seqvebantur.” Vide
 Th. Bartholini Diatribe de Ordine Danebrogico Havn. 1675, & Arnoldi Huitfeldii
 Historiam Daniæ, tom. I. pp. 106. 107. 191. Nec tamen semper Christiani cru-
 cis signo tam stricte adhæserunt, qvin alias sanctorum reliqvias penitus neglexerint.
 Etenim Carnotenses *Camisiam* Beatæ Mariæ Virginis in modum vexilli super pro-
 pugnacula olim exponebant. Vide Wilhelm. Malmesbur. de Gestis Regum Angliæ,
 lib. ii. c. 5. Et Wilhelmus nothus in oppugnatione Angliæ, ut nos docet historia
 Norvegiæ anecdota *Hryggjarstycke* dicta, “ Vexillo alligavit scrinium sancti Odma-
 “ ri, super quod Haraldus Godwini filius juraverat, se operam daturum, ut Angliæ
 “ regno potiretur.” Vide J. Johnstoni Antiquitates Normanno Celticas, Havn.
 1775.

IIº. Sagitta belli index, *Herör*, *Herbodsör* vulgo dicta, quâ ab uno ad alterum
 regni limitem oppidatim missa, patriam hoste tyrannove opprimi incolæ monebantur.
 Fuit illa (vide Saxo. lib. V. p. 85) Danis, Norvegis, atqve islandis in usu. Vide
 Snorro in Heims Kringla, tom. I. p. 250, & Thorm. Torfæi Histor. Rer. Norveg.
 Part. II. p. 274. confer. leges antiquiss. Norvegico Gulathingenses Tit. De patria
 propugnanda, § de sagittâ belli indice mittendâ & portanda. Verba legis hæc
 sunt. “ Enn ef sua fellr hardlega at nockr þerr hæfs edr gengr a innanlands þa
 “ skulu þeir er sönn herfaga kemr til skera örvar upp oc lata fara landsenda a mille,
 “ skal su ör fara at minsta lage þiodgötor med þridia manne fulltida, enn á síó med
 “ skipe skipado. Hon skal fara med þiodleid med skipe skipado bædi nætor oc
 “ daga. Tre ör skal uppskera i bygdar allavega af þiodleid oc i eyar út oc beri
 “ huar ödrum med vattum. Enn öllum mönnum er ör kemr til þá gerir hun stefno
 “ til skips vid sío en safnade a lande. Enn ef nockor sitr þa kyrr um, þa er sa
 “ útlægr, þuí þa skal fara þegn oc þræll, ef þefs þarf vid. Enn ef nockr fellir
 “ herbods örvar veri utlægr oc allt þat sem hann á, nema naudsyniar banne.
 “ Mete konongr þær naudsyniar,” i. e. Si gravis ita acciderit casus, ut hostis li-
 “ mites ingrediatur regni, illi quibus hac de re certus nuntius primum venerit, sagittam
 promant,

“ promant, ab uno ad alterum regni limitem mittendam. Quæ sagitta ad minimum
 “ tribus comitata viris perfectæ ætatis secundum publicam viam, mari vero nave bene
 “ instructa directo cursu, die nocteque perferatur. Sagitta lignea a viæ publicæ latere
 “ utroque accolis, inque insulas mittatur, quam alius ad alium adhibitis testibus ferat.
 “ Vos vero obvios habuerit sagitta, si ad mare est, eos ad naves ire jubet, si vero in
 “ continenti, ad conventus certo loco adscriptos. Qui acceptâ sagitta domi manserit,
 “ exilio puniatur, eoquod liberis, servisque eadem est necessitas patriam protegendi.
 “ Qui sagittam belli indicem portare neglexerit, exul esto, bonis omnibus exuendus,
 “ nisi intervenerit impedimentum, quod soli regis suberit arbitrio.” Pro sagitta Scoti
 & Sueci baculis in fine combustis, funeque instructis eodem modo utebantur. Vide
 Celeberr. Pennant, in *A Tour through Scotland*, 1769, p. 192, & *Olai Magni Histor.*
Rer. Svecicar. lib. VII. c. iv. “ Cernitur, inquit Olaus, hic homo præcipiti eqvo
 “ vectus fustem seu baculum in fine combustum altero sine ligatum offerens, cujus fi-
 “ delior simpliciorque interpretatio hæc est. Ut quoties immineant hostes in litore
 “ maris seu limitibus regnorum septentrionalium, tunc illico jussu præfectorum pro-
 “ vincialium, baculus tripalmaris communi eorum aspectu agiliori juveni cursu præ-
 “ cipiti, ad illum vel illum pagum seu villam hujusmodi edicto deferendo commit-
 “ titur, & tertio, quarto, vel octavo, die unus duo vel tres aut viritem vel omnes &
 “ singuli ab anno trilultri cum armis & expensis decem vel viginti dierum sub pœna
 “ combustionis domorum, quæ usto baculo, vel suspensionis patroni, aut omnium quæ
 “ fune alligato signantur, in tali ripa vel campo, aut valle comparere teneantur, su-
 “ bito causam vocationis, seu executionis prædicti præfecti provincialis, quod fieri
 “ debeat audituri. Itaque nuntius ille quovis posta seu veredario celerior peracta
 “ commissione lente revertitur, signum asserens omnia se legaliter fecisse.” *Conf. l. c.*
cap. v. & Reinhielmii notas ad Thorsteni Vikingsonii vitam. Canam autem sapere
 antiquitatem sagittæ missionem docet idem apud Chili incolas in America olim usus
 de hoc Margravius, lib. VIII. c. iv. refert quod “ lædera ineunt & stabiliunt in
 “ hunc modum. Qui alium primatum aut rectorem communitatis ad fœdus &
 “ societatem armorum invitat, mittit per aliquem suorum, aut portat ipse sagittam,
 “ quam invitatus si consentiat, manu dextra tangens, vice jurisjurandi se obligat,
 “ atque hoc præcipuum inter eos fidei est vinculum ad eundem modum, cum neque
 “ scribere sciunt, siquid aliquid alteri nuntiari velint, quod bellum aut aliud reip.
 “ negotium tangat, per fidum aliquem suum ministrum mittunt sagittam cui fascia
 “ alligata est, societatis armorum index, quam ille, ad quem mittitur dextra manu
 “ accipit, & si vicissim, aliquid nuntiari velit, addit & alteram fasciam, atque ita
 “ eandem sagittam remittit. Si autem opus sit, alios quoque moneri, retinet prior sa-
 “ gittam cum fascia, et ad suos confœderatos, per suos circumferri curat, ad eundem
 “ modum.” Apud Islandos ante fidem Christo datam s. ann. Christi M. Mallei,
 Thoro, summo eorum Deo tributici icon circumlatus in comitia conventusque publicos
 incolas vocabat. Vide Steph. Joh. Stephani notas in *Saxonis Grammatici Histor.*
Rer. Danic. Cui haud multo post successit securis in hunc usque diem adhibita ex
 ferro lignove fabrefacta ad ejus formam, qua in prælio Stiklastadensi usus est Olaus
 Haraldus rex Norvegiæ & ejusdem protomartyr.

Sagittis vero utebantur Islandi circum circa missis, ubi homicidium factum esse innotuerit; & conventus, quem sine mora accolæ adire tenebantur, ad consultandum de persecutione rei, Orvarthing appellatus fuit. Vide Gragas. Tit. Vigflodi.

III°. *Vöndr* Virga, quæ ut semper dignitatis erat index, itaqueque securitate publica gerentes munivit. De Romanorum *fascibus* hic nihil agam, satis habens observare 1° *Virgas* Norvegis *Rikis vönd*, Saxonibus vero *Rod*, ignobilis sylvæ filias pro sceptro a regibus adhibitas fuisse, donec crescente pedetentem luxu ex eburno auroque gemmis sociato id fieret. Tale Latino erat sceptrum

———— semel in sylvis imo de stirpe recisum

———— posuit—comas & brachia ferro

olim arbos, nunc artificis manus ære decoro
inclusit.

2°. Caducei vice fungebantur *virgæ*. Quomodo Gregorius Turonensis, libro VII. c. 32. memorat “Gundeboldum duos legatos cum virgis consecratis, misisse “juxta ritus Francorum, ut scilicet non contingerentur ab ullo.” Et Fredericus dux Saxonie Carolo V. Cæsari bellum indicturus nuntium cum *virga* tenui misit. Sæpius autem pro virgis baculo utebantur veteres, ut patet ex vita Friderici II. Daniæ regis per Resenium edita Havniæ 1680.—Etenim rex facialem Heidenibus cum baculo albo & literis instructum misit, qui Ditmarsis bellum denuntiaret. Quem ritum non modo Heidenes ad incitias redacti observarunt, mittendo ad regem suos sacerdotes pacis petendæ gratia baculos albos gestantes, sed etiam Elfsburgenses Sueci, anno 1563, præfectum suum Ericum Bagge in castra Regis Daniæ ablegarunt cum albo baculo, ut claves oppidi ad pedes victoris supplex poneret.

3°. *Virgæ* sunt tesserae imperii & dignitatis, siquidem olim sine iis in publico fiebat nihil, nec apud Anglos, quorum res moribus antiquis stant vigentque, hodie quid peragitur. Hic *Virga*, the rod, sive baculus semper adest in ecclesia, aula, foro, jam niger jam albus, prout res id postulat emblamate insignitus muneris, quod representat, & ante eos latus, qui imperio funguntur. Hinc *Virga* s. *baculus*, imperii emblemata, sive actu spontaneo diffringatur, ut moris est Stevardo regni, sive auctoritate legis alicui adimatur, indicat honores *virgæ* baculive comites non amplius geri posse, donec regi, populoque id placuerit. In sacris ordinibus hoc commune fuit, ut docet Chronicon Saxonum ad annum 1047, quando Ulfum episcopum ex Anglia, qui ab Edvardo rege ad Synodum Vercellensem missus erat, eo pene redactum indicat, ut pedum episcopale illi confringeretur, quod officium suum præstare non posset. Et Wilhelmus II. Herberto episcopo Theotfordensi 1194, episcopatu abdicavit baculo episcopali ablato. Imo “in synodo Londinensi 1102, “multis Francicis & Anglicis clericicis *baculi* & officia per sententiam sunt ablata.”

Ecclesiastica symbola quæ ad synodos, templa, aliosve conventus sacros indictio fiebat, cruces fuisse docent leges Norvegico Gulathingenses Haconis Haconis filii. Vide Jus Ecclesiast. Ubi “Huer Prestfr skal crosf skera fá er kirkiu sokn heldr, “oc fara láta fyrer helgum degi huerium oc föstudegi, sua morgum nóttum fyrer “sem fylkismenn verda áfatter.—Crosf skal egi yngri madr bera enn XII vetra sua “carl sem cona oc selia i hönd buanda ef hann vill egi vidrtaca, já beri heim til “húfs oc seti yfer duri upp oc gangi inn oc segi hiuum. Sua skal bera þingbod sem

“cross oc bera til næsta bæar :” i. e. “Quivis sacerdos, ecclesiæ rector crucem mittat, ad indicendum quamlibet diem facram jejuniumve, tam multis ante noctibus, quot parochiani communi consensu decreverint. Cruces minor annis XII, mas, fœminave, non portet, qui proximo accolæ crucem in manum tradat : si accipere quis recusaverit, crucem domum portet, super fores ponat, & ingressus ædes, domesticis id se fecisse dicat. Eodem modo quo cruces feruntur conventus civilis indices ferantur, ab alio ad alium.”

P. 33. *Vestfoldia* regio ad finus Osloensis s. Christianiensis latus occidentale sita. Qui finus olim vocabatur *fold*, i. e. mare, eodem modo ac Germanorum *phal*.

Ibid. *Dofrini montes*, vocantur vallosa juga, quæ Thrandhemiam ab diocesi Aggerhusiensi determinant, Norvegiamque in Septentrionalem & Australem, *Norden* & *Sonden* fiælds dividunt. A Dofro Jotorum antiquo rege ita vocata fuisse nobis persuadere vult vita Bardi Snæfellsás. Verum bona authoris pace ego potius a Wallico *Djöffrin* vallis deduxerim Lat. *Dubris* unde Anglosax *Dofre*, *Dofro*, *Douere*, *Doure*, *Dowere*, *Dover*, Cantia portus oppidumque dictum est. Quis enim nescit majores sæpius a natura, & situ locis nomina dedisse.

Ibid. *Lidandesnes* promontorium Norvegiæ Australis extimum nautis καλιεζοχνη, *Nes* & *Næffet* dictum.

Ibid. *Vena Rhenana*, sic aurum veteres poetice vocarunt, a loco, unde aurum venire credebant, Rheni scilicet ripis.

Ibid. *Minus decet fortem regem annulorum numerus, quam militum*, inter vitia principum maxime veteribus exosa sorditis, tenacitasque erant, & nihil fuit quod Haraldi Pulricomi filiis magis esset opprobrii, quam quod avaritiæ dediti, thesauros terra abscondere dicerentur. Snorro, tom. I. p. 167.

P. 34. *Solis munera* dicebatur aurum, tum ob præstantiam, cum ob attributam a majoribus soli vim fovendi, producendique omnia ex terra. Sol autem poetice apud Islandos vocatur *Mundilfari* a circumeundo, siquidem mundum immobilem sidera circumvolvi, ad Galilæi tempora usque antiquitas pro certo habuit.

Ibid. *E filis ferici* inferius vocatur *filki* s. fericum, cujus apud Septentrionales usus erat haud infreqvens, nonmodo pro vestitu, sed etiam pro velamine culcitrarum. Prima ejus, quod memini, occurrit mentio in vita Orvarroddi, qui dum seculo tertio Hiberniæ arma intulit a principe quadam fœmina indusio fericeo donabatur. Confer. *Hervaræ Saga*. Havn. 1785. Post ea sæpius occurrit; in vita Haraldi Pulricomi apud Snorronem, tom. I. Ubi de culcitra fericea agitur; in *Njalsaga* Carius Hæbudensis thoracem fericeam gessisse fertur, & Magnum regem Norvegiæ Nudipedem amiculum fericeum rubri coloris, cui leo a pectore & a tergo ferico

ferico flavi coloris inscriptus erat, super loricam induisse testatur Snorro, tom. III. Sed unde venit sericum in regiones Boreales? Ex Constantinopoli credo, ad quam urbem nostri confluerunt majores stipendia Imperatorum meritori. Huc tandem a Seribus, qui magna cura bombyces nutriendi, telasque conficiendi artem, diu secretam occultarunt, ne quaestus ad alios iret, serica opera migrarunt auspiciis Justiniani, etenim illi της των σκωληκων γενησιν αιηρ Περσης βασιλευσιν Ιασηνιανα εν Βυζαντιω υποδειξεν ουτι προσηρον εγνωσμενην Ρομαιων, ob quod Turcas, Serum successores haud parum consternatos fuisse, dum illis ab imperatore modus sericum texendi monstraretur, docet Photius in historia Theophanis Buzantii. Verum tamen si majores serici usum noverint, tamen ejus origo ignota erat, quapropter *Gud-ves* deorum opus vocabatur: innuitque vox *bar-limi* coma arboris & *silki* molle quid iis creditum fuisse serici fila ex arborum ramis depexa. Neque omnino hoc mirum; etenim Græci Romanique fericeas vestes jam Medicas, jam Coas, Persicasque appellantes, diu putarunt, earum fila arboribus gigni. Quo sensu Virgilius dicit, quod

———— Arboribus depectunt vellera Seres.

Et Plinius lib. XII. c. 10. Lanigeras arbores adducit. Quamquam non negaverim Assyriam bombycem apud eundem lib. XI .c. 23. nominari, & a Propertio lib. II. eleg. III. Arabicæ bombycis mentionem fieri.

P. 34. *Nec mordebunt te acies.* Constat hinc haud ignotam fuisse Borealibus artem fabricandi arma, quæ ferro invia essent, nec secari, disrumpive possent. Præter vitam Orvaroddi & Hervaræ sagam edit. Havn. p. 31. quarum utraqve testatur Oddum in Hibernia nactum fuisse indusium sericeum, cui ferrum nocere non posset, Speculum regale editum Soræ Danorum, 1768, haud pauca recenset arma, quæ facta ex lino, lana, serico, corioque, si aqua maduerint, vix ac ne vix dissecari possent. Et sane majores nostri pectora loris operiebant, haud secus ac Romani, qui ut testatur Varro *loricam* a *loris* dixerunt, quod, de corio crudo pectoralia faciebant, donec Galli sub eodem vocabulo e ferro ea facerent. Quæ ut magna artis usufque eximii cimelia sæpius in historiis *Valskar brynior* dictæ, apud nostros celebrantur. Nec ex lana, pilisque confectæ vestes ad usum belli ignotæ erant. Etenim *þofakust* vestis strictior, *þofa-trejja* thorax ex lana coacta hirta pilosaque in commerciis erant. Conveniunt hæc cum Græcorum *Πιληλοις*, & Latinorum Centonibus, quorum illa ex lana cogebantur; hi, a Servio Cilicia dicti ex caprorum pilis conficiebantur. De utilitate eorundem Plinius certus erat docens quod lanæ coactæ vestem faciant, & si addatur acetum ferro resistent imo etiam ignibus—puppisque aceto madefactis centonibus integantur, ut obstant & ferro & ignibus.

Ibid. *Pyris*, quarum in Argenide Barclaius pulcherrimam descriptionem dedit, invasiones hostium resque novas indicare utriusque orbis gentes consueverunt. Græci *Πυρσεια*, signa data, speculas autem *Πυρσους* appellarunt, ignibus nocte, fumo die nova vicinis exponentes. Quomodo Polybius lib. X. ut Æschylum in Agamemnone taceam, iis Philippum Macedoniae regem usum fuisse docet, jubentem suos quotidianis ignibus notum facere, quid Eubœi molirentur novi. Conf. Herodoti

Herodoti lib. IX. c. 3. de Mardonio. Et egregie Zedrenus refert, Pyras fuisse introductas ab imperatoribus in oriente contra Saracenorum irruptiones. Nec defuit Peruvianis igneus ille nuntius. Illi ad quartam quamque leucam per omnes provincias aluere pyras in ædiculis, summis super montibus ita dispositis ut ab alia ad aliam prospectus libere pateret, quæ factum est, ut intra tres aut quatuor horas imperator redderetur certior, si quis impetus hostium, tumultusve subditorum acciderit in loco sexcentis ab ejus aula milliariibus distanti. Vide Yncæ Garcilassi de la Vega Hist. lib. VI. Ejusmodi speculas Japanensibus fuisse novimus ex Ambassades des Hollandois vers Japan, quarum author, singulos ignes a duobus viris semper custodiri, testatur. Nostros autem majores quod attinet, tunc multa iis circa pyras fuit cura. Norvegos hoc primum docuit Herthiofus Gunnthiofi filius rex Hordicæ, qui, cum plurima hostilia molitus esset, multos hostes sibi comparavit. Igitur ad improvisam eorum irruptionem præcavendam, pyras in celsis montibus erigi curavit, custodesque adjecit cum mandatis, ut perspecto hostis adventu, subditis de more facibus omnes ditionis suæ subditos, ad signum datos armati exirent impetui hostium propulsando. Vide Thorm. Torfei Historiam Norveg. Pars I. p. 236. Sed videtur hoc institutum tandem fere in desuetudinem abiisse: etenim Haconus rex Bonus, alias Adelstani alumnus ex Anglia redux nova lege jusit, ut in montibus excelsis, ex ingentibus arboribus pyræ ita struerentur, ut ab una pyra ad alteram facilis & liber esset prospectus. Quo pacto excitatus hostilis irruptionis nuntius a prima in extremo regni ad meridiem angulo extructa pyra ad remotissima boream versus publicorum comitiorum in Halogalandia VII dierum spatio volitasse fertur*. Vide Snorronis Sturlæsonii Heimskringla, tom. I. p. 147. Quam legem Magnus legum reformator Jure Gulathingensi Tit. De patria propugnanda. § de Pyris, sanxivit. Verba hæc sunt. “ Nu er
“ hers van i land vart, þa skulu menn vita-vördr reida, þa skal barun eda um-
“ bodsmadr bod skera, enn sá er sekr halfri mörk sylfrs er egi cembr til. Böndr
“ ero skyldir til vita ad gera, þar sem verit hefir at forno fare, fiordungr herads
“ Manna þeirra er næster bua, oc vard-hus med oc dyr fiorar á. Nu skal stefna
“ skipreidu þingvord at bioda. Barun eda umbods madr konungs skall gera bon-
“ dum lagha stefnu til vörd at halda oc bioda; þa skulu bændr a verdi sitia hina
“ simtu nott, fra þui er vordr er bodin nema fyr þurfi. Enn þær sem vita vörd
“ eigo at hallda oc koma þær egi til, þa sekiaft þeir vardviti vid konong þat er
“ mörk sylfrs. Þeir menn skulu vita-vord hallda. Þeir menn ero allir vardsfæter er
“ augnaheiler ero oc eyrna, frialser menn oc fulltida herlendskir, enn egi utlendskir
“ or annara konunga rikum. Menn skulu a vörd ganga at midium degi, oc halda
“ til annars middags. Enn ef seinna er afgangit eda fyr af, þa er sekr vardviti vid
“ konung, nema einn gangi erenda þeirra. A verdi skal madr vaka enn egi sofa,

* Utrum Anglis debeatur, facili non dixerim, nam etsi non lateat, eos ignis ministerio usus fuisse ad res novas indicandas, pyrasque vocavisse *beacons* a verbo *beacnian* signo ostendere ego tamen non ullam potui circa eos invenire legem, usque ad annum 1588, quo die 8 Maii, populus ad propulsandam Hispanorum tyrannidem pyris convocari jubebatur.

“ enn ef allir sofa a verdi oc brennr viti fyrer nordan eda sunnan, þa er secr vard-
 “ viti vid konung. Nu skulu vardmenn vita brenna at þeir Herskipum senum,
 “ enn ef þeir brenna egi vita þa ero þeir seker vardviti vid konung. Enn ef þeir
 “ efaz i huart ero herskip, eda egi, þa skulu þeir kalla til hina vitraustu menn
 “ med fer þa sem næstir ero þeim oc hafa vid rad þeirra, huert vita skal brenna edr
 “ egi. Barun eda umbods madr konungs skal fa maon til skilrikan at skoda vord
 “ oc ransaka huern dag medan þefs þikir vid þurfa, oc greida vord at ret fare.
 “ Enn ef þeir gleima secir VIII ærtogom oc XIII mörkum vid konong, ef skade
 “ verdr at.” Id est, “ Si hostis in patriam nostram adventus expectetur, incolæ
 “ ocus pyras struunto, ut possit baro siue præfectus nuntios ultro citoque mittere.
 “ Qviconque hoc neglexerit dimidiam argenti marcæ solvito. Incolæ obligati
 “ funto ad faciendum pyras ubi ab antiquo accensæ fuerunt. Qvarta pars incolarum,
 “ qvi proximi adfunt pyras custodiunto, domum excubitoriam qvatuor offiis instruc-
 “ tam ædificant. Tunc navæ ad portus convenire jubentur. Baro siue præfectus
 “ regius publicam mittito incolis citationem, qvi pyras custodiant. Qva accepta in-
 “ colæ pyras per qvinque continuas dies a tempore, qvo primum accensæ erant custo-
 “ diunto. Qviconque, cui necessitas inerat pyras adeundi, non venerit, multam
 “ unjus marcæ argenti regi solvito. Tres viri pyras semper custodiunto. Unus
 “ quisque incolarum, cui oculi auresque se bene habent, obligatus esto, modo li-
 “ ber, ætatisque legitimæ sit, nostrasque, ad pyras excubandi. Extraneis hoc offi-
 “ cium non committitor. Excubiæ ad pyras ab uno meridie ad alterum habentur.
 “ Qvi prius posteriusve venerit, multam regi solvat, nisi unus qvidam negotii ne-
 “ cessarii gratia abiverit. Ad pyras vigilandum est, minime vero dormiendum. Si
 “ vero omnes ad excubias dormiverint & pyræ austrum boreamque versus luceant sin-
 “ guli multas regi danto. Excubiæ pyras struunto visis tribus navibus hostilibus
 “ una navigantibus, qvodsi neglexerint, multam regi solvunto. Si dubitaverint
 “ hostiles naves sint necne, consilium ineunto cum viris prudentibus, eorumque opi-
 “ nionem sequuntur, circa pyras siue accendendæ fuerint necne. Baro siue præ-
 “ fectus regis virum probatæ fidei singulis diebus mittito, qvi pyras examinet, & pro
 “ ut necessitas id postulaverit, res eo pertinentes dirigat. Qvi id neglexerit aut offi-
 “ cio rite non functus fuerit VIII uncias argenti regi solvat, præter XIII marcas ar-
 “ genti, si damnum rei publicæ inde natum fuerit.”

Qvibus apud vicinos Suiones instituta convenisse testatur Olai Magni Historia Rer.
 Svecicar. lib. VII. c. 10. Idemque apud Scotos.

P. 34. *Serpentem gynæceum Thoræ cingentem occiderat.* De cæso a Ragnarö
 Thoræ tutore, cui nomen erat *Ormus*, & poetica vitæ Ragnerianæ authoris fictione,
 ductaque inde metaphora. Vide Thorm. Torfæi Histor. Rer. Norveg. tom. I.
 Northern Antiquities, London, 1770, vol. I. p. 321. The Death Song of Lod-
 broc, published by the Rev. J. Johnstone, 1782, p. 94.

Ibid. *Gynæceum.* Virgines ævo medio separatam ab aliis ædibus domos, beneque
 sæpius munitas inhabitabant. Qvæ domus islandis jam Skemma ut in vita Rag-
 naris,

naris, cap. 42. jam *Dyngia* ut in *Nialfaga*, Latinis vero Barbaris *Genetium* dicebatur. Hic a vi externa tutæ artibus, quæ sexum muliebrem ornant, incubuere, etenim in texendis, pingendisque acu vestium ornamentis tempus fallere solebant. Quomodo vita Ragnaris vestis, a Thora prima ejus conjuge auro argentoque, ope acus variegatæ meminit. Quam vestem Ragnar, Aslaugæ, dum ejus favorem peteret, postea obtulit his dictis

“ Viltu þenna þiggia
 “ Er þora Hörtr atte
 “ Serk vid filfr of merktan
 “ Soma all vel þer klæde
 “ Þoro hendor huítar
 “ Hennar of þessar gervar
 “ Su var budlungi bragna
 “ Blidum þeck til dauda.”

Id est,

“ Vis ne hanc accipere
 “ Quam Thora Cerva possidebat
 “ Vestem argento pictam?
 “ (Tibi sedent optime vestes)
 “ Exspatiatæ sunt manus nivosæ
 “ Ejus per hoc cymelion,
 “ Ejus, quæ regi populorum,
 “ Multum ad mortem grata erat.”

Confer Mallet's Introduction to the History of Denmark, vol. I. p. 324.

Verum acu pingendi artem solertiamque veterum heroinarum apud Anglo-Saxones præ cæteris optime describit Adelmus episcopus circa ann. Chr. 680 florens, in suo *De Laude Virginitatis* libro, cap. 6. in Bibliotheca Patrum Maxima, tom. XIII. “ Sola inquit virginitatis prærogativa sine cæterarum adjumento virtutum non sufficit ad perfectionem, atque opus est, ut multimoda mandatorum varietate decenter decoretur. Siquidem cortinarum sive stragularum textura, nisi panniculæ *purpureis* imo *diversis colorum varietatibus fucata* inter densa filorum stamina ultro citroque decurrant, & *arte plumaria* omne textrinum opus diversis imaginum thoracibus perornent, sed uniformi *imagineum thoracibus* coloris fucis sigillatim confecta fuerit, liquet profecto, quomodo nec oculorum obtutibus jucunda, nec pulcherrimæ venustati formosa videbitur.”

Igitur nihil mirum, si *Gesta Gulielmi Conqvistoris Angliæ apud Muratorem in Antiquitt. Italiæ*, tom. II. p. 404. testentur. “ Quod Anglicæ nationis fœminæ multum acu & auri textura egregie valuerint.” Cui testimonio addi potuerit Glossa ad vitam Petri Cœlesti Papæ, in tom. III. Scriptor. Rer. Italicar. lib. II. c. 6. “ In pluviali, inquit, Papæ, erant imagines sanctorum patrum de serico & auro laboratæ & acu operis Cyprensis seu Anglicani. Sed tandem,” per gravem querimoniam *sericatricum* & *flatricum* mysteriæ & occupationes operis serici infra civitatem Londoniæ ostensum fuit qualiter diversi Lombardi & alii alienigenæ dictam mysteriam

mysteriam & omnes hujusmodi virtuosas occupationes mulierum in regno prædicto destruere conati sunt. Vide Madox Firma Burgi, c. 1. sect. 10.

P. 35. *Pugnas pugnavi quinquaginta unam* magnam harum pugnarum partem recentet in carmine Lodbrocarquida vulgo dicto, quod post Ola: Wormium in literatura Runica. Havn. ediderunt summi viri. Anglice in five Pieces of runic Poetry, London, 1763. Northern Antiquities, London, 1770. J. Johnstonus, Havn. 1782. Malletius Gallice in Introduction a l' Histoire de Denmark, Copenhagen, 1768. Atque Denis Germanice in Sammlung von Lieder Sineds des Barden. Wien, 1772.

Ibid. *Australes regiones.* *Sudr-rike*, ita respectu *Austr-rike*, & *Austr-veg*, quæ regiones orientales a Norvegia Daniaque mare Balticum cingunt, vocabantur terræ austrum versus sitæ quales sunt Fricia, Gallia, Italia, &c.

P. 36. Principes mensis accumbentes adire mos olim fuit, iisque inter epulas & pocula negotiorum feriem exponere. Vide Speculum Regale. Conf. Snorron. Sturlesonii Heimkringl. tom. II. p. 283. Conf. Eigla, cap. 16. ubi Thoroltus Haraldum pulchricomum, regem, mensis accumbentem adit, negotiorum causa. Idem in Anglia observatum fuisse docet idem author his verbis. "Thorarin Loftunga var madr kalladr; hann var Illendskr madr at kyne, skald mikit, oc hafde verit miök med konungum. Hann var med Knuti enum rika oc hafde ort um hann floek. Enn er konongr vissi þat vard hann reidr, oc bad hann særa fer drapuna um dagin epter þa er konongr sæti yfer borðum. Enn ef han gerdi egi sua, þa segit konongr, at þorarin mundi uppi hánga fyrer dyrfd þa, er hann hafdi ort dræpling um Knut konong. Knutr launadi qvædit L. marka silfrs. Id est, "Thorarinus Loftunga vir eras natione Islandus & poeta insignis, qui in aulis principum partem ætatis multam vixerat. Canutum magnum adiit oblatum carmen quod de illo composuerat. Quod ubi rex rescivit, iram concepit & poetam iussit, ut die crastino sibi mensis accumbenti heroicum carmen offerret, secus Thorinus patibulo suspenderetur, ob audaciam pusillos aliquot versus antea offerendi. Canutus carmen suo iussu compositum quinquaginta marcis argenti remuneravit."

Ibid. *Convivio* excepti erant. Convenit hoc cum Taciti de Germanorum moribus testimonio dicentis, cap. 15. quod, quoties bellum non ineant, non multum venationibus, plus per otium transigant dediti somno ciboque. Hunc in finem *veitflor* seu feoda instituta erant, ex quorum redditibus *vasallus* (quod nomen ab *veitfla*, quod a *veita* præbere, originem ducit), dominos feodi convivio excipere possent. Observavit hoc immortalis Spelmannus, *vassi* & *vasalli* voces barbaris deberi. Et *veitflumenn* nobis audiunt vasalli, cæterum antiquis temporibus feoda alia erant *militaria*, quæ miles alendus erat, *convivalia* alia, ad expensis, regibus eorumque satellitibus, qui sexaginta excedere non debebant, regnum, dum causas judicandi gratia circumirent,

irent, hospitio recipiendis faciendas; ad quas si non ipsi venirent, pecunia jure solvebatur. Vide Verel. Clav. Linguae Scando-Schyticæ in voce Veitfla. Conf. Snorro. Sturl. in vita Olai Sti. tom. II. Harekus, inquit Snorro Halogiam partim pro ferendis in convivia sumptibus, partim feudo militari habuerat. Quæ convivia author Eiglæ optime describit. Cap. 11. “Haraldus konongr for þat fumar a
 “Halogaland, oc voro gerfar veitzlor moti honom, bædi þar er bu hans voro, oc
 “sua gerdo lendir menn oc rikir bændor. Þorolfr bio veitzlo moti konongi, oc
 “lagdi a kostnad mikin. Var þat akvedit nær konungr skyldi koma. Þorolfr baud
 “þangat fiölda mans, oc hafdi þar alt & bedsta manval þat er kostur var. Konongr
 “hafdi nær CCC manna, er hann kom til veitzlunnar. En þorolfr hafdi fyrer V
 “hundrud manna. Þorolfr hafdi látit bua kornhlödu mikla er þar var, oc látit
 “leggja becki i, oc let þar dreka. Þuiat þá var engi stofa sua mikil, er þat fiol-
 “menni mætti alt ivera. Þar voro oc festir skyldir um huerfis i husino. Konongr
 “settiz i hafæti. Konongr var þar þriar nætor sem ætlad var. Þa er konongr bioz
 “brott, leiddi þorolfr hann til strandar oc gaf honom dreka þan er han hafdi gera
 “látit med tiöldum oc öllum reida.” Id est, “Haraldus rex (pulcricomus) hac
 “æstare in Halogiam delatus convivii ubicunqve excipitur, non solum in villis ad
 “eum pertinentibus, verum etiam, a præfectis regiis, & nobilibus privatæ fortis
 “viris. Thorolfus convivium regi sumptu magno struxit. Et tempus indictum fuit,
 “quo rex adesse vellet. Thorolfus optimates meliorisqve notæ viros invitavit, qui
 “frequentes aderant. Regem convivium adeuntem trecenti seqvebantur viri, Tho-
 “rolfo autem quingenti erant. Ille granarium magnum instrui fecit, & id scamnis
 “circumcirca auxit, ut cænaculi vice fungeretur, cum nulla ædes esset par hospi-
 “tibus tam multis recipiendis. In parietibus cænaculis undeqvaqve clypei erant
 “suspensi. Rex solium occupabat & tribus, ut definitum erat noctibus convivio
 “interfuit. Qui itineri accinitus a Thorolfo ad littus deducitur & Dracone, navi
 “recens fabrefacta cum tentoriis & apparatu quocunqve donatur.”

P. 36. Aleæ ludum a Germanis adamatum fuisse Tacitus narrat, nec minus nostris majoribus placuit antiquis temporibus. Etenim Tessera, latrunculi, schachicusqve ludus seculis X. XI. & XII. Principibus in deliciis erant, qui ludus in Islandia ab incolis, multa cum dexteritate hodie dum exercetur. Et ad artes liberales pertinere censebatur teste Calio in Historia rerum Orcadensium, p. 151.

“Tafi em ec ör at efla.
 “I þrotter kann ec niu
 “Tyne ec traudla rúnum
 “Tid er mer boc oc smider.
 “Skrida kann ec a skídum
 “Skyt ec oc ræ sua at nyter
 “Huart tueggia kann ec hyggia
 “Harpflátt oc brag þátto.”

Id est,

“Alea ludere delectat,
 “Artes ego calleo novem,

- “ Runas ægre dedisco
 “ Freqvens mihi liber est, fabrileqve opus
 “ Ligneis novi percurrere soleis
 “ Jaculari & remigare expedit
 “ Utrumqve curat animus
 “ Cytharæ ludum, vocalemqve musicam.”

Cæterum de Aleæ origine & usu apud majores nostros. vid: Loccenii Antiquitates Sueticas. S. Bringii Monumenta Scanica, tom. II. p. 155. Debes Færoa referata, p. 252. Clausenii Descriptio Norvegiæ, p. 167. Huitfeldii Historia Rerum Danicar. tom. II. p. 199, & Speculum Regale, quod tesserarum pecunia interposita ludum fugere, aulico suadet.

P. 37. *Cornua* principibus in præliis erant tubæ, sed pocula inter mensas. Hic armorum, non solum vice fungebantur sæpius, verum etiam super ea vota fuisse nuncupata novimus. Quibus Thraces pugnaverint poculis, in lætitiæ usus datis, lyricorum nos celavit pater; Norvegos autem cornibus cerevisia, medove, bene exficatis, fortiter certasse, veteris ævi monumenta evincunt. Etenim præter Heriolfum, Halfdani Nigri, regis aulicum, qui cæso quodam sociorum cornu, *Hornbriot*, i. e. cornufragi cognomen accepit, multos in diplomatibus ævi medii, heroas inveni qui Evoo cornibus victimas cædebant. Inter pocula Germani de rebus maximi momenti consilia iniere, & nostris id moris erat, si ulla Snorroni fides, dum Svæno Rex Daniæ, Anglis, Norvegis, Wandalisque, certam ruinam minabatur. Verba Snorronis hæc sunt. “ Sveinn konongr gerdi mannbod rißt oc stefndi til sin höf-
 “ dingiom öllum, þeim er i voro rikino; hann skyldi erfa Harald födr sinn. Sendi
 “ Sveinn konongr þa ord þeim Iomsvikingum, at Sigvaldi Iarl oc Bui oc Brædr þeirra
 “ scyldo þar coma oc erfa fedr sina, at þeirri veitzlo er konongr gerdi. Fyrsta dag
 “ at veizlunni adr sveinn konongr stigi i háfæti födor sins, þa drack hann minni
 “ hans, oc streingdi heit adr þrír vetr være lidnir, at hann skyldi cominn med her
 “ sinn til Englands at drepa Adalrad konung, eda reka hann or landi. þat minni
 “ skyldu aller drecka þeir er at ersino voro. þui næst var skeinkt fyrst höfdingium
 “ Iomsvikinga hin stærstu horn af enum sterkasta dryck er þar var. Enn efter þat
 “ drack Sigvaldi Iarl minni födor sins oc strengdi heit sidan, at adr III. vetor væri
 “ lidnir, scyldi hann vera cominn i Noreg, oc drepa Hacon Iarl eda reka hann or
 “ landi.” Id est, “ Structo quam maxime opiparo convivio omnes regni Magnates,
 “ atqve principes viros convivas invitavit rex Sveinus, patri Haraldo parentalia fo-
 “ luturus. Missis ad Iomsvikingos nuntiis, Rex Sveinus invitavit Sigvatum Comitem
 “ & Bujum, eorumqve fratres, ut ad convivium quod struerat rex, convivæ acce-
 “ dentes, parentibus suis justa solverent. Primo convivii die, anteqvam Rex Sveinus
 “ folium patris sui conscendit, exhausto in memoriam defuncti poculo, solenne nun-
 “ cupavit votum, se ante triennii tempus elapsum, suscepta, in Angliam expedi-
 “ tione, Adalradum regem, vel vita, vel regno & patria privaturum. Qui pa-
 “ rentalibus adhibiti fuere convivæ omnium erat istud in memoriam defuncti bibere
 “ poculum. Postea Iomsvikingorum præfectus *cornu* capacissimum, ad summum
 O “ usqve

“ usque potu fortissimo repletum. Hoc facto in defuncti patris memoriam evacuans
 “ Sigvaldus comes solenni voto se obstrinxit ad expeditionem in Norvegiam susci-
 “ piendam ut Haconum Iarlum vel vita exueret vel patria pelleret.”

Ab hoc non multum distare crediderim morem per cornua res immobiles tradendi, quo seu juramento, exhaustionem, cornu dato, tradens se ad evictionem obligavit. De usu cornuum, omnium instar sit eruditissima dissertatio Domini Pegge. *Of the Horn, as a Charter or Instrument of Conveyance. Some Observations on Mr. Samuel Foxlowe's Horn; as likewise on the Nature and Kind of these Horns in general.* *Archaeologia Societat. Antiquit. Lond. tom. III. p. 1. conf. An Historical Dissertation upon the ancient Danish Horn kept in the Cathedral Church of York, by Samuel Gale. Archaeolog. tom. I. p. 168.*

P. 39. *Aquilam in tergo pingat.* Fuit itaque majoribus nostris corporum pictura alia decora, infamis autem alia. Illam Britonibus, Germanis, Pictis, Scotis, atque Getis fuisse in usu Claudianus docent,

Membraque qui ferro gaudet pinxisse Gelonus.
 Crinigeri sedere patres pellita Getarum
 Curia, quos, plagas decorat numerosa cicatrix.
 Scoto-ferroque notatas
 Perlegit exanimis Picto moriente figuras.

Tacito de moribus Germanorum Arii tincti corpora, & Isidoro lib. xix. c. 23. Britonum Stigmata, memorantur. De hoc Saxo Gram. p. 77. Hæc autem a tergo: quo vulnera excipere contumeliosum fuit omni ævo, immani supplicio conjungebatur. Vid. Vita Ormi Storolfi filii subnexa Historiæ Olai Tryggvasonii, edit. Skalholtens. p. 16. Eo modo Enarus comes Orcadensis aquilam in tergo Halfdani incidit. Snorro, tom. I. p. 107. Eadem forsitan ratione Estonos olim captos Teutonicos gladiis suis in dorsis eorum crucibus factis jugularunt. *Chronic. Livonic. Gruberi, p. 70.*

Ibid. *Frackland* Franciam s. mediterranea Galliæ loca appellarunt veteres.

Ibid. *Valland* majoribus nostris vocabantur 1° regiones a Celtis. s. Galatis & Gallis olim habitatæ. 2°, Regio Galliæ maritima, quo sensu hic venit. 3°, Italia.

Ibid. *Danica lingua* id olim fuit, quod hodie est Gallica; ejusque nomine cæteræ omnes veniebant. Vid. Pauli Widalini Dissertatio de Lingua Danica etiam in Anglia communi, doctissimis illustris Erichsonii Commentariis illustrata, ad finem vitæ Gunlogi Ormstungæ. Havni.

Ibid. *Agdæ* Regio ab utroque latere promontorii Norvegiæ Lidandisnæs inter Westfoldiam & Annem Sira.

P. 39. *Reid-Gotaland* Regiones vocabantur quas ad mare Balticum, ubi nunc est Estonia Livoniaque, incolebant Gothi, sic dictæ a palustri earum situ. Vide Thunberg's *Untersuchung von Ursprung der Nordöstlichen Völker von Europa*, Halle, 1772.

Ibid. *Selund*, alias *Sæland*, & hodie corrupte *Siælland*, *Sælland*, Danicarum insularum reginæ nomen. Quod ab amænissimis Sylvarum recessibus, quibus, hodie dum gaudet, indubie obtinuit, & sic dicta est *Lucus Maris*. Cum iis tamen non litigabo qui *Sæland* appellari maris terram maluerint, etsi non videro, quo jure magis illud huic insulæ, quam aliis mari cinctis nomen conveniat. In *Otheri Periplo*, in *Ælfredi Verf. Orosii*, Lond. 1773, p. 25. vocatur *Sillende*, & *Selon*. apud *Ditmar. Merseburg*. Vide *Leibnitii Script.* tom. I. p. 327. *Sialand*, Saxoni & Svenoni Aggonis audit, sed *Adamo & Ælnoto Seland*.

Ibid. *Vindland* *Wandalia*, five regiones Germaniæ maritimæ *Pomerania* & *Mecklenburgum*.

Ibid. *Scania*, hodie *Skaane*, vocatur *Sconeg*, in *Ælfredi Orosio*, provinciæ *Sveciæ*, *Sælandiæ* Danorum obversa, sic a campestri situ dicta. Nam *Skau*, vel *Skaun*, planitiem significat, in quo sensu *Ilandis* eodem nomine placenta dicitur, alii a *Skön* pulcher, quasi terra pulchra & amoena sit, nomen, derivant.

Ibid. *Upplönd*, *Uplandia* Norvegiæ complectebatur *Gudbrandsdaliam* *Raumariam*, hodie *Rommerige*, & *Thelemarkiam*.

Ibid. *Vikin* & *Vik*, provincia Norvegiæ Australis *Vestrogothiæ* Suecorum termina, olim dicta *Alfheimar* & *Elfarfylke*, a duobus fluviis, *Raumelfa* & *Gothelfa*, quæ a vicinis ab utroque latere dividebatur. Primis illa temporibus continebat regiones, quotquot inter promontorium Norvegiæ *Lidandesnæs* dictum, & *Gothelfam* interjacent. Cæterum, *Vik* denotat finem, cujus æqvor five mare vocabatur antiquis *Föld* & Germanis veteribus *Pfal*.

P. 40. *Promontiorum Reges*. Regum olim principumque filii piraticam exercentes ita vocati fuerunt a statione ad promontoria, unde ab utroque latere visus facile patebat in advenientes. Sed tota piratarum turba *Vikingar* sunt dicti, unde Lat. Barb. *Vicii*, *Vixi*, *Viccingi*, *Vixcingi*, apud *Huntingdon*; a *Vik* mare, finis. Quod nomen non minoris olim erat gloriæ, quam hodie id ducitur ab *Algerinis* atque *Mauris*. Quibus ut *Taciti* verbis utar de moribus Germanorum; nec arare terram, aut expectare annum tam facile persuaseris quam vocare hostes & vulnera mereri. Pigrum quippe animo & iners videtur sudore acquirere, quod posses sanguine parari. Etenim ut *Barbari* ad raptum feruntur necessitate se suosque sustentandi,

tandi, ita majores nostros ad arma Venus excitavit & Valhallæ neſtar. Claros Othinus cædibus mensis tantum adhibebat, & a puellis repulſam ferebant, quorum arma cædibus non maduerunt. Illud Edda, hoc Egilli Skallagrimi vita docet ſequentibus. Cap. 48. “ Þórólfr hellt lidi sínu norðr fyrri Halland. ok lögdu þar til hafnar er
 “ þeim bægdri vedr. þeir ræntu þar ecki. þar var ſkamt á land upp Jarl sá er
 “ Arnſidr er nefndr. En er han ſpurdi at víkingar voro þar komnir vit land. þá
 “ ſendi han menn sína á fund þeirra. þeſs erendiſs, at vita hvart þeir villdi þar
 “ fridland hafa eða hernat. En er ſendimenn voro komnir á fund Þórólfs með sín
 “ erendi. þá ſagdi han at þeir mundu þar ecki heria, ſagdi at þeim var engi nauð-
 “ ſyn til at heria þar, ok fara herſkilldi, ſagdi at þar var land ecki audigt. Sen-
 “ dimenn fara aptr til Jarlſins, ok fögdu honum erendiſlók sín. En er Jarlinn varð
 “ þeſs varr, at han þurfti ecki lidi at ſafna fyrri þá ſauk. þá reid han ofan með
 “ ecki lid til fundar vit víkinga. En er þeir funduz þá foro þar allt vel rædur
 “ með þeim. Jarl baud Þórólfi til veizlu með ſer, ok lidi hans þuí er han villdi.
 “ Þórólfr het ſerdinni, En þá er á var kvedit, let Jarlinn ſenda reidskióta ofan
 “ móti þeim. Reduz þeir til ſerdar bædi Þórólfr ok Egill, ok höfdu með ſer xxx
 “ manna. En er þeir komo til Jarlſins, ſagnadi han þeim vel, var þeim fylgt inn í
 “ ſtofu, var þar þegar inni mungát, ok gefit þeim at drecka, sátu þeir þar til
 “ kvelldz. En ádr bord ſkylldu upp fara. þá ſagdi Jarl at þar ſkylldi ſæti hluta,
 “ ſkylldi drecka ſamam karlmadr ok kona ſva ſem til ynniz, en þeir ſer er ſleiri
 “ veri. Menn báru þá hluti sína í ſkaut, ok tók Jarlinn upp. Jarl átti dóttur all-
 “ fríða, ok þá vel frumvaxta, ſva ſagdi hlutr til, at Egill ſkylldi ſitia hiá Jarlſdót-
 “ tur um kvelldit, hon geck um gólf ok ſkemti ſer. Egill ſtód upp ok geck til
 “ rúms þeſs er dóttir Jarlſins hafdi ſetid um daginn. En er menn ſkipuduz í ſæti
 “ sín, þa geck Jarlſdóttir at rúmi sínu, hon qvad :

“ Hvat ſkaltu ſveinn í ſeſs minn ?

“ (þuíat) ſialldan hefir þú gefnar

“ Vargi varmar brádir :

“ Vera vil ek ein um mína.

“ Sáttadu hrafn i hauſti

“ Of hræſolli gialla :

“ Varattu at þar er eggjar

“ A ſkel-þunnar runnuz.

“ Egill tók til hennar, ok ſetti hana nidr hiá ſer, han qvad :

“ Farit hef ek blóðgum brandi,

“ Sva at mer benþidurr fylgdi,

“ Ok giallanda geiri

“ Gángt var hardr at víkingum.

“ Giördum reidir roſtu,

“ Rann elldr um ſiót manna,

“ Letum blóðga búka

“ Í borghlidum ſæfaz.

“ þá

“ þá drucku þau saman um kvellit, ok voro allkát. Var þar veizla hin bezta,
 “ ok fva um daginn eptir.” Id est,

“ Thorolfus cursu in septentrionem instituto, præteriit navibus Hallandiam; ibi,
 “ adversante vento, ingressi sunt portum, at nihil prædabantur. Parvo inde inter-
 “ vallo aberat (rurî superiore) Comes, nomine Arnfidus: qui cum cognosceret istis
 “ oris accessisse piratas, suorum quosdam ad hos mittit, eo fine ut cognoscant, si ad-
 “ venæ pacem in sua regione, an bellum malint? Legati cum Thorolfo momenta
 “ legationis exposuissent, negabat se vel suos hostilia illic exercituros, nihil esse
 “ necesse ostendit, cur ibi populentur aut infestò invehantur clypeo, addit regionem
 “ illam non esse opulentam. Reversi legati, Comiti nuntiant eventum negotii. Qui
 “ cum animadverteret, hac de causâ, copiis sibi contrahendis nullum opus esse; eqvo
 “ devehitur ad piratas, nullo cum agmine: inter quos & ipsum, cum convenirent,
 “ colloquia optime conveniebant: Comes Thorolfum, cum quo vellet numero suo-
 “ rum, ad convivium domum suam invitabat, & spondebat Thorolfus se venturum.
 “ Constituta autem die, Comes eqvos sellarios iis adduci fecit. Thorolfus & Egil-
 “ lus cum triginta virorum cohorte iter adibant: venientes ad Comitem, liberaliter
 “ excipiuntur, & in triclinium intrò ducuntur: ibi statim præsto erat porus eximius,
 “ ipsis ad bibendum datus; ita in vesperam usque sedebant (accumbebant). Ante
 “ vero quam mensæ (ad cænandum) struerentur: Comes loca fortienda esse dicitur:
 “ ita ut vir & mulier, quoad utriusque esset copia, per paria (copulas) biberent, at
 “ seorsum qui superessent. Tum conjectæ sortes omnium in finem (togæ Comitis),
 “ ab ibsoque Comite educæ. Comes filiam habebat forma conspicuam, & tum
 “ in ætatis flore constitutam, huic fors confessorem assignavit Egillum per eam ves-
 “ peram; virgo, animi causâ, per triclinium inambulabat; Egillus surgens locum,
 “ quo per diem federat filia Comitis, adibat: ut vero cetera multitudo loca sua or-
 “ dine occupabat, accedens quoque ad locum suum filia Comitis, ita modulata est:

“ Quid tu puer in meam sedem?

“ (Nam) raro dedisti

“ Lupo calidas prædas:

“ Sola esse volo circa mea.

“ Non vidisti corvum hoc autumno

“ Super incompositam stragem crocitare:

“ Nec adfuisti ubi acies (ensium)

“ Ostraceorum extremitatum instar tenues, sibi invicem occurrerunt.

“ Quam Egillus apprehensam, apud se collocabat, & cantilenam regerebat:

“ Ivi cum sanguineo gladio

“ Ut me corvus comitaretur

“ Et sonante hasta

“ Strenue processerunt (processimus) piratæ.

“ Fecimus irati prælium,

“ Volitabat per sedes hominum ignis,

“ Fecimus sanguineos truncos

“ In portis urbis obdormiscere.

“ Inde per vesperam magnâ ambo cum hilaritate conjunctim potabant. Convivium tam eâ vesperâ, quam posteriâ luce, erat eximium.” Confer cap. xl. quod Egillum ætatis anno xii. Grimum quendam occidentem cecinisse meminit.

þat sagdi min moder

At mer skyldi kaupa
Fley ok fagnar arar
Fara i hring med vikingum
Standa uppi stafni,
Styra dirum kneri,
Hallda fva til hafnar,
Hauggua man ok annan.

Id est,

Dixit mea mater
Mihi emi oportere
Navem cum elegantibus remis,
Conscenderem hanc cum piratis,
Starem celsa in puppi,
Navem gubernarem pretiosam,
Portum ita subirem,
Virum unum alterumque cæderem.

Si igitur virtus bellica tanta in laude fuerit apud Veneres gratiasque, & tam necessaria ad obtinendos eos honores, qui post mortem fortes seqvebantur, nihil mirum est, quod majores nostri fuerint

Prodiga gens animæ

quos ille timorum

Maximus haud urfit lethi metus, inde ruendi
In ferrum mens prona viris animæque capaces
Mortis: & ignavum *redituræ* parcere vitæ.

Quam ob rem aliis totum tempus navali expeditione transactum, alii solum istas anni partes, queis ab agrorum cultura vacare datum erat prædis seduli incumbabant, unde *Hauft*, & *Vor-Viking*, autumnalis vernalisque piratica nomen habuit. Et ut arti tam liberali sua ne deesset majestas, duces *Regum* titulo salutabantur. Vid. Snorro Sturlesonii *Heimskringla*, tom. II. p. 3. Et leges latæ erant, quibus cautum fuit.

1. Nullus gladio cubitu longiori utitor.
2. Fœminam infantemve ne capito.
3. Vulnera ante viginti quatuor horas a conflictu ne obligato.
4. Tentoriis naves ne tegito.
5. Vela, quavis tempestate oborta, ne diminuito.

Vide *Vitam Halfi Regis* & *Sociorum* anecdotam *Legati Magnæani*. Confer *Historiam Rerum a Iomsvicensibus gestarum*, *Historiam Watnsdælenfium* in *Islandia*, quæ sola hæc legem habet.

Socius qui relicto vexillo ad naves se recipit prædæ partem ne capito.

Omnium

Omniū tandem instar sit oratio Ketilli Prumi nobilis Norwegi, filium domi defidem ad fortia facta excitantis, “ Mos, inquit, erat, magnorum virorum, regum & comitum, æqualium meorum, ut piraticæ incumberent, opes & gloriam sibi acquirere, atque illa pecunia in hæreditatem non cederet, neque succedens patri filius eam possideret, potius tumulo ipso cum defuncto mandaretur. Licet autem filii magnas a parentibus hæreditates relictas haberent, despiciebantur tamen, nec in ullo momento ponebantur, nisi ipsimet cum sociis periculis se objicientes, opes & prosperam sui memoriam pararent” Vide Historiam Watsdælensium, cap. 1.

Qui de piratis & piratica veterum plura noscere voluerit, adeat velim, Gvaldon: in Vita Sancti Ansgarii. Anonym. de Profectione Danorum in terram sanctam. Adamum Bremens. lib. de Situ Daniæ, p. 5, edit. Elzev. 1629, cap. 6. Wil. Malmesburienf. de Gestis Regum Angliæ, lib. I. cap. 20. Giraldi Topographiam Hiberniæ. Distinct. II. cap. 11. Joh. Hermanson de Vikingis Veterum Hyperboreorum, Upsal, 1730-34, 2 Partes, 4to. Bryn. Tegmanni de Angaris Upsal, 1697. Joh. Tyl-lander de Angaris Dissertationes, Aboæ, 1732. Johan. Erici Annotationes uberiorēs ad Vitam Gunnlogi Ophyoglotti & Scaldrafni Havnæ, 1775, p. 268.

P. 40. *Klifland*, hodie *Cliveland*, in parte septentrionali comitatus Eboracensis haud longe a Whitebya. Locus a natura soli præcipiti ita dictus. Vide G. Camdenii Britannia, edit. E. Gibsonii, Lond. 1722, vol. II. p. 908.

Ibid. *Scardaborg*, hodie *Scarborough*, in parte comitatus Eboracensis septentrionali. Vide G. Camdeni Britanniam, edit. E. Gibsonii, p. 903, 904.

Ibid. *Principes Regii natarent*. Ars urinaria in deliciis olim erat regibus. De Olavo Tryggvasonio, vide Historiam rerum a Laxdælensibus gestarum. De Olavo Haraldī filio Snorron. Heimskringlam, tom. II. p. 2, ubi. “ Olafr var þrotta madr mikill, kunni vel vid boga, scaut manna best handscoti oc syndr vel, hagr oc sionvandr vid smidir allar.” Id est, “ Olaus artibus excelluit, quippe qui jaculis arcu manuque emissis scopum dexterrime tetigit; arte natandi nemine secundus, faber ipse egregius, de aliorum operibus fabrilibus acutissime dijudicavit.”

F I N I S.

A

FRAGMENT OF IRISH HISTORY;

OR, A

VOYAGE TO IRELAND:

UNDERTAKEN FROM

ICELAND

IN THE TENTH CENTURY.

A

U M sumarit varð þat til tidenda at konongr Hacon of No-regi for i stefno-för aufr i Brenneyar oc giördi frid fyrer land sitt, efter því sem lög stódo til, hit þridia sumar. Sá fundr skyldi vera höfðingia imilli, oc sitia at þeim malum sem konongar áttoum at dæma.

Þat þotti skemtileg för at fækia þann fund, þvíat þangat commo menn nær af öllum löndom þeim er ver höfom tidende af.

Höskuldr fetti fram skip sitt, oc vildi fækia fund þenna þvíat hann hafde egi fundit konong a þeim vetri. Þangat var oc kaupstefna at fækia. Fundr þessi var all fiölmenr, þar var skemtun mikel, dryckior, leikar oc allskins glede.

Ein dag er Höskoldr for at skemta fer vid nockora menn, fá hann tiald eitt skrautlegt fiærri ödrum búðum, Höskuldr geck þangat i tialdet oc sat þar fyrer madr i gudvefiar klæðum, og hafdi gerskan hatt a höfði.

Höskoldr spurdi þennan man at nafni, han nefndest Gilli hinn Gerske. Höskoldr segest oft hafa heyrnt hans geted, kal-

THIS summer it happened, that Hacon, king of Norway, went to the assembly in the islands of Brenneyar, for the purpose of establishing peace throughout his dominions, in obedience to the laws of the country, which obliged the neighbouring princes to assemble and continue there, as long as the arrangement of the public affairs required their presence.

It was esteemed the highest pleasure to attend this assembly, as it was crowded with the chiefs of every nation of whom we have any knowledge.

Hofkuld, having put his ship to sea, got himself in readiness to wait on his majesty, to whom he had not paid his duty the preceding winter; and at the same time to make himself acquainted with this celebrated market, which was exceedingly numerous, and at the same time equally splendid and attractive, every interval of business being filled with banqueting, interludes, plays, and a variety of other entertainments equally enchanting.

On a day as Hofkuld took a walk with some of his attendants, chancing to see a neat tent at a distance from the rest, curiosity induced him to bend his steps that way; having come up to it, he met with a man at the door cloathed in purple, with a Ruffian hat on his head.

On enquiry he found that his name was Gilli the Ruffian. Hofkuld said he had often heard his name, and that his fortune

lade han þeirra manna audgazan, er vered höfdo i kaupmanna lögom, oc munt þu hafa þa luti at felia ofs er ver vilium kaupa.

Gilli spyr hvat þat være? Foronautar Höskoldar segia, hann vili kaupa ambátt nockora, ef hann hefdi at felia. Gilli svarar: þar þyckiz þer leita mer meinfanga um þetta, er þer falid þa luti er þer ætled ec muni egi tilhafa. En þat er þo egi rádit, hvert sva ber vid.

Höskoldr fá at um þvera búdina var fortiald: þá lypti Gilli fra tialdino, oc fá Höskoldr at XII konor fáto fyrer innan tialdit.

þa mælti Gilli at Höskoldr skyldi gánga þángat oc líta á ef hann villdi nockora kaupa af þeim konom.

Höskoldr gerir sva; þær fáto allar saman um þvera búdina, hann hyggr uandliga at konom þeffom, hann fá at kona fat utarlíga vid tiald skörina, sú var illa klædd. Höskoldi leyft konan frid synom ef nockot mætti áfiá. þá mælti Höskoldr; hverfo dyr er su kona af ec vil kaupa?

Gilli svarar: þu skalt reida fyrer hana þriár merkor fylfors. Sva virde ec sagdi Höskoldr, at þu munir leggja, kono þessa heldr dyrt, þviat þetta ero þriu verd.

þa svarar Gilli; rett mæltir þu, at ec met hana dyrari enn adrar, kíós þer einhveria af hinom XI oc gíald fyrer eina mörk fylfors, enn þesse se efter i minne eigo.

Höskoldr mælti; vita mon ec hve mikít filfr er i fiód þeim fem er a bellti mer, oc bad Gilla taka vogina.

was superior to that of any other merchant, in consequence of which he expected to find some things with him, of which he was desirous.

Gilli enquired what he wanted. One of Hofkuld's attendants answered, that he wanted to purchase a maid slave, if he had any. Gilli replied, no doubt you intend to rally me, for you probably guess that I have not what you ask for; but in that you are perhaps mistaken.

Hofkuld having cast his eye round the tent, observed it to be divided with a curtain, suspended in the middle; which, on being drawn up, disclosed twelve women.

Gilli on this invited Hofkuld to approach and take his choice.

Hofkuld accepted the invitation; and, after a close inspection, fixed on one seated last of all next the tent, and of course less conspicuous. Notwithstanding the meanness of her dress, her beauty shone throughout so irresistibly, that Hofkuld was immediately captivated with her charms, which evinced an illustrious descent.

The price set on her amounted to the weight of three marks of silver. It seems to me, said Hofkuld, that you place too high a value on her; inasmuch as this appears to be triple the price.

Gilli acknowledged he was in the right, as he estimated her beyond the rest; at the same time acquainting Hofkuld, that if he left her and chose any of the rest, he should have her for one mark of silver.

I will see, said Hofkuld, the quantity of silver at present in my purse, which was hung to his girdle; on this he called for the scales.

Þá mælti Gilli þetta mal skal fara ovefa af minne hende, þviat á er mikill liodr um ráð kononnar, vil ec at þu vitir þat, adr ver flaum kaupi þeffo. Höskoldr spyr hvat þat veri.

Gilli fvarar; kona þeffi er omala, hefi ec marga vega leitad máls vid hana, en aldrei fengit ord af henne, er þat at vifo min ætlan, at hun kunni ecki at mæla.

Höskoldr fvarar; lat fram reidfluna, oc fiaom hvat vegr fiodr fá er ec hefe her. Gilli giörer fva, vegr filfret, oc voro þat þriár merkor vegnar.

Þá mælti Höskoldr: fva hefir nu tiltekez, at þetta mon verda kaup ockart, tak þu fe þetta til þin enn ec Mun taka vid cono þeffari, kalla ec at þu hafer drengalega af þeffo haft, þviat vift vildir þu mig ei falsadan.

Sidan geck Höskoldr heim til búdar finnar, oc þat fama qvöld rekti hann hiá henne.

En um morgynen efter er menn foro i klæde fin, mælti Höskoldr; litt er stórlæte á klædum þeim er Gilli hinn Audgi hefir þer fengit, er þat oc fatt, at honom var meira i mun at klæda xi, enn eina.

Sidan lauk Höskoldr up kiftu einni oc tok þar uppúr góð kvenn klæde oc feldi henni, var þat oc allra manna mál at henne fæmde god klæde.

Enn er höfdingiar höfdo mælt þeim malum er lög stodo til þá var flitid fundinum, geck þá Höskoldr á fund Haco-
nar konongs oc qvadde hann virdufliga. Konongr mælti, tekit munda ek hafa qvediu þinne, þó fyrre hefde ordet. Efter þat tók konongr Höskoldi med allri blido,

oc

Gilli seeing this, observed that no imposition in this affair should be laid to his charge, on account of which he thought it but just to acquaint the intended purchaser, that the woman was subject to a remarkable defect. Hofkuld was impatient to know what it might be.

Gilli soon gratified him, in letting him know that she was dumb; and notwithstanding, continued the merchant, I have endeavoured by various means to induce her to speak, they have all proved ineffectual.

Hofkuld again demanded the scales, and desired to see how much the purse contained. Gilli obeyed, and having weighed the silver found it exactly to amount to three marks.

Having closed the bargain, Hofkuld took the fair, and acknowledged that Gilli throughout the whole had dealt with candour.

Hofkuld returned to his lodging and slept with his fair purchase the night following.

The ensuing morning as he was dressing, he said to her, those cloaths you wore with the monied merchant Gilli, carry little appearance of quality; surely it requires more trouble and expence to provide for eleven than one.

On this he opened a chest, and drew thence a fine suit of female dress, which he presented to her, in which she appeared to the utmost advantage, as suitable to her dignity.

The public affairs being settled, the assembly was dissolved. Hofkuld immediately waited on king Hacon; and, after saluting him with all proper obeisance, his majesty acquainted him, that his earlier attendance would have been very acceptable; he received him exceedingly gracious, and invited

oc bad han ganga á sitt skip, oc vera med fer medan han være i Norege.

Höskoldr dvaldiz med konongi nockora hrid, let konongr ferma skip hans med húsa vide. Þá mælti konongr til hans, egi skal dvelia þic lengr en þer likar, þott ofs þiki vandfeingen madr i þin stad.

Sidan leiddi konongr Höskold til skips oc mælti : at sæmdar manne hefe ec þik reindan oc nær er þat minne ætlan, at þu figler nú hit sídaza sin af Noregi so at ec se her yfermadr ; dró konongr gullhring af hendi fer þann er vog mörk oc gaf honom oc sverd grip annan, þat er kostat hafdi halfa mörk gulls.

Höskoldr þackadi konongi allan þan soma er han hafdi framlagt, steig sídan a skip og sigldi til hafs.

Þá er hann var heim komin, spyr Ioron, hver kona súa se er i för være med honom.

Höskoldr svarar; sva mun þer þyckia sem ec svari þer skætinge ; ec veit egi nafn hennar. Iorun mælti, þat mun tveimr skifta, at sá hlutr mun loginn, sem fyrer mik er borinn, edr þú munt talad hafa vid hana, oc frettad hana at nafni.

Höskoldr qvez þefs egi þræta mundi oc seger henne it fanna, oc bad henni virkta, qvad þat nær finu skapi at hún væri þar heima at vistar fare.

A ofan verdum vetri fæddi frillan Höskoldi sveinbarn, hann var þangat kalladr, oc synt barnit, leitst honom sem ödrum, at egi hefdo þeir sed annat barn vænra ne stórmanligra.

Höskoldr var at spurdr, hvat sveinnen skyldi heita, hann bad han vatni ausa oc kalla Olaf, því þa hafdi Olafir Feylan andaz modor broder hans.

Olafir

invited him on board his ships, in order to accompany him in his voyage to Norway.

Having stayed some time at court, in the mean while the prince ordered the ships of Hofkuld to be loaded with building materials; which being done, his majesty let him know that he did not wish to detain him any longer than his pleasure; notwithstanding the king acknowledged it was difficult to find his equal; such was the opinion he entertained of him.

His majesty, having accompanied him to the port, disclosed the confidence he reposed in him; and, as it was his opinion that this was the last voyage Hofkuld should make in the present reign, he took off his hand a gold ring, weighing one mark, which, with a sword worth half a mark of gold, he presented them to Hofkuld.

Hofkuld having returned his thanks to the monarch, for these, and all other marks of royal favour, embarked for Iceland.

In which having safe arrived, Iorun asked her husband, who the strange woman might be?

Hofkuld replied, perhaps you may think I intend to affront you, if I tell you that I do not know her name. One of those things must be false, said Iorun, either what you now report, or what I have been told, that you have spoken with her.

Hofkuld said he would not deny it, but rather tell the truth; in consequence of which he recommended the stranger, and expressed a wish that she might live with them.

Toward the spring the maid servant was brought to bed of a boy, who being brought to Hofkuld, was allowed by him, as well as every one that saw him, to excel in beauty and figure.

It being required of Hofkuld, to know what name he should bear, the father preferred the name of Olaf, which the child was baptised by, because Olaf Pheylan the uncle of Hofkuld was dead.

Olafur var afbragð flestra barna, og lagði Höskoldur mikla ást á við sveinin.

Um sumarit eptir mælti Ióron við frillona, at hún mundi upptaka verknad nokkorn, eða fara í burt ella.

Höskoldur bað hana vinna þeim hionom, og þar með gæta sveinfins.

Enn þá sveinninn var tvævetur, var hann almæltr, og rann einn saman sem fiögur vetra gömul börn.

Þat var til tíðenda einn morgun, at Höskoldur var gengin út at síá um bæ sí, veður var gott og sól skín, og var lítt á loft komið, hann heyrde manna-mál, gekk hann þá þangat til sem lækr fell hiá tún-breckunni, sá hann þar tvo menn og kende, var þar Olafur sun hans og moder hans, fær hann þá skilit at hún er egi mallaus, þvíat hún taladi margt við sveinin.

Síðan gekk Höskoldur til þeirra, og spyr hana at nafne, og quað henni egi stóða at dyliáz lengr.

Hún quað sva vera skyldi, setiáz þau þá niðr í tún-breckuna. Síðan mælti hún : ef þu vilt nafn mitt vita, þá heite ec Melkorka. Hann bað hana segja lengra ætt sína. Hún svarar, Mirkiartan heiter fader minn, hann er konungur á Írlandi, og var ec þadan her-teken XI vetra gömul.

Höskoldur quað hana helz til oflengi þagad hafa yfer so godre ætt.

Síðan gekk Höskoldur inn og sagði Ioroni þessi tíðende. Ioron sagdez egi vita hverio væri at trúa, quads fer egi vera um kynia men alla, og skilia þau þessa ræðu, var Iorun hvergi betr við hana eftar enn áir, enn Höskoldur nokkoro fleira.

Litlo

Olaf encreased so fast in strength and beauty, that he was allowed to excel every boy of his years; on every occasion disclosed the strongest marks of love for his father, which the father failed not to return.

The summer following Iorun told the maid slave that she must either quit the house, or perform the duties of a servant.

Hofkuld requested that she might attend to the child in preference to any other duty.

When the boy was two years old he spake perfectly, and walked quicker than others at four.

One morning it happened as Hofkuld was walking round the house rather early, as the weather was exceedingly fair, and the sun inviting, he thought he heard a voice at a little distance; he sought the margin of a rivulet, that washed the foot of a neighbouring hill, under the shade of which he could distinguish two persons, whom he found to be his son Olaf and his mother; on this he found that she was not dumb, being occupied in speaking to the child.

Having listened for some time, he approached at length, and desired to know her name.

Seeing that she could no longer conceal it, she complied; on his being seated, she said my name is Melkorka. He then desired to know something of her family. In return to this she acquainted him, that her father Merkeartan (Murcartoc) was king of Ireland, from whom she was taken captive at the age of eleven.

Hofkuld observed that she had kept this a secret too long.

He then returned to his wife, and recounted this incident; who did not seem to relish the intelligence, as she said she did not know what to believe, nor did she like the family. This circumstance, however it might raise the envy of Iorun, failed not.

Litlo fidarr er Ioron fór at sofa togade Melkorka af henne oc lagde focklæden a golfet. Ioron tók fockana oc keyrde um höfut henne; Melkorka reiddez oc rak hnefan á náfer henne so at blóð vard lauft. Höfkoldr kom at oc fkyldde þær.

Efter þat let Höfkoldr Melkorko fara a brott oc gaf henne bústæd uppi í Laxárdal þar heiter fidan a Melkorku-ftöðum. þar er nú audn. þat er fyrer sunnan Laxá.

Setr nú Melkorka þar bú saman, oc fær Höfkoldr henne alt þat er hún þurfti.

Lidr nú fva þar til er Olafur var fullvaxinn, oc in fridazti fynum allra manna, þeirra er menn höfdo fet. Hann var a Melkorku ftöðum.

Höfkoldr var þá hniginn a efra aldr oc veik meir af fer umfiá um ráða hage Melkorko enn verit hafde, qvod þat egi koma sídr til Olafs sonar þeirra.

Olafur fagðiz fkyldi veita flíka umfiá er hann kynne.

Melkorku þokti Höfkoldr egi giöra til sín sem fyrr hafde han giört hefer hun þat nú i hug fer at gera þat nockot, sem honom þykki egi betr.

Þorbiörn Skriufr hafde mest umfiá veitt búi Melkorku, oc vakit bonord vid hana, þá er han hafdi nockora hrid med henne verit, enn hon tok því fiærri.

not to encrease the esteem of Hoskuld, who heaped favours on the captive princess.

Soon after this, as Melkorka attended Iorun to bed, and had drawn off her stockings, she dropped them on the floor, which enraged Iorun to such a degree, that she took up the stockings and struck Melkorka about the head with them. This was an indignity that Melkorka could not sustain, in consequence of which she struck her mistress with such violence at the nose, as to provoke blood; in the moment the presence of Hoskuld interposed, and put an end to the dispute.

After this he deemed it proper to dismiss Melkorka, having assigned her a house in the valley of Laxardal, called Melkorkastader, which is now deserted. It is pleasantly situated on the south side of Laxa.

Here Melkorka took up her abode; Hoskuld taking care to supply her with every thing that she might stand in need of.

Olaf was educated with his mother till he had attained to the years of manhood, and was universally allowed, in shape and personal accomplishments, to excel all his cotemporaries.

Hoskuld was old at this time, and began to shew somewhat less attention to Melkorka as he advanced in years, leaving this to Olaf, whose duty he said it was.

Olaf acceded to this, and promised to fulfil that duty; which he did as far as his situation would permit.

Melkorka taking this in dudgeon, as she did not conceive to have given any offence that might occasion this coolness, determined with herself to do something that might avenge the flight.

Thorbiorn Skruf, on account of his having superintended the domestic affairs of Melkorka, often paid his addresses to her, but in vain.

Skip stóð uppi á Borðeyri í Hrúta-firde Orm het stýrimadr, hann var hirdmadr Haralds konongs Gunnhildar sonar.

Melkorka talar við Olaf son sinn þá er þau finnast, at hun vil at hann fari utan, oc viti frænda sinna gaufugra, þvíat ec fæ þer fatt sagt, at Mirkiartan er at víso fader minn, oc er hann konongr Ira; er þer at víso hægt at radaz til íkips a Bord-eyre.

Olafr svarar: talat hefi ec þetta við fautr minn, oc tók hann lett á, enn þan veg er fiárhag mínom háttat oc fostra míns, at þat er meira í laundom ok kuik-fe, enn Íslendískri leggiandi vauro.

Melkorka svarar; egi nenni ek, at þu fert lengr ambáttar sínu kalladr, oc ef þat nemr við faurinni at þú þickiz hafa fe of-lítit, þá mun ec helldr þat til vinna at giftaz þorbyrne ef þú rædz til ferdar helldr enn ádr, þvíat ec ætla at hann leggi fram vauro sína sem þú kant við at þurfa ef hann náir ráða-hag við mik.

Er þat oc til kostar at Höskoldr muno tveir lútir illa líka þá er hann spyr huarotveggia, at þú ert or landi farinn, enn ec em gift.

Olafr bad modr sína eyna ráða. Síðan ræddi Olafr við þorbiörn at hann villdi taka vauro at honom at láni, oc giöra mik at.

Þorbiörn svarar þat mun því at eins, at ek náir ráða-hag við Melkorku þá væntir mic at þer se íafn-heimilt mitt fe, sem þat þú hefir at vardveita.

At this time a ship lay in the port of Bordeyri, in the forth of Hruta. The captain's name was Orn, who belonged to the court of king Harald Gunhildson.

Melkorka disclosed her anxious wish to her son, that he should go about for the purpose of paying a visit to his noble relations in Ireland, particularly Mirkiartan, king of that island. Now, said she, it is easy to put this wish in execution, seeing that there is at present a vessel in the harbour of Bordeyri.

To this Olaf answered, I have already conversed with my father on this subject, and must say that his answer gives me no great encouragement to pursue it; and you know that my property, as well as what belongs to my foster-father, consists more in landed estates and cattle, than in merchandizes of Iceland.

Melkorka replied, I cannot any longer support the idea of your being called the son of a slave, for which purpose, if indigence is the only impediment to your voyage, I shall comply with Thorbiorn's solicitations; if you conceive that a portion of his wealth will enable you to prosecute your journey, I am confident of his readiness to furnish you with whatever you may want.

I know, continued she, those two things will not fail to displease Hoskuld, when he comes to the knowledge of your departure, and my marriage.

Olaf said the whole should entirely depend on the prudence of his mother. He then requested the loan of some money from Thorbiorn.

To which Thorbiorn replied, that he could not think of complying with this request, till the mother of Olaf had consented to marry him; after which he might command his purse.

Olaf

Olafr qvad at þat mundi þá at rádi gert, taulodo þeir þá með fer þá luti er þeir vildo oc skyldi þetta fara allt af hliódi.

Höskoldr mælti víð Olaf at hann mundi ríða til þings við honom: Olafr qvadz þát egi meiga fyrer bú-fyflo, letz mundi gera láta lambhaga við Laxá.

Höskoldr líkadi vel at hann villdi um buit annaz.

Sídan reid Höskoldr, enn buit var til brúðlaups a Lamba-ftaudom oc redi Olafr einn mál-daga, feck hann xxx hundrod af vauro óskiptri, oc skyldi þar ecki fyrer-koma.

Bárdr Höskolds fun vas at brúð-laupi oc vissi þessa ráda-gerd með þeim.

Enn er bodi var lokit, reid Olafr til skips oc hitti Orn stýriman oc tók fer þar fari. Enn ádr enn þau Melkorka skilduz, felldi hún honom i hendr fingorgull mikit oc mælti; þenna ring gaf fadir minn mer at tann-fe, oc vænti ec hann kenni, ef hann fer. Enn feck hún honom kníf oc bellti oc bad han selia fostro finni, get ec at hún dylez egi við þessar iard-tekner. Oc enn mælti Melkorka; nú hefi ec þic sva heiman buit, sem ec kann best, oc kent per Iríko at mæla, sva at þic mun egi skifta hvar þic ber at Irlandi.

Olaf gave him hope of success, and began to bring it to a conclusion as secretly as possible.

Hofkuld invited Olaf to accompany him to the general assembly, but Olaf excused himself on account of some domestic affairs, particularly an intended inclosure in the neighbourhood of Laxa.

This was in itself a sufficient apology to Hofkuld, who delighted in husbandry, and was happy to find that his son was of the same disposition.

In a short time after Hofkuld repaired to the general diet; in the interval of which the intended marriage betwixt Melkorka and Thorbiorn was privately celebrated at Lambastad, Olaf himself having stipulated the contract; one of the articles of which was, that he should previously receive thirty pounds without any obligation of re-payment.

Bard Hofkuldson was present at the wedding, as conscious of the intrigue.

As soon as the feasting was ended, Olaf set off for Bordeyri, and agreed with Orn, the captain of the vessel already alluded to, for his passage. Having taken a most affectionate leave of Melkorka his mother, she presented him with a ring, saying, My father made a present of this gold ring to me, on the appearance of my first tooth, and I hope that he will know it again; at the same time presenting a knife and a girdle, which she charged him to deliver to her nurse, if living, and whom she said would recognize them in an instant; adding withal, you see, my son, that I have done every thing in my power to enable you to accomplish your wished-for voyage. The Irish language I have taught you perfectly, that you can be at no loss in that point, land where you will in the island.

Nú skilia þau efter þetta. Þegar kemr byr á er Olafr kom til skips, oc sigla þeir þegar i haf.

Nú kemr Höskoldr heim af þingi oc spyr þessi tidindi; honom likadi heldr þúngliga enn med því vanda menn hans átto í hlut sefadiz hann oc let vera kyrt.

Þeim Olafi byriadi vel oc taka Noreg Orn fyrir Olaf at fara til hyrdar Haralds konongs Grafelds, qvad han gera til þeirra góðan sóma er egi voro betr menter enn Olafr var.

Olafr qvadz þat mundi upptaca oc fara nú til hirdarinnar, oc fá góðar vid-töcor vaknar konongr þegar vid Olaf, fyrer sakir frænda hans, oc baud honom þegar med ser at vera.

Gunnhildr lagdi mikil mæti á Olaf þegar hun vissi hann var brodor-sun Rúts enn sumir menn mæltu þat, at henni þætti skemtan at tala vid Olaf, þótt hann nyti egi annara at.

Olafr ógladdiz þegar áleid vetrinn. Orn spyr hvat honom var at ecka.

Olafr svarar: ferd á ec fyrer höndom at fara vestr um haf, þætti mer mikit undir at sú ferd væri farin sumarlángt, oc ættir þú þar lut at.

Orn

As soon as Olaf had embarked, a favourable gale courted the swelling sails, and in a short time bore the vessel into the main.

Scarcely had ^{Harald} Olaf returned from the assembly, when the whole of what had been transacted in his absence came to his ear, which in the beginning failed not to kindle his anger. In consideration, however, of the relationship in which the persons stood to him concerned in the transaction, he was induced to mollify his passion, and to endeavour to be as calm as possible on the occasion.

Olaf and his companions reached the Norwegian shore after an agreeable voyage. Here Orn insisted that Olaf should appear at court, in order to pay his respects to the king Harald Grafeld, assuring him that many, who could by no means boast a superiority, had met with a very favourable reception at the court of that affable monarch.

Olaf at length complied, and, in company with Orn, repaired to court, where he was most graciously received, as his majesty well remembered his family; in consequence of which he was indulged in all the freedoms of the court.

Gunhild knowing Olaf to be nephew to Rut, distinguished him by several marks of favour; yet such was the public opinion, that the very pleasure of conversing with Olaf was deemed sufficient to recommend him; such was the elegance and attraction of his manner.

Olaf at length became very thoughtful: this did not escape the eye of Orn, who watched an opportunity in order to enquire into it.

Olaf thus answered his enquiry, I am obliged, said he, to undertake a voyage through the western ocean, which I wish to accomplish this summer, under your auspices.

Orn

Orn bad han þess egi fýfaz, qvaz egi vita þeirra skipa von er vestr um haf gánga mundi.

Gunnhildr geck a tal þeirra oc mælti. Nú heyri ec ydr þat mæla er egi hefir fyrr verit, at sin veg þyckir hverom.

Olafr fagnar vel Gunnhildi oc lætr egi nidr-falla talit : sidan gengr Orn í brott, enn þau Gunnhildr tóco þá tal, segir Olafr þá ætlan sína oc sva hvat honom lá vid, oc at Mirkiartan Ira konongr var ödr fadir sinn.

þá mælti Gunnhildr ; ec skal fá þer styrk til ferdar þessrar, at þú megir fara sva skörugliga sem þú vilt þangat. Olafr þackadi henni bod sin.

Sidan lætr Gunnhildr búa skip, oc fær menn til, bad Olaf áqueda á hve marga men hann vildi hafa med ser vestr um haf, enn Olafr qvad á LX manna, oc letz mundi miklo skipta, at lid þat væri likara hermönnom en kaupmönnom. Hún qvad sva vera sKyldi.

Orn var nefndr oc Olafr til ferdarennar ; þetta lid var all vel búit.

Haraldr oc Gunnhildr leiddo Olaf til skips, oc faugdoz mundi leggja til med honom hamingio fina oc vinátto med vingan sinni annari er þau haufdo tillagt, oc kaullo do eigan hafa vænlegri comit af Islandi á þeirra dögom.

þá spurdi Haraldr hverso gamall maðr hann væri : Olafr mælti ec em nú XVIII vetra gamall. Konongr mælti þá ; miklir ágætis menn ero slikir sem þú ert, þvíat þú ert enn litit af barnsaldri oc sæk þegar á vorn fund, er þú kemr afr.

Orn endeavoured all he could to dissuade him from it, but in vain, saying, that he knew of no vessel bound to that part of the world.

Scarce had those words dropped from his lips when Gunhild entered; now I perceive, said she, addressing herself to Olaf, what as yet never struck me, that you and Orn are not agreed on the point in question.

Having paid his due respects to Gunhild, he acknowledged the truth of the remark, and as soon as Orn retired, he repeated the wish he had already disclosed to the captain, adding how much it concerned him, as Mirkeartan, king of Ireland, was his grandfather.

Then, said Gunhild, I shall do every thing in my power to enable you to undertake this voyage, as you wish to perform it with all the becoming dignity imaginable.

In consequence of which, Gunhild gave orders to fit out a ship with all convenient speed, and to man it with as many sailors as Olaf should think proper to chuse, which was sixty, as he said his wish was, that they might rather have the appearance of war than merchandize.

This being granted, Olaf and Orn were appointed captains of the whole, which was remarkably brilliant.

Harald and Gunhild accompanied him on board, and having assured him of the disposition of their friendship and fortune towards him, complimented him in many particulars, asserting that as long as they could remember, none had come from Iceland more gallant than he.

The king having asked his age, was struck with surprize to find he was only eighteen, declaring, that although he was scarce above his childhood, his figure, and mental and personal accomplishments, entitled him to the highest esteem.

Sídan bad konongr oc Gunnhildr hann vel fara.

Þeir stiga þegar á skip oc sigla á haf. Þeim byriadi illa um fumarit, hafa þokor miklar, enn vinda litla, oc óhægftæda þá sem voro, rak þá víða um hafit, voro þeir flestir innan bords, er á kom haf-villa. Þat vard um sídir er þoko hof af haufdi, at giördi a vind, var þá hlaupit til segls.

Tókz þá umræda hvert til Irlands væri at leita, oc urdo menn egi áfátter um þat.

Orn var i móti, enn mestr luti manna mælti ígegn, oc qvado Orn allan villaz, oc faugdo þá ráda eiga er fleiri voro.

Sídan skuto þeir til ráda Olafs; enn hann svarar : þat vil ec þeir rádi er hyggjari ero, þú verr þyckir mer, sem ofs muni duga heimskra brögð er þar koma saman fleiri. Þótti þá ursko-rit er Olafur mælti þetta, oc redi Orn leidsögn þadan í frá. Sigla þeir þá nætor oc daga oc hafa byr-litit.

Þat var einhveria nótt, at Nordmenn lupu upp oc bádo menn vakna sem tíðaz, qvadoz síá land nærri fer, hverio þeir stungo stafni at : var seglit uppi, enn vedr egi lítit.

Menn hlaupa þegar upp, oc bad Orn beita fra landi brott ef menn mættu. Olafur mælti ecki efni þar til, þvi at ec se at bo-dar ero á bædi bord, oc alt fyrer skut-stafni, enn fellit seglit sem tíðaz oc gerom ráð vor þegar er liós dagr er, oc menn ken-na land þetta.

Sídan

The king and queen having promised to shade him with their auspices and royal favour, at length dismissed him with their warmest wishes; and invited him, at his return, once more to grace their court.

Having thus taken leave of the royal family, the vessel spread her sails to the passing breeze, which in a short time gave way to storms and clouds, insomuch that the seamen lost their course; at length the storm subsided, and the sun began to smile, and the sea to expand its briny bed.

On this a debate arose whether they should steer for Ireland or no, seeing they had lost their course.

Orn was for Ireland, which the greater part of the crew deprecated, insisting that the majority should be followed.

The dispute, after some time, was entirely submitted to the decision of Olaf, who gave it as his opinion, that on this occasion it would be proper to attend to reason, and the dictates of experience; and if possible to avoid every debate that had not those for their support. This being granted, Olaf delivered his sentiments in favour of Orn's, in regard of which the entire command devolved on him, and the voyage was continued without intermission, notwithstanding they were often becalmed.

One night the Norwegians arose, and awakened the chiefs, crying out that they saw land, on which the vessel would inevitably run, notwithstanding the stillness of the air.

Having mounted the deck, Orn gave orders to set out from the land if possible. Olaf gave contrary orders, desiring that the sails might be furled, and all consultation suspended, till the return of day, that they might with certainty judge of their situation.

Having

Síðan kasta þeir atkerom oc hrifa þau þegar við. Mikil er umræða um nottina hvar þeir ero at-komnir. Enn er liós dagr var kenna þeir at þat er Irland. Orn mælti þárs þat hygg ec at ver höfom egi góða vidtöko því þetta er fiæri haufnom oc þeim kaup-staudam er Utlendiskir menn skulo hafa frid, þvíat ver erom nú komnir sva at ver erom fiáradir uppi, oc nær ætla ec þat lögom þeirra Ira, þo þeir kalli fe þat er ver haufom med at fara, med sínom peningom oc heita láta þeir þat vog-reg er minna er fiarat fra skut-stafne.

Olafr qvad ecki mundi faka enn sed hefi ec at mann faufnodr hefir á landi uppi verit i dag oc mun þeim Irum þyckia um vert skip koma þessa, hugda ec oc at i dag er fiara var at her geck upp ós vid nes þetta, oc fell þar óuandliga or ófnom fiór út, enn ef skip vort er ecki fakat, þá manom ver skiota báti fyrer bord oc flytia þat þángat, oc kasta þar atkerum.

Þá er áleid dagin, dreif fiölmenni mikit ofan til strandar; síðan fara tueir menn á báti til kaup-skipfins, oc spyria huerir fyrir rádi.

Olafr svarar á Irska túngu sem þeir til mæltu, þá beidaz þeir laga at þeir skulo gánga frá fe síno, oc mundi þeim þá ecki gert til miska ádr konongr átti dóm a máli þeirra.

Olafr qvad þat laug vera, ef engi væri túlkr med kaup-mannom, enn ec kann ydr þat med faunno at fegia at ver erom fridmenn, en þó manom ver egi uppgefaz at óreindo.

Having in compliance to order cast anchor, at the approach they discovered the land to be no other than that of Ireland; in consequence of which Orn dreaded lest they should be treated with incivility, on account of their not having regularly landed in one of the harbours of the island, which strangers were permitted to frequent with security; and this dread was not a little increased, on finding that the tide had retired and left them on the shallow beach, enabling the Irish to claim their pretended right to the vessel and goods, in virtue of their laws, which confiscated whatever they should find on the shore as a wreck, although nearer the sea than the ship at present lay.

To this Olaf answered, that the consequence need not be dreaded; notwithstanding he could observe the inhabitants about to assemble, which he attributed to the surprize of their arrival. He had observed besides, at full tide, a river wash the neighbouring promontory, whose capacious bed contained a vast depth of water; thither he advised the ship to be conducted by the boat, if the damages she had already received did not prevent it.

Toward the afternoon the natives assembled on the shore, and sent messengers in a boat to the ship, in order to enquire for the commander of the same.

Olaf answered in Irish to all their questions; but the Irish, understanding that the crew were Norwegians, claimed the vessel under the sanction of their laws; at the same time entreating them to leave the vessel, and to rest assured that their persons should meet with every protection, until the final decision of the king took place.

Olaf allowed this to be a law, if foreigners had no interpreter, but at the same time begged it to be understood that his property and companions, under the laws which then existed, should be

Irar æpto þá her-óp, oc æda út a fiáin, oc ætla at leida upp skipit undir þeim med valdi, var egi diúpara en þeim tæki undir hendur edr í brók-linda sem stærstir væro. Pollurinn var sva diúpr þar sem skipit flaut, at egi kendi nidri.

Olafr bad þá menn brióta upp vopn sín, oc fylkia á skipino allt millum stafna, var þat sva þickt at allt var skipat skiauldum, oc stóð spióts oddr út hiá hverom skialdar spordi.

Olafr geck þá framm i stafnin, oc var sva búinn at hann var i brynio, hafdi hiálm á haufdi gull rodn; hann var gyrtr sverdi oc gullrekinn hiöltin; hann hafdi króka spiót í hendi hoggrekit; raudan skiauld hafdi hann fyrer fer oc var ádreget leo med gulli.

Irar siá nu vid-buning þeirra, oc skeytr þeim skelk i bringo, oc þyckir egi iafn-audueld fe-faung er þeir hugdo til: hneckiaz Irar nú frá oc hlaupa saman i eitt þorp, þik er þeim nú aud-vitat at þetta er her-skip, oc muni vera miklo fleira von skipanna; giöra nú skyndiliga ord til konongs, oc var þat hægt, þviat hann var skamt þadan at veitzlu.

Konongr rídr þegar med sveit manna þar til er skipit var, egi var lengra á milli landfens oc þefs er skipit flaut enn vel mætti nema til manna í milli. Opt haufdo Irar veitt þeim Olafi áráfir med skotom, oc vard þeim ecki mein at.

Olafr

facred, adding withal that he did not think it proper to relinquish his property without farther necessity.

The Irish, hearing this, prepared to attack the vessel, with an universal shout; for this purpose they proceeded toward her, with an intent to draw her on shore, as the water was not deeper than their arm-pits, or the girdle of the tallest. The place, however, where the vessel rode, was deep enough to keep her afloat.

At the instance of Olaf his companions seized their arms, and ranged them along the sides, betwixt the stem and the stern, which they covered with shields, forming, as it were, a kind of breast-work, or parapet, the inferior part of which was filled with spears, for the purpose of being in readiness.

This being done, Olaf ascended the prow, arrayed in a gorget, his head invested with a gilded helm, and a gold hilted sword by his side, with a lance in his hand, formed hookwise, as well for stabbing as cutting; the shield with which he covered his breast, was blazoned with a lion of gold.

On beholding this, the Irish were struck with amazement, as through this they lost all hope of their booty, which they flattered themselves could be attained without any difficulty; on this they resumed their former situation, convinced that the vessel could be nothing less than a man of war, belonging to some fleet which might soon be expected; in consequence of this opinion, a report was instantly dispatched to the king with intelligence of the whole.

His majesty at the time happened to be at a banquet in the neighbourhood; having set off, as soon as he received the message, immediately to the assembly, which was at that time sitting not far from where the ship lay, so that one party could hear the other with ease.

Olafr stóð með þessum búningi sem fyrr var ritat, oc fann mönnum mikit um hverso skaurugligr madr sá var er þar var skips foringi.

Enn er skipveriar síá mikit riddara lid ríða til þeirra, oc var hid frækiligasta, þá þagna þeir, er þeim þókti lids munr vid at eiga.

Enn er Olafr heyrði kur þan er í sveit hans gerdiz, bad hann þá herða hugina, þar nú væri gott i þeirra máli.

Heilsudo nú Irar Mirkiartani konongi sínom, rídr hann nú sva nærri skipino at hverir máttu skilia hvat adrir taulodo.

Konongr spurdi hver skipi styrði? Olafr sagði nafn sitt oc spurdi hvern væri hinn vasklegi riddari, er hann ætti tal vid? Sá svarar ec heiti Mirkiartan. Olafr mælti: hvert erto konongr Ira? hann qvad sva vera.

Spyr konongr þá al mæltra tíðinda, oc leyfti Olafr vel or aullo, er hann var adspurdr. þá spyr konongr vandliga at um ætt Olafs, enn fyrer því at þessi madr var ríki-látr oc villdi ecki segia lengra enn hann var spurdr, þá villdi hann egi lengra spyria at finni.

Olafr sagði; þat vil ec ydr kunnigt gera, at ver ítton af Norvegi, ero þetta hird-menn Haralds konongs Gunnhildar sunar, er her ero komnir, oc ero her nú innanbords. Enn ydr ér þat herra frá ætt minni at segia, at fadir minn byr a Íslandi er Höskoldr heitir, hann er madr stórættadr enn móðor-kyn mitt vænti ec at þer munod sed hafa fleira enn ec, þvíat Melkorka heiter móðr min oc er mer sagt at saunno at hún se dóttir þín konongr, oc þat hefir mic tilrekit at hitta þic sva langan

ease. Meantime the Irish made several attempts to annoy the Norwegians with arrows, but without effect.

Olaf still maintained his post, in the dress already mentioned, attracting the admiration of his very enemies, through the gallantry of his behaviour.

When the Norwegians, however, observed the approach of the equestrians, they began to dread lest they should sink beneath the superiority of their numbers.

On the contrary Olaf inspired them with fresh courage, asserting that their situation had now taken a lucky change.

The Irish by this began to welcome their king Mirkiartan, who approached so near to the Norwegian ship, as to hear, and be understood by them.

The king asked the name of the captain; which being told, Olaf, in return, desired to know the name of the gallant knight with whom he now spoke; the king replied, Mirkiartan, adding, on Olaf's farther enquiry, king of Ireland.

After this the king entered into closer conversation with Olaf, and interrogated him as to several particulars, especially his rank and family, to which he received satisfactory answers; but, as the stranger supported his dignity, and would not descend from it;

On this the king dropped all farther enquiry. Olaf, seeing this, addressed the monarch thus, Sire, I think it necessary to acquaint you, that we are Norwegians, and belong to the court of Harald, Olpinnildson: as to my family, this may be depended on, my father, whose name is Hoskuld, at present resides in Iceland, born there, of an illustrious family; but as to my mother's, I will venture to say, that you have seen more of her kindred than I have: Melkorka is the name of my mother; who, as I

veg, oc liggr mer nú mikit vid, hvör fvaur þu veiter míno máli.

Konongr þagnar oc gengr á tal vid menn sína, spyria vitrir menn þa konongin hver gengnd fe i þeffo máli, er síá madr sagdi. Konongr svarar : audsed er á þeffom manni at han er stórættadr, hvert sem hann er vor frændi edr egi, oc fva þat med at hann mælir allra manna best Irsko.

Efter þat stód konongr upp oc mælti. Nú íkal veita fvaur máli þíno at ec vil gefa ydr aullum skipueriom grid enn um frændsemi þá er þú telr vid ofs, munom ver tala fleira, ádr enn ver veitom þer andfvaur.

Sídan fara bryggior á land, oc gengr Olafr oc hans fauro nau- tar af skipe síno, oc finst þeim Irum mikit um hverfo virduligr madrinn er oc vígligr, fagnar Olafr þá konongi vel, tekr ofan híalmin oc lítr honom, en konongr tekr honom med allri blído.

Taka menn þá til med fer, flitr Olafr enn sítt mál at nyio oc talar bædi lángt erinde oc sníalt, lauk fva málino at han qvadz hafa þat gull a hendi fer er Melkorka féldi honom at skilnadi á Íslandi, oc sagdi at þú konongr gæfi henni at tann-fe. Ko-

am confidently assured, is your daughter; this, and this only, induced me to visit this island, notwithstanding the length of the way, and the danger of the voyage; so that your majesty sees the answer you may please to return is of no little consequence.

The king, on having heard this, thought proper to remain silent, till he came in conference with his ministers, to whom he imparted the whole; observing, that if it should be evident that the stranger was of the blood royal of Ireland, it was proper that he should meet with every indulgence; and that if he was not, he was still entitled to a very considerable degree, as his descent was illustrious, and particularly as he spoke the Irish language with so much elegance and ease.

His majesty, having taken the opinion of his nobles on an affair of such importance, arose to impart it to the Norwegians; to whom he thus addressed himself: It is our pleasure that ye shall enjoy the most perfect safety; in the mean time, said the king, peculiarly addressing himself to Olaf, as to the relationship that you say exists betwixt us, I hope you will put it in a clearer point of view before I venture to say any thing farther on it.

Olaf had no sooner heard those particulars, than he went on shore with his companions; and, having paid due obeisance to the king, was received with all the politeness imaginable, which, on his side, was as fully returned to the admiration of the Irish, who failed not among themselves to compliment the elegance of his person and courage.

Olaf, having watched a proper opportunity, in a speech of some length and considerable eloquence, set forth his pretensions, in respect to the relationship in question; at the conclusion of his speech he told the king, in order still farther to confirm what
he

nongr tók við og leit á gullit og gjördiz ríðr miðc álit. Þá fvarar konongr; fannar ero iardteknir þessar, enn fyrir engan mun ero þær ómerkiligri, er þú hefir sva mikit at-bragd af modr þinni, at þic má vel kenna þar af, og fyrer þessa luti þá vil ec at vífo gánga við þinni frændsemi Olaf, at þeirra manna vitni sem her ero hiá og ord min heira: skal þat og fylgia at ec vil bióða þer til hirdar minnar med alla þína sveit, enn sómi ydar mun þar við liggia hvert manna kaup mer virdiz i þer þá er ec reyni þic meir.

Síðan lætr konongr fá þeim hesta til reidar og fendir menn til at setia upp skip þeirra, og buá um reida og annan varnat er þeir áttó.

Konongr ríðr þá til Dísflinar og þótti mönnum þetta mikil tíðindi, at dottor sun konongs er i faur med honum, þeirrar er var fyrer laungo hertekin xi vetra gaumul. Enn þó brá fostro Melkorku so við þessi tíðindi, er þá lá i kör ók fokti bæði at stríd og elli, at hun geck staf lauft á fund Olafs.

Þá mælti konongr til Olafs. Her er nú komin fostra Melkorko, og mun vilia hafa tíðinda saugo af þer um hennar hagi,
Olaf

he had said, that he, at the very moment, had a gold ring on his hand, which his mother Melkorka had given to him at their last parting in Iceland, which she had declared to have been presented to her by the king her father, on the appearance of her first tooth; on this Olaf presented the ring to his majesty; who, having surveyed it for some time, at length changed colour, saying, that although those proofs were undeniable, yet the similarity of features betwixt Olaf and his mother put the truth of the matter beyond all doubt. Having tenderly embraced his grandson, and having received him as such in the presence of the assembly that encircled them, his majesty's next step was to invite the young prince and his companions to reside with him in future; at the same time acquainting him that whatever honours he might confer on him from that time, were only to be in proportion to the gallantry of his arms in the service of the crown.

The royal order was then issued, that the foreigners should be immediately provided with horses, and every other suitable habiliment. Proper persons were appointed to guard the vessel, with all that it contained; and at the same time to hale it on shore, which was instantly done.

The king then set off for Dublin. The citizens were not a little rejoiced to hear that their monarch was attended by the son of his long-lost daughter, who was captured in the eleventh year of her age. The joyful tidings having reached the nurse of Melkorka, though bent beneath the burthen of years and other infirmities, she could not resist the pleasure of setting out to hail the son of her affectionate pupil.

His majesty himself having announced the approach of the good old woman, Olaf received her with open arms, acquainting
I
her,

Olafur tók við henni báðum haundum og setti hana í kne fer, og sagði henni at foftra hennar fæti í godum kostum á Íslandi, feldi henni knífin og beltit : kendi hún báða gripina og varð grát-fegin ; qvad bæði vera at sunr Melkorko er íkoroligr, enda á hann til þess varit.

Var kelling hrauð þann vetr allan. Konongur var lítt í kyr-fetom þennan vetr þvíat þá var íafnan ófridsamt um veströndin, rak konongur af fer víkinga og uphlaups menn þan vetr, var Olafur með sveit sína á konongs skipi, og þókti sú örogg viðskip-ta, þeim er ímóti voro. Konongur hafði tal og ráða gerð við Olaf, þvíat hann reyndez bæði vitr og framgiarn í aullum mann-raunum.

Enn at lidnum vetri stefndi konungur þing fjölment. Konongur stóð síðan upp og hóf fva mál sit. Þat er ydr kunnigt at her kom fá madr til mín á hausti er dottor súnr minn er, er hann stor-ættadr í faudor ætt sína, virdiz mér hann so mikill atgerfis madr og skörungur, at ver eigum her ecki slíkra manna kost. Nú vil ec bióða honom konongdomin eftir min dag, þvíat hann ert betr tilfallinn enn synir minir.

Olafur

her, in compliance to her earnest enquiries, with the good fortune and easy situation of his mother in Iceland, delivering at the same time the knife and girdle already mentioned as the pledge of his mother's affections for her nurse, who recognized them in an instant. The elegance of Olaf drew many expressions of pleasure from the old woman, inasmuch as they brought Melkorka so warmly into her mind; such was the likeness that subsisted betwixt the mother and her son, who in every other respect proved himself worthy of his royal descent.

The old lady throughout the winter lived quite at ease; but the king enjoyed little rest, as the western isles were much harassed with the frequent irruptions of the enemy; notwithstanding that his majesty was indefatigable in the pursuit of these pirates, and other disturbers of the public peace. Olaf and his companions attended the sovereign on board his own ship throughout the winter, exhibiting the greatest bravery against the foe, from whose very lips they extorted praise; which induced his majesty, in cases of arduous enterprize, to confer with Olaf, as he plainly saw that prudence dictated to all the actions of that aspiring hero in the most difficult crisis.

Toward the approach of spring, the king called a general diet, which being remarkably full, his majesty arose in the midst, and, having delivered an eloquent speech, addressed to the states, observed in the course of it, alluding to Olaf: Ye know, ye know that a young man, the son of my daughter, arrived on our coast the autumn past, a man whose actions even shed light on his descent, which is well known to be illustrious on both sides. This induces me to constitute him heir of my realm, as I find he is fitter to assume that weighty burden than my own sons.

Olaf

Olafr þackadi honom þetta bod med miklom oc faugrom or-
dom, enn qvadz þó egi mundi áhætta huerfo fynir hans þyldo
þat, þá er Mirkiartans misti vid. Qvad betra vera at fá skióta
fæmd enn lánga fuívirðing, oc lets til Norvegs fara vilia, þá ski-
pom væri óhætt imillom landa at hallda, qvad modor sína hafa
lítit yndi ef han kæmi egi aftr.

Konongr bad þá Olaf ráda oc var flitit þingino.

Enn er Olafr var albuinn, fylgdi konongr honom til skips oc
gaf honom spiót gullrekit, gull búit sverd, oc margt fe annat.

Olafr beiddiz at flytia fostro Melkorko burt med fer, enn ko-
nongr qvad þefs enga þauf, oc fór hún egi. Stiga þeir Olafr á
skip oc skiliaz med mikilri blído.

Efter þat figlir hann i haf oc byriadi vel, oc tók Norveg. Er
nú för hans all-fræg. þeir setia upp skipit. Fær Olafr fer
hesta oc fækir a fund Haralds konongs med síno fauroneyti.
Olafr Höskolds sún kom nú til hirdar Haralds konongs, tók ko-
nongr vid honom vel, enn Gunnhildr miklo betr; budo þau ho-
nom til sín oc lögdo þar mörg ord til. Olafr þiggr þat oc fara
þeir Orn bádir til konongs hirdar, leggr konongr oc Gunnhildr
sua mikla virðing á Olaf, at enginn útlendr madr hafdi flíka
fæmd af þeim. Olafr gaf Gunnhildi oc konongi marga fásena
gripi er hann hafdi fengit a Irlandi vestr.

Olaf having listened with due attention, thanked his royal grandfire, with all the effusions of the warmest gratitude for his intentions, which, in his present situation, he wished to wave, as it was not his intention to put the pretensions of the princes to any trial on his account, after the demise of their royal father; preferring any mark of present estimation, consistent with his situation, to any future glory, which might end in everlasting shame: in the first place, requesting permission to set out for Norway, as soon as the season permitted the navigation to that kingdom to take place; adding, in order the sooner to be indulged in his request, that his mother would be exceedingly uneasy if he did not return in a short time.

This being granted, as reasonable in itself, the diet adjourned.

As soon as Olaf was ready, he was accompanied on board his ship by the king, who, with many other precious things, presented him with a spear, and sword, highly finished with gold.

Olaf begged to be permitted to take the nurse with him to Iceland; but as the king did not seem to approve of her departure, the request was no longer urged.

Having got under sail, a favourable gale soon landed them in Norway. This voyage was highly celebrated. Having drawn their vessels ashore, and being furnished with horses, he and his companions immediately set out for the court of king Harald; at which they had no sooner arrived, than the king received him very graciously; Gunhilda conferred every mark of favour on him, and entreated him to reside some time at court. Olaf accepted the royal invitation, and continued to remain at court with his friend Orn. Never were such abundant honours conferred on any foreigner as on Olaf, who, in return, made pre-

Haraldr gaf Olafi at Iolum aull klædi af skarlati skorin.

Sitr Olafur nú kyrt um veturin, er áleid taka þeir konongr oc Olafur tal med fer, oc beiddi þa Olafur orlofs af konongi at fara út til Íslands um sumarit, á ec þángat at vitia gaufigra frænda fagdi hann.

Konongr svarar, þat væri mer nærri skapi at þú stædfestiz her med mer, oc tækir allan ráðakost slíkan, sem þú villt siálfr.

Olafur þackadi konongi allan þenna sóma, er hann baud honom, enn qvaz þo giarnan vilia fara til Íslands, ef þat væri egi imóti konongs vilia.

þa segir konongr : egi skal gera þer þetta óuin-ueitt Olafur ; fara skaltu til Íslands í sumar, þviat ec se þat at hugr þinn stendr til þess miöc, enn enga aunn ne starf skaltu hafa um búnat þin, skal ec þat annast. Efter þetta skildo þeir talit.

Haraldr konongr lætr framsetia skip um vorit, var þat knör, bædi mikill oc gódr

þat skip lætr konongr ferma vidi oc búa med aullom reidda, oc sem þat var buit, lætr konongr kalla Olaf oc mælti þetta skip skaltu eignaz Olafur, vil ec egi, at þú siglir af Norvegi þetta sumar, sva at þu fert annara farþegi.

Olafur þackadi konongi med faugrom ordom sína stórmenskó.

sents to the king and queen, of such different things as he had brought with him from Ireland.

At Christmas the king presented Olaf with a suit of purple-coloured cloaths.

This winter Olaf enjoyed all the sweets of rest; but at the return of spring, he requested, with the permission of his majesty, to visit Iceland the summer following, in order to have the pleasure of seeing and conversing with his noble relations.

The king replied, that he much wished that he should fix his residence in Norway, and turn his mind on whatever situation that should best suit his inclinations.

Olaf listened with respect, and acknowledged, in very becoming language, the deep sense he entertained of the royal bounty from time to time conferred on him; at the same time acquainting his majesty with the warmth of his wish to revisit his native land, if consistent with his majesty's pleasure.

Then, said the king, if you go to Iceland the ensuing summer, I shall act as an enemy: in the mean time I shall take care that nothing shall be wanting to facilitate your intended journey; after which his majesty withdrew.

In the spring a large vessel, by order of his majesty, was fitted out for the reception of Olaf, loaded with timber.

The king having requested the attendance of Olaf, in the course of conversation gave him to understand, that he intended to present him with the vessel as his own property, in order to prevent the necessity of his dependence on those that hired out vessels at his departure from Norway.

Olaf failed not, in the warmest language, to convey the sensible impressions this act of liberality made on his feelings.

Olaf

Efter þetta byr Olafr ferd sína, oc sem hann er búinn oc byri gaf, skilduz þeir Haraldr med hinom mesta kærleika.

Olafi byriadi vel um sumarit; hann com skipi síno i Hrúta fiörd á Bordeyri. Skipkoman spurðiz brádt oc huer stýrimadr er.

Höskuldr fagnar vel útkomo sunar síns, oc rídr þegar norðr til Hrúta fiardar, urdo þar fagnadar funder, oc bídr Höskuldr Olafi til sín, enn hann qvadz þat þiggia mundi. Olafr setr nú upp skipit, oc sem fiárlutr hans er fluttr nordan, rídr hann med XII menn á Höskuldsstadi.

Olafr vard frægr af ferd þessari, var þa kunnigt giört kynferdi hans, at hann var dottor sun Mirkiartans Ira konongs. Spyrz þetta um land oc þar med virðing fú er ríkir menn haufdo á hann lagt, þeir er han hafdi heim sókt.

Olafr hafdi oc mikit fe utan. Melkorka kom brádt á fund sunar síns oc fagnar hann henne vel oc blíðliga. Spyr hún nú margs af Írlandi, fyrst af födor sínom oc odrom frændom. Olafr segir slikt sem hún spyr.

Brádt spurði hún ef fostra hennar lifði, Olafr spyr hvi hún æfkti hennar, oc qvad hana lifa at vífo. Melkorka spyr því hann vildi egi veita henni þat efterlæti at flytia hana út til Íslands. Þá svaradi Olafr: egi fyftu menn þess moder, at ec flytia fostro þína af Írlandi. Sva má vera sagði hún, oc fanzt þat á at henni þókti þetta miög i móti skapi.

Olaf delayed not to equip himself; and being now ready, took leave of their majesties in the most affectionate manner.

Scarcely were they at sea, when a favourable gale swelled the sails, and bore them to the destined harbour. As soon as they arrived at Bordeyra in the frith of Hruta, the arrival of the ship, and the name of its commander, was soon spread abroad.

Hoskuld felt the highest pleasure, and hastened to see his son, in order to welcome and invite him, which, after mutual congratulations, Olaf accepted. As soon as the ship was unloaded and drawn ashore, the whole of the cargo was consigned to Hoskuld; after which Olaf repaired to his father's, with twelve of his companions.

This voyage placed Olaf high in the estimation of his country, who were highly pleased to partake in the honour of his being the son of an Irish princess. In consequence of this they listened with pleasure to the recital of all the marks of favour heaped on Olaf by the foreign princes whom he had visited.

Olaf had brought a great sum of money from abroad. Melkorka soon visited her son, and was not disappointed in the return of the warmest affection. Her next anxiety was to hear some news from Ireland.

Her first enquiry regarded her parents and relations; to all of which she had the pleasure of receiving satisfactory answers. She wished then to know if her nurse was alive. Having received an answer in the affirmative; and as his mother wished to know the reason why he did not bring her with him to Iceland, he satisfied her on that head, in acquainting her that her friends interfered on account of her age and weakness; notwithstanding he had urged the proposal.

þau Melkorka oc þorbiörn átto sun, er Lambi het, hann var vinfæll madr oc sterkr; líkr fauðr sínom yfirlits oc at skaplyndi.

Enn er Olafr hafði verit einn vetr a Íslandi, ræddo þeir fedgar um ráða giörðer sínar. þat vilda ec sagði Höskoldr at þer væri ráds leitad Olafr, oc tækir þú síðan vid búi foðra þíns at Godda-ftödom.

Olafr svarar: litt hefi ec hugleitt þetta her til, oc veit ec egi huar sú kona sitr, sem mer er happ i at fá, máttu sva til ætla at ec muni framarla áhorfa um kuanfangit, veit ec oc þat giör-la, at þú munt þetta egi hafa fyrr uppborit, enn þú hafer hugfat huar þetta skal nidr koma.

Höskoldr mælti; rett getr þú: madr er nefndr Egill Skallagrims sún, hann byr á Borg i Borgarfirdi, Eigill á dóttor þá er þorgerðr heiter, hennar ætla ec þer til handa at bidia, er koðtr fá allbestr i Borgarfirdi oc víðar, er þat oc værna at þer verdi efling at mægdum vid Mira menn.

Olafr svarar, þinni forsiá mun ec hlída her um, oc vel er at skapi þetta ráð ef vidgengiz, enn sva muntu ætla til, ef þetta ráð er uppborit oc gangiz egi efter, at mer muni illa þyckia.

Höskoldr svarar: til þefs manom ver ráða at bera þetta mál upp. Lidr nú til þings fram, Höskoldr bióz heiman oc fiölmenn-
ner

In the interval Melkorka had brought forth a son to Thorbiorn, named Lambi, who was not less famous in regard to his strength and activity, than to the close resemblance that he bore to his father in almost every respect, features, and character.

Olaf had been now about a year in Iceland, when his father addressed him thus: My son, of all things I wished to see you provided with an amiable consort, that would superintend your house at Goddastad, where your foster-father lives.

Olaf confessed that the subject in question had occupied very few of his thoughts, being as yet unacquainted with any that, in his opinion, could add to the happiness of the situation he then had the pleasure of feeling; yet such, however, was his will to be dictated to by so tender a father, that, delicate as the subject was, he had no objections to comply with his request, as he supposed the proposition did not come without an object in view.

In this Hofkuld assured him, that he was right, as he had fixed upon Thorgerda, the daughter of Egill Skallagrimson, residing at Borg, near the frith of Borga, one of the most accomplished beauties of the neighbourhood, connected in relationship with all the powerful inhabitants of Mira.

Olaf, on hearing this, submissively resigned the reins of government in this point into the hands of his father, in whom he placed an implicit confidence; at the same time hoping that, if it should once begin, he should be concerned if it failed of success.

Hofkuld replied, that he would try, at the approach of the next diet. Hofkuld, accompanied with his son Olaf, and a numerous

ner miöc, oc er Olafur sun hans i ferd med honom. Þá er Höskoldur kom til þings tialda menn búdir sínar. Þing var fiölmönt.

Eigill Skallagrims sun var á þingi. Allir menn haufdo at máli er Olafur fáo hve frídr madr hann var, oc vel búinn ad vopnom oc klædom.

Þat er sagt at þeir Höskoldur oc Olafur ganga einn dag frá búdom sínom til fundar vid Eigill. Hann fagnar þeim vel, því at þeir Höskoldur voro miöc mál-kunnuger.

Höskoldur vegr nú bonordit fyrer haund Olafs, oc bidr þorgerdar, hún var oc þar á þingino.

Egill tók þessö vel, qvaz hafa goda frett af þeim fedgom bádom, veit ec oc sagdi Egill, at þú ert ættstör madr oc mikils verdr, enn Olafur er frægr af ferd finni, er og egi kynligt, at flíkir menn ætli framarla til, því her skortir huerki ætt ne fridleika, enn þó skal þetta vid þorgerdi ræda; er þat einkis mans at fá hennar án vilia fins.

Höskoldur mælti: þá vil ec at þú rádir þetta vid þorgerdi dottor þína. Eigill qvad sva vera skyldi, geck hann þá til fundar vid hana oc toko þau tal saman.

Þá mælti Eigill. Madr heitir Olafur, oc er hann Höskoldson einn hinn frægasti madr. Höskoldur fadir hans hefir vakit bonord fyrer hans haund oc bedit þín, hefi ec því miöc vikit til þinna ráda: vil ec nú heyra þín svaur um þat, enn þó list ofs sem þessum málom se vel hendt at svara, þvíat þetta giáford er gavgugt.

Þorgerdur svarar; þat hefi ec heyrð þic mæla at þú unnir mer mest barna þinna, þyckir mer þú þat nú ófanna, er þú vilt
gipta

merous retinue, set out for the general assembly, which was exceedingly crowded.

Amongst others Egill Skallagrimson was there. The form and elegance of Olaf was the subject of universal admiration, together with his arms and dress.

One day it chanced that Olaf and Hoskuld walked from their tent to that of Egill, who received them very courteously, being well acquainted with Hoskuld.

After some conversation Hoskuld desired that Thorgerda might be promised to his son.

Egill politely answered, that he had the most perfect knowledge of the persons interested, not only of Hoskuld, whose noble descent was ornamented with the most conspicuous virtues, but also of Olaf, whose voyage and adventures had so highly distinguished him; on which account he was not in the least surprized at the application, the success of which entirely depended on the will of his daughter; for, notwithstanding nobility, wealth, and accomplishments, if she did not chuse to comply, she should never be impelled to marry against her own consent.

Hoskuld requested that he would communicate what had passed to his daughter, to which Egill consented.

Having imparted the whole to Thorgerda, setting forth at the same time the mental and personal excellence of Olaf; acquainting her, however, that the whole entirely depended upon her will, which he wished to know :

Thorgerda answered that she was well convinced of her father's affection; and that she wished at all times for the opportunity

gipta mic ambáttar fýni, þott hann se vænn oc mikill af-burðar-madr.

Egill svarar : egi erto um þetta iafn vitr fem um annat, hefir þú þat egi spurt at hann er dottor sun Mirkeartans konongs a Irlandi, oc er hann miclo betr borinn i modor kyn enn faudr ætt, oc væri ofs þat þo full bodit. Þorgerðr let ser þat egi skil-iaz. Skilia þau nu talit oc þyckir finn veg huerio.

Annan dag efter gengr Eigill til búdar Höskoldar, oc er honom vel fagnat, tóko þeir Höskoldr bádir tal faman oc spyr huernveg gengit hafi bonordit. Eigill let litt yfir, fagdi alt huernveg farit hafdi, oc qvad fastliga horfa. Egi var Olafr vid tal þetta. Ef-ter þat gengr Eigill á brott, oc frettir Olafr faudr finn huat lidi um bonordit.

Höskoldr qvad feinliga horfa af hennar hendi. Þa mælti Olafr. Nú er fem ec mælti fyrr fadir, at mer mundi illa líka ef ec fengi nockora fuivirding, oc reds þú meir enn ec at þetta væri uppborit, enn nú skal ec því ráða, at her skal egi lykta malit, er þat satt fem mælt er, at ulfr etr annars erinde; skal ec nú ganga til búdar Egills.

Höskoldr það hann því ráða.

Olafr var sva búinn at hann var i skarlats klædom þeim er Haraldr hafdi gefit honom, hann hafdi hialm gullrodin a höfði, oc sverd gullbúit i hendi er Mirkeartan hafdi gefit honom þat var allgodr gripr.

Nú gánga þeir Höskoldr oc Olafr til búdar Egils, gengr Höskoldr fpr enn Olafr þegar a efter. Egill fagnar þeim vel oc
setz

tunity of returning it; yet she could not conceive that the whole was any thing more than a mistake, as she did not believe that it was his inclinations to permit her to marry with the son of a slave, however gallant and handsome.

Egill said she did not consider this with her usual discrimination; otherwise she would have found that Olaf was son to the daughter of Mirkeartan, king of Ireland, still nobler on that side than on his father's, and of course superior to their own. Thorgerda said she could not comprehend the matter on which her father left her.

The next day Egill went to the tent of Hoskuld, where he was received with every mark of politeness; having told the event of his conversation with his daughter. Olaf was not present at this interview, and therefore, as soon as Egill had taken leave, he was anxious to know how matters went on.

Hoskuld only said she had some objections. Olaf rather felt himself hurt at this, as he construed it into an affront; he was, however, determined, as his father to whom he had wholly consigned the business was so unsuccessful, to pursue the matter himself; in compliance to the common saying, that the one wolf destroyed the other's interest, for which reason he should himself go to the tent of Egill.

To this Hoskuld said he had no objection.

Olaf dressed himself in a suit of scarlet, which he had received as a present from the king Harald. His head was covered with a gilded helm; and in his hand he had a sword highly finished with gold, which, being a gift of king Mirkeartan, was a weapon of great value.

Having repaired to the tent of Egill, Hoskuld entered first. Egill received them both with much politeness, and desired that they

fetz Höskoldr nidr hia honom, enn Olafr stóð upp oc litadiz um, hann fá huar kona fat á pallinom i búðinni, sú kona var væn oc stórmannlig oc vel búin. Vita þykez Olafr at sú muni þorgerdr vera dotter Egils. Hann gengr at pallinom oc fetz nidr hiá henne; hun heilsar honom oc spyr hver hann fe. Olafr fegir nafn sitt oc faudr fins; mun þer þyckia diarfr giöröz ambáttar funrinn, er han dyrfiz at sitia her, oc ætlar at tala vid þic.

Þorgerdr svarar. Þat muntu hugfa, at þú munir þyckiaz hafa gert meiri þoran oc raun enn tala vid conor. Síðan taca þau tal milli sín, oc tala þann dag allan heyra egi adrir men til þeirra. Enn er þau flito talit er til kalladr Egill oc Höskoldr, tókz þá upp bonords malit Olafs, oc var þat þa audsokt oc forofestur fram.

Var unt af metordi þeim Laxdælom þviat þeim skyldi heim færa konona. Var nú aqvedin brullaups stefna at Höskoldstodum at VII vikom sumars.

Efter þat skiliaz þeir Egill oc Höskoldr oc ríða þeir fedgar heim á Höskoldstade oc voro heima of sumarit, oc er alt kyrt.

Síðan var stofnat til brullaups a Höskoldstodum oc ecke tilsparat, er ærin voro efne.

Como bods-menn at áquedenne stefno, voro þeir Borgfirdingar all-fiölmenner, var þar Egill oc þorsteinn sun hans. Þar var oc brúdrin i faur oc mikit lid or odrom herodom.

they would sit down, to which Hofkuld assented; but Olaf having cast his eyes round the tent, saw a lady seated in a closet, whose elegance and beauty led him to take her for Thorgerda, in which he was not mistaken; and having entered the closet and sat down, the lady wished to know his name, which he told her in an instant; adding withal that of his father; confessing that he conceived that she would take it very daring in him to sit down in the manner in which he had done, as being in her opinion only the son of a slave.

She answered, that he had given such extraordinary proofs of courage as never fail to attract the attention of her sex, on which she complimented him, which brought on a conversation that lasted a considerable time; at the conclusion of which Höskuld and Egill were called upon, in whose presence the courtship was renewed at large, graced with the richest viands. This brought on the wished-for betrothing.

It was at length agreed that the bride should be brought to the Laxdálmen, in order that the nuptial feast should be celebrated at Höskoldstad in the course of seven weeks after the present summer.

This being concluded on, Hofkuld took leave of Egill, and returned with his son to their own house, in which they passed the summer, without the occurrence of any thing worthy of recording.

In the mean time every attention was paid to the nuptial feast, which was furnished with every necessary.

At the appointed time the Borgfiord men assembled in numbers in order to attend Egill, his son Thorstein, and the bride. The inhabitants of other countries likewise joined in the suite.

Höskoldr hafde oc fiölmenn fyrer. Var veitzlan all skau-rogilig oc menn med giaufom á brott leiddur. Þá gaf Olafur Egli fuerdit Myrkiartanfnaut, oc varð Egill all lett brynn vid göfina.

Nockoro ofar enn Höskoldstader ero fyrer nordan Laxá, var hauggved riódr i skogenom oc var þar nálíga til grafs at ganga, só þar safnadez saman fe Olafs, hvart sem vedr voro betri edr verre.

Þat var a einu haufte at á því sama holte let Olafur bæ reifa af vidom þeim er þar voro hauggner i skogenom enn sumt hafdi hann af reka straundom þesse bæar var reifuligr; húsin voro aud um vetrinn.

Um voret fór Olafur þangat bygdom; hann let ádr saman reka fe sitt oc var þat mikill fiauldi ordinn, því enginn madr var þá audigre af quikfe í aullom Breidafirde. Olafur sendir nú faudur sínom bod, at hann stæde úte oc sæe ferd hans þá er hann fór a þenna hin nya bólstad, oc hefde ord heill fyrer.

Höskoldr qvad sva vera skyldi Olafur skipar nú til, lætr fyrst reka faudfe, þá bú-smala og sidan klifia hrofs. Sva var skipat mönnum at med fe þessu at þat skyldi engan krók rísta. Var þá ferdar broddrinn comenn á Goddaftaudom.

Höskoldr stóð úte med heima menn sína oc mælte at Olafur fun hans skyldi vel kominn, oc med tíma á þenna nya bólstad oc nær er þat mino hugbodi sagde hann at þat gángiz efter at nafn hans verði lengi uppe.

Hofkuld had also invited many; the entertainment in every respect was superb, and ended to the satisfaction of every guest, who were dignified by presents. Olaf presented Egill with the sword which he had received from Mirkeartan his grandfather, king of Ireland; on which Egill seemed to place a due value.

On the Northern side of Laxa, somewhat higher than Hofkuldstad, and opposite to it, a place was prepared in the road, which being covered with fine grass, attracted the cattle belonging to Olaf; especially in warm weather, as it served for a shade.

Some time in the autumn, it chanced that Olaf gave orders to raise houses on the hill of the trees cut out of this delightful spot, together with the wood driven on shore; to which he removed as soon as completed.

The spring following, for this purpose, he collected all his cattle, which were very numerous, being possessed of more than any other in the country of Breidfirth. When all was prepared, a message was sent to his father, requesting that he would inspect his son's removal to his intended mansion, and grant him his benediction.

Hofkuld readily complied with this request, on which Olaf gave orders first to drive the sheep, then the horses, laden with burthens, the whole to be conducted under the superintendance of his servants; by which means the rear had reached the new abode, by the time the master had left his former residence at Goddestad.

Hofkuld, with his family, saw the whole procession, and, welcoming his son with the best wishes, gave it as his opinion that the name of Olaf should be everlasting.

Þat var iafn skiótt at húskarlar haufdo ofan tekit klifjar af hrossum at Olafr reid i gard. Hann tók til orða. Nú skal mönnum skeita forvitne í því er iafnan hefir verit um rædt i vetr hvat bær fea skal heita, hann skal kallaz Hiardar holt.

Höfkoldr Dala kolls sun tók fott i Elli finne hann fendi þá epter sunom finom oc ödrom frændom, oc er þeir komo ræddi hann vid þá sono sina þorleik oc Bard, oc qvadz hafa fengit þyngsle nockor, hefir mer egi verit sótthætt, oc því hygg ec at þessi muni leida mic til bana; erot þer bádir skil-getner fem aulom er kunnigt, enn fá er sun minn hinn þridi er egi er ódalborinn. Nú vil ec bidia ydr brædor, at Olafr se leiddr til arfs oc take se at þridongi vid ydr. Bardr svarar fyrr at hann muni þetta gera, efter því sem fadir hans villde, vænte ec mer soma i alla stade, oc því helldr sem hann er se rikare. Þá mælte þorleikr: fiærre er þat minom vilia at Olafr se arfgengr gerr, hefir hann aud fiár oc þú fader marga lute þar til gefna, oc lengi mis-iafnat med ofs brædrom; mun ec egi uppgefa þann sóma at siálfs villd er ec em til borinn.

Höfkoldr mælti egi munto ræna mik laugom, at ec gefa XII aura fyne minom, so stór-ættadr sem hann er í modor ætt. þorleikr iátar því. Sidan let Höfkoldr taka gull bringenn Háconar naut, hann vo mörk gulls, oc sverdit kónongs naut, er tilkom half mörk gulls oc gaf Olase fyne finom oc þar med giftu sína oc þeirra frænda, oc qvadz þo þarfyrer egi þettat mæla, at egi vissi hann at hún hefði ádr hiá honom stadar numit.

Olafr tekr vid giöfenne, líkadi þorlecki þat illa oc virdte sem Höfkoldr hefde haft under-mál vid sic. Olafr mælte: egi mun

As soon as the horses were unloaded Olaf arrived, and told the assembled people, that the village which the past winter had been the occasion of so much curiosity, should be called Hiar-dar-holt.

Hoskuld Dalla-karlson at length fell into sickness, the natural consequence of his very advanced age; he therefore called his sons, Thorleik and Bard, and telling them his situation, as they were known and acknowledged to be his heirs apparent, he trusted they had no objection to the admission of Olaf, his natural son, to partake of a third part of his property: Bard immediately answered, that his father's will in that point should be obeyed, as he was sure of every mark of paternal affection from Olaf, especially as he was wealthier; yet Thorleik did not assent to this, as Olaf was already a man of great fortune, whereof much flowed from the liberality of their father, which had often been in that line, to the disadvantage of his legitimate children.

Hoskuld on this asked of Thorleik, if he intended to oppose the right of his father to dispose of a twelfth part of his goods to his son whose mother's kindred were of such acknowledged eminence; which, as Thorleik acknowledged, induced Hoskuld to give orders to produce the gold ring he had accepted of king Hacon, weighing eight ounces, together with the royal sword, worth half a mark of gold, both of which he presented to Olaf, together with the paternal blessing, which should make him as happy as his ancestors had been.

Olaf received those presents, envied by Thorleik, to whom it seemed as if his father Hoskuld had not acted in a fair man-

mun ec giöfina laufa láta, med því þú leifdir med vottom, oc mun ec til hætta hvort ec fæ halldet.

Bardr qvaz vilia sam-þyckia rádi faudr fins.

Efter þetta andadiz Höskoldr, þókti aullom þat mikill skadi.

Syner hans leto verpa haug virduligan efter han sem þa var tídska i þa mund. Litit fe var lagt í haug hiá honom.

Sem þessö var lokit, taka þeir brædr tal, at þeir muno erfi gera efter faudr sin. þá mælti Olafr. þat litz mer, at egi megi fva fliótt at þeirri veitzlo snúa, ef hún skal so virdolik sem ofs þycki foma, er nú alidit haufit, oc þeir menn fiar-læger er ver helst vildom sækti bodit, mun ec því til biódaz i sumar á þingi at bidia mönnom til bods þessa, oc leggja at þridongi kostnat til. þeir brædr iáta þessö.

þat var einn dag um sumarit efter a álþingi, at menn gengo til lögbergis, stóð Olafr þá upp oc qvedr fer hlióds.

Hann feger þá mönnom fyrst frá fall faudr síns: ero her margir vinir hans oc frændr. Er þat vili brædra minna at ec biódi ydr til erfis efter faudr vorn, fyrst aullom godords maunom, skal oc því lyfa at engin þeirra skal giafa laus a brott fara, oc þar næst bændom, oc huerom audrom er þiggja vill, sælum oc vesælom. Skal sækia veitzlo á Höskoldstaudom þa er x vicor ero til vetrar.

ner; on which he said, that whereas Thorleik had, in presence of witnesses, permitted the transfer of those things, he would put the possession of them to a trial.

Bard said, that his father's actions met with his entire approbation.

Soon after Hoskuld expired, which was reckoned the greatest misfortune.

His sons erected a magnificent barrow to his memory, according to the custom which prevailed at the time, depositing therein but a small sum of money.

This being done, they consulted about the funeral feast; Olaf said he did not see any possibility how the funeral feast could be celebrated with all due honours so soon as the rest seemed to wish; the year was very far advanced, and their friends at a distance; if they would therefore defer it till the next summer, he offered to take upon himself the one third of the expences, and to invite all such as should be deemed proper to attend at the next general diet: to which his brothers readily agreed.

One of the days of the general diet, when the assembly were most numerous at the Law-hill, Olaf arose and requested their attention.

On this he recited the death of his father, and in the end invited his friends and relations to partake of the funeral feast; the chiefs were first invited, to whom he promised presents at large, the freeholders next, nay every one, rich as well as poor, who would be pleased to attend. The festival was appointed at Hoskuldstad, ten weeks for the beginning of the winter.

When

Oc þá er Olafr lauk sínu máli var góðr rómr at því ger, oc þótti erendet hit skauroligazta.

Þá er Olafr com heim til búdar, sagdi hann bræðrom sínom þessa tilætlan, enn þeim fanz fátt um oc þokti ærit mikit viðhaft.

Þat er sagt at flestir kæmi virdinga menn til veitzlunnar er heitit haufdo, var þat sva mikit fialmenni, at þat er saugn flestra manna at egi skorti DCCCC.

Þessi hefir onnor fialmennoz veizla verit á Islandi enn sú er Hialta fyner gerdo efter faudr sinn; þar voro MCC manna.

Þessi veizla var hin skauroligazta at aullo oc fengo þeir bræðr mikin sóma. Olafr var mest fyrermadr, geck hann móte við þá báda um fe giafer: var þar fe gefit aullom virdinga maunnom.

Oc er flestir menn voro brottfarner, víkr Olafr til móts við þorleik brodr sinn oc mælti. Sva er frændi, sem ofs er kunngigt, at med ofs hefir verit ecki margt brodorligt elskumerke, vil ec til þess mæla at ver betrim frændfeme ockra, veit ec at þer mislíkar at ec tók við gripunom er fadir minn gaf mer a deyanda degi. Nú ef þú þyckist af þessu vanhalldinn, þá vil ec þat vinna til heils hugar þins, at fostra sun þin; er sá kalladr minne madr er öðrom fostrar barn.

Þorleikr tekr þessu vel, oc skiliaz þeir nú med hinom mesta kærleik.

When Olaf had done, a general applause took place, and an invitation so liberal met with that encomium which it so highly deserved.

Olaf, on his return to his tent, told his brothers what he had done, who did not seem to approve of it, as they gave him to understand that it far exceeded their income.

It is related the nobility attended, and that the guests were not less than nine hundred.

This festival has been second to none in Iceland, save that given by the sons of Healta in honour of their father; twelve hundred persons are said to have assisted at it.

The banquet abounded with every thing in the greatest abundance, and reflected much praise on the noble hosts. Olaf was considered as the first man, which he deserved, as he took on him the one half of the expences and presents which were given to the nobles.

When the greater part of the company had retired, Olaf accosted his brother Thorleik, and said, You know, brother, that to the present time few marks of friendship have been mutual between us, this I beseech you to endeavour to amend in future; being acquainted with your displeasure, on account of accepting the presents given to me by our dying father, yet if you think yourself injured therein, I offer in return to educate your eldest son, though you will know that he that educates the child of another, is considered as his inferior.

Thorleik accepted of this, and took the most friendly leave of his brother.

Olafr oc þorgerdr átto sun. Sa sveinn var vatni auðinn oc nafn gefit oc kalladr Keartan, efter Mirkeartan, modorfauðr Olafs.

Enn átto þau fleiri baurn son þeirra annar het Steinþor, Halldor þridi, Helgi fiordi, Höskoldr enn fimti: Bergþora oc þorbiörg heto dætor þeirra. Aull voro baurn þeirra hin mann-vænligu.

The first son Olaf had by Thorgerda was baptised by the name of Kertan, in memory of Mirkeartan, grandfather to Olaf.

They had more children, the sons were Sternther, Haldor, Helgi, and Hofkuld; and the daughters were Bergthora, and Thorbiorg; they were all children of great hopes.

TWO SHORT

ACCOUNTS OF DISCOVERIES

MADE BY THE

ICELANDIC NAVIGATORS

IN THE NINTH CENTURY.

Q

T A O H S O W T
E Y R B Y G G I A, C A P. C X I I.

GUDLEIFR het madr hann var sun Gudlaugs Audga or Straumsfirdi, enn brodir þorfinns er Sturlungar ero frakomnir. Gudleifr var farmadr mikill, hann átte knör mikin. Þat var ofarlíga a daugom Olafs hins Helga at Gudleifr haufdi kaupferd til Dyflinar, enn er hann siglde vestan oc ætladi til Íslands, siglde hann fyrer vestan Írland, hann feck austan vedr oc landnyrdinga oc rak þá langt vestr i haf oc utfudr, þo þeir vissi ecki til landa. Þar kom at, at þeir urdo varir vid land, enn egi vissu þeir hvat land þat var. Þeir sigldo at lande, þvíat þeim leiddiz hafs megne oc fengo haufn góða. Efter skamma stund komo menn til fundar vid þá. Þeir kendo þar engan mann enn helst þokto þeir þeim Írsko mæla. Skiótt kom þar fiául-menni sva mikit at skipte maurgom hundrodum. Þessir menn veitto þeim atgaungo oc toko þá haundom oc voro þeir i baund keyrdir oc rekner a land upp til móts. Her vildo sumer at þær væro drepner enn adrir, at þeim væri med þeim skipt, oc þiádir. Oc sem þetta var kiært fiá þeir hvar reid flockr manna til þeirra, var i flockinom borit merki. Under merkino fiá þeir er flockinn bar at, ríða mann mikin oc garp-ligan; sa var á efra alldri, hann var hvitr af hærom, allir hneygdo þessom manni oc faugnodo honom, oc var til hans skotit aullom atquædom um málit. Sá aldradi madr sendi þegar efter þeim Gudleifi oc spurdi margs af Íslandi.

I ödrom

GUDLEKUR, son to Gudlaug the wealthy, of Straumfirth, and brother to Thorfin, from whom the Sturlings, the first nobility in Iceland, have descended, was a famous failor, and commanded his own veffel. Toward the clofe of the reign of the king St. Olaf, it happened that Gudleif, according to custom, failed for Dublin; but, as he returned, directing his courfe along the western coaft of Ireland, in order to proceed for Iceland, he met with heavy gales from the eaft and north, which drove him far into the western ocean toward the fouth-west, entirely out of the fight of land. At length they perceived land, but not being able to ascertain it, they determined at all events to approach it, as they were exceedingly fatigued with the fea. Having at length attained a commodious harbour, they anchored in it. The inhabitants foon after came to them. The Icelanders knew nobody, nor did they underftand their language, though it feemed to border on the Irish. In a fhort time feveral hundreds affembled; and having infulted the ftrangers, and having made prifoners of them, conveyed them handcuffed into the country. Here fome thought it expedient that they fhould be killed; but others gave it as their opinion, that they fhould be divided amongst the inhabitants as flaves. Occupied in this confultation, a large body of horfemen appeared, under a con-

fpicuous

I öðrom stad kaullodo landsmenn at ráð nockort væri gert fyrer skipföfninne. Hinn mikle madrinn geck þa brott, oc nefndi med fer XII af sínom maunnom, fátu þeir langa hríd a einmæle, ganga sídan til fundarins oc tók fa mikle madr til orda. Ver landsmenn haufom talat um hagi ydra, og hafa þeir gefit mál ydar á mitt valld, enn nú vil ec gefa ydr faraleifi, þangat sem þer vilit; ræd ec ydr at leita hedan, því fólkít er ótrútt, oc illt vidr eignar, enn þycker brotin laug a fer, er landit oc vidt en illt til hafna, oc ráðinn úfridr hver vetna útlendom maunnom.

EX LANDNAMA.

SON Mars a Reikholum oc þorkautlo dottr Hergils Hrapps fúnar var Ari. Hann vard Sæhæfi til Hvitra manna lands. Þat kalla sumir Irland hid mikla. Liggr þat vestr i Hafi nær Vinlandi hino goda. Þat er kaullud sex dægra figling vestr fra Irlandi.

spicuous standard, under which, as they approached, they saw a man of an elegant form, though somewhat in years; his temples were shaded with locks of venerable white: the whole assembly paid him homage, and with one accord submitted the whole of the decision to his opinion. The old man, on this sent for Gurdleif and his companions, whom he asked in Norse, after comparing them, who they might be? The most part being natives of Iceland, afforded him an opportunity to enquire for many things relative to that country. The people called out impatiently for the final decision. The old man, observing this, left the assembly, and took with him twelve men, with whom he held a long conversation, which being over they returned. The sage then said, addressing himself to the strangers, We the inhabitants of this country have had an interview about your affairs; but, as they have been submitted to me, I give you leave to go where you please, and at the same time advise you as soon as possible to get under sail, on account of the little confidence that is to be placed in the faith of this people on this head, who deem their law to be infringed; added to this, the harbours are scarce, and strangers are liable to be treated as enemies.

From the Book called LANDNAMMA.

ARI was the son of Mar, of Reikholar, and Thorkatla daughter of Hergils Hrappson. He was cast on the shore of the Whitemen's land, which others call the Great Ireland. It is situated in the Western ocean, near the good Vinland. Here

R

Ari,

landi. Þáðan náði Ari egi brott at fara oc var þar skyrdr. Fra þeſſo ſagdi firſtr Raſn Hlimreks fari, er lengi hafdi verit i Hlimreka a Irlandi. Sva kuad þorkell Geitiffon ſegia Iſlendſka menn þa er heyrte haufdo ſegia þorſinn iarl of Orkneyum at Ari hafdi kendr verit a Hvittra manna landi, oc náði egi brott at fara. Enn var þar vel virdr.

from the Book called F. A. N. D. N. A. M. A.
 A. R. I. was the son of Mar, of Reikholar, and Thorkella
 daughter of Herg, of Herg. He was call on the throne of
 the Wickens' land, which is call the Great Ireland. It is
 thence in the Western world, near the good Vinland. Here
 Att.

Ari, not being permitted to return, was detained and baptised. This was first related by Rafn, the Limerick merchant, who had resided many years in Limerick; and, besides this, Thorkil Geetson said he had heard several Icelanders relate the same, who had been present when Thorfin earl of Orkneys asserted that Ari had been seen in the Whitemen's land; and although he did not get leave to return, he had been very much esteemed.

COLLECTION BY R. BOOTH

CONCERNING THE

ORKNEY ISLANDS

A COL-

Ari, not being permitted to return, was detained and applied.
 This was first returned by John, the Finnish merchant, who
 had resided many years in America; and besides this, Frank
 Getton said he had heard several testimonies relative to the same,
 who had been present when Francis and of Orkney, asserted
 that Ari had been seen in the Whitehead's band; and although
 he did not get leave to return, he had been very much
 esteemed.

A

COLLECTION OF RECORDS

CONCERNING THE

ORKNEY ISLANDS.

S

A
COLLECTION OF RECORDS

CONCERNING THE

ORKNEY ISLANDS

C I R C A 1319.

REVERENDO in Christo patri & Domino suo, Domino Elawo, Dei gratiâ archiepiscopo Nidrosiensi, sui humiles & devoti Cormacus archidiaconus Sodorensis, & Grimarus suæ ecclesiæ Nidrosiensis præbendarius, salutem & omnem reverentiam tam debitam quam devotam. Quoniam uterque peccat, qui veritatem occultat, & mendacium profert, quia hic prodesse non vult, & alius nocere desiderat; idcirco testimonium veritati perhibere volentes, paternitati vestræ reverendæ significamus, quod cum nos, ex commissione mandati vestri, in officio visitationis ad diocesim Orchadensem circa festum Sancti Michaelis accessimus apud Cirkevan, & porrectâ ac ostensâ commissione mandati vestri, venerabili patri, ejusdem loci episcopo, in ecclesia sua cathedrali, coram suo capitulo, nos ad executionem officii nobis injuncti satis gratiose & obedienter admisit, & in omnibus necessariis, ob vestræ paternitatis reverentiam humaniter & benigne pertractavit; officioque visitationis per totam Orchadiam per nos plenius peracto & discusso, defectus quos invenimus in ecclesiis ibidem, magis remissitudinem & negligentiam prædecessorum suorum, quam suam, ut ad plenum intelleximus, existentes, cum tot & tales defectus infra breve tempus, licet proposse suo nisus fuerit, eos reparare non sufficit. Promisit tamen nobis, fide mediâ, coram domino Magno comite Orchadiæ, & Cathaniæ, & Caterina,

Caterina, sponfa ejusdem, capituloqve suo, ac multis aliis fide dignis, dictos defectus infra [breve] tempus emendare; assignavitqve ad hoc certam portionem reddituum fuorum, prout unicuique ecclesie opus fuerit, & sibi & capitulo suo visum fuerit oportunum, quoad usqve dicti defectus plene fuerint emendati. Præterea quia quædam sinistra de persona dicti domini episcopi paternitati vestræ fuerunt suggesta, super quibus nobis specialiter inquirere præcepistis, habita super hiis fidei & diligenti inquisitione & examinatione, tam per archidiaconum suum & canonicos, quam vicarios ecclesie, corporali sacramento interposito, invenimus prædicta suggesta omnino esse falsa & inania, & magis ex iniquitatis & odii fomite quam radice veritatis processisse; maxime quoad incontinentiam, dicto domino episcopo impositam, prædicti archidiaconus, canonici, & vicarii, per sua juramenta specialiter deposuerunt, se nunquam scivisse, vidisse aut intellexisse, seu per modum aliqualem probabilem, vel alicujus suspitionis similitudinem perpendisse aut percepisse hujusmodi contra præfatum dominum suum episcopum, postquam fuit in episcopum consecratus; sed potius se credere & scire hujusmodi penitus esse falsa, & ab æmulis & malevolis, si quæ dicta sunt, ortum habuisse. Unde ad innocentie puritatem declarandam, & detrahentium versutiam comprimendam, quatenus facultas nobis adeo data est, inquirendi & investigandi super præmissis, paternitati vestræ veritatem patefacimus per præsentem litteras, sigillis nostris consignatas. Datum, &c.

Transcriptum

Transcriptum super sententiis Domini Archiepiscopi contra
Orchadensem Episcopum.

MCCCXX.

UNIVERSIS Christi fidelibus, præsentibus literas inspecturis, Audfinnus Dei gratiâ episcopus Bergensis, nec non capitulum & canonici ecclesiæ memoratæ, salutem in domino sempiternam. Noveritis, quod anno Domini mcccxx, in octavo beati Olavi regis & martyris, in consistorio curiæ Bergensis, præsentibus fuimus, audivimus, ac diligenter ascultavimus, cum dominus Grimarus Ormeri legit coram domino Vellelmo, Dei gratia, episcopo Orkadensi, tres literas venerabilis in Christo patris ac domini nostri, domini Elawi, permissione divinâ, Nidrosiensis archiepiscopi, sigillo suo consignatas; quarum tenor de verbo ad verbum talis extat:

IN nomine Domini, Amen. Cum nos Elawus, Dei gratiâ, Nidrosiensis archiepiscopus, dudum valido nostris auribus deferente clamore, vos dominum Vellelmum episcopum Orkadensem, per totam nostram dioecesim enormiter intellexerimus infamatum, idcirco nos ex officii nostri debito scire volentes, si dictus clamor opere sit completus, ad ipsam vestram ecclesiam & dioecesim per viros discretos, dominum Cormacum archidiaconum Sodorensem & Grimarum, ecclesiæ nostræ præbendarium, a nobis plenariam optinentes potestatem, descendimus visitandam. Qui quidem nostri nuncii, visitatores, & inquisitores in hoc negotio per nos com-

T

miffum

missum sibi legationis & visitationis effectum, diligenter per processus legitimos & formam debitam exsequentes, invenerunt vos, frater episcopo, non solum bona episcopalia, per prædiorum alienationes & infeudationes adeo dilapidasse, ac etiam distraxisse, quod ipsa ecclesia cathedralis & curia episcopalis in ipsis ædificiis pro magna parte corrutis, de reliquo subitam minatur ruinam, verum etiam omnium quasi aliarum ecclesiarum redditus & proventus, ad rectorum earundem sustentationem & ædificiorum reparationem pertinentes, vestris inordinatis usibus in tantum applicasse, quod cultus divinus deperit, honestas præ expensarum penuria negligitur, clericalis & cleri pariter & populi caritas & devotio contabescit. Invenerunt vos insuper, tanquam canonum contemptorem, beneficia nulla canonice contulisse, sed personas diversas, videlicet alienigenas, vagabundos, ac etiam diversarum religionum apostatas, ad terminum limitatum annorum vel mensium instituisse, in eisdem: certa vobis pensione vel pecuniæ quantitate de eorum quolibet reservatâ; ac etiam subditorum appellationibus rite interjectis, injuriose, non deferre; vosque personaliter, pontificali dignitate & debita morum gravitate neglecta, aucupiis & clamosis venationibus, ac hujusmodi levitatibus, ut de aliis taceamus, tanta vos frequentia occupatis, quod ecclesiarum regimini & pastoralis curæ sollicitudini, sic dissolute vivendo, nichil vel parum intenditis, subditos vestros, ydolatras, veneficos, hæreticos, ac etiam alios criminosos malè viventes, & clavium contemptores, in nullo penitus corrigendo; sed in vestris expensis & familia, excommunicationis sententia manifestè ligatos detinentes. Cum igitur hæc, & hiis similia, animarum saluti plurimum adversentur, scandalum generent manifestum, & divinam provocent offensam, si eis obviatum non fuerit remediis opportunis; idcirco nos, Orchadensis ecclesiæ indempnitatibus, ex officii

officii nostri debito providere cupientes; ne per vestram dilapidationem bonorum suorum jacturam & dampna sustineat ampliora, auctoritate Metropolitana a bonorum administratione sententialiter vos suspendimus in hiis scriptis, quoad alios vestros excessus correctione nobis debitâ reservatâ; fraternitatem insuper vestram caritative requirimus, & paternis affectibus exhortamur, in virtute sanctæ obedientiæ vobis firmiter demandantes, quatinus excessus vestros & processus improvidos, emendatione debitâ corrigatis. Lecta & lata est hæc sententia, ipso domino episcopo præsentem, ac sæpius prius ammonito, & tunc specialiter ad ipsam sententiam audiendam legitimè citato xvi kal. Augusti, in confessorio curiæ nostræ Bergis, anno Domini mcccxx.

Ad evidentiam majorem collationis factæ ad ipsa originalia cum præsentem transcripto, sigilla nostra episcopi & capituli prædictorum præsentibus sunt appensa. Datum viii idus Augusti, loco & tempore supradictis.

Litera de collecta denarii Beati Petri.

MCCCXX.

UNIVERSIS præsens scriptum cernentibus, Villealmus Orkandensis, Audfinnus Bergensis, Haqvinus Stafwangrensis, Hallwardus Hamarensis, Dei gratiâ episcopi, salutem in Domino sempiternam. Noverint universi, quod anno Domini mcccxx, die septimo mensis Julii, Bergis in camera venerabilis in Christo patris ac Domini, domini Elawi Dei gratiâ archiepiscopi Nidrosiensis,

fiensis, sedis apostolicæ nuncii, ac denarii Beati Petri per Nidrosiensem provinciam generalis collectoris, nobis præsentibus & specialiter ad hoc vocatis & rogatis, infra scriptam pecuniæ summam ostendebat: quam ipse, ut dicebat, post susceptum mandatum apostolicum, per civitates & dioc' Nidrosiensis provinciæ, in diversis monetis cupreis, retroactis temporibus, usque ad annum Domini & diem prænotatos inclusive, pro denario sive censu Beati Petri collectam invenit, ac ipse postmodum eadem auctoritate collegit & levavit, ac in purum argentum fideliter commutavit; quod ipse statim in præsentia nostra, ut præmittitur, fecit diligenter ponderari ad summam quadringentarum septuaginta octo marcarum, & quatuor solidorum bonorum & legalium steringorum communis & consueti ponderis Noricani promittens bona fide, quod antedictam pecuniæ summam nomine sedis apostolicæ, secundum formam mandati apostolici faceret in tuto & securo loco fideliter custodiri, donec mandatum sedis apostolicæ receperit quid & qualiter de eadem duxerit ordinandum. In cujus rei testimonium sigilla nostra præsentibus sunt appensa. Actum & datum loco & tempore prænotatis.

MCCCXXII.

NOTA. QVOD anno Domini mcccxxii, tertio non. Martii, dimisimus à nobis & nostra jurisdictione, Thorkillum & Herbrandum, ad eorum supplicationem, propter causam in eorum literis dimissoriis contentam; quod eis annuimus in præsentia dominorum Borghari & Haqvini canonicorum nostrorum, Johannis Suænonis, fratris Stullonis, cum pluribus aliis fide dignis.

UNIVERSIS

UNIVERSIS Christi fidelibus præfentes literas vifuris vel audituris, Elawus miferatione divina, Nidrosiensis ecclesiæ archiepiscopus, salutem in Domino Jesu Christo. Noveritis nos discreto viro Thorkillo, Bergensis ecclesiæ clerico, ecclesiam quæ dicitur þuæita þing, Orchadensis diocesis, ad nostram donationem, ex statuto concilii generalis, pervenerabilis fratris, Domini. Orchadensis episcopi negligentiam devolutam, auctoritate Metropolitanicâ, cum omnibus suis pertinentiis, habitis & habendis, canonicè contulisse, perpetuis temporibus liberè possidendam. In cujus rei testimonium sigillum nostrum præsentibus est appensum. Datum Nidrosiæ, kalendis Septembris, anno Domini MCCCXXI, consecrationis vero nostræ anno XI.

Litera vero Herbrandi, quæ sequitur, abbreviatur, quia ejusdem tenoris est cum præcedenti, exceptis locis & propriis nominibus, ut per eam, quæ sequitur, satis patet.

Universis, &c. Elawus miferatione divina, &c. Noveritis nos discreto viro, Herbrando, Bergensis ecclesiæ clerico, ecclesiam de Raudar þing, Orchadensis diocesis, ad nostram donationem, ex statuto concilii, &c. Datum, &c. Sicut prius.

Litera dimissoria.

MCCCXXII.

VENERABILI in Christo fratri & Domino, Domino Vilelmo, Dei gratiâ episcopo Orchadensi, Audfinnus eadem gratia episcopus Bergensis, salutem & fraternam in Domino caritatem. Accedens

cedens ad præsentiam nostram Thorkillus Hanewi, quem ad præsentationem venerabilis in Christo patris ac Domini nostri, Domini Elawi miseratione divina Nidrosiensis ecclesiæ archiepiscopi, ad diaconatus & presbiteratus ordines, statutis à canone temporibus, promovimus, nobis intimavit, quod cum eidem Dominus archiepiscopus memoratus ecclesiam in Hiatlandia vestræ diocesis, quæ þvæíta þing dicitur, ad ipsius archiepiscopi collationem, ex statuto generalis concilii, prout patet in literis super hoc confectis, devolutam, auctoritate Metropolitica canonice contulerit, perpetuis temporibus possidendam. Verum quia beneficium hujusmodi personalem requirit residentiam, nobis Thorkillus antedictus humiliter supplicavit, ut ipsum à nostra jurisdictione absolveremus, dandi sibi liberam licentiam in beneficio ei sic collato residere. Quare vestram in Domino fraternitatem exoramus, quatinus presbiterum prælibatum, cum ad diocesim vestram venire ac in corporalem mitti possessionem dicti beneficii contigerit, intuitu nostri benignè recipiatis; nullam eidem ab aliquo injuriam aut gravamen inferri permittentes; scituri pro certo eundem præbiterum à nobis cum bonâ licentia absolutum recessisse. In cujus rei testimonium sigillum nostrum præsentibus est appensum. Datum Bergis VIII idus Aprilis, anno Domini MCCCXXII.

MCCCXXII.

ELAWS miseratione divina Nidrosiensis archiepiscopus, venerabili fratri, Domino Audfinno eadem gratiâ episcopo Bergensi, salutem in Domino sempiternam. Quoniam discreti viri, Domini Ingebertus canonicus Orchadensis, & Grimarus, ecclesiæ nostræ præbendarius,

præbendarius, super caufarum cognitionibus & terminationibus, ac etiam negotiorum executionibus, pro quibus eos ad episcopatum Orchadensem, auctoritate Metropolitica, destinavimus, minus discretam, variam ac etiam singularem & divisam, nobis relationem fecerant, nos, de ipsorum actis & processibus legitime certiorari volentes, auctoritate vobis præsentium committimus vices nostras, ad exigendam etiam cum debita coercione, si necesse fuerit, & recipiendam, super processibus quibuscumque; virtute nostrarum commissionum per eos in Orchadia factis & habitis, rationem & relationem canonicam & fidelem; præcipue super hiis, quæ nostros processus contra Dominum episcopum Orchadensem habitos, & jura tangunt sedis apostolicæ, & ipsius ecclesiæ Orchadensis, ferendis in eos sententiis, si oportebit, pro eorum excessibus, negligentis vel aliis forefactis, nobis, una cum negotio principali, specialiter reservatis. Datum Nidrosiæ, septimo kal. Aprilis, Anno Domini MCCCXXII.

MCCCXXIV.

ELAWS Dei gratiâ archiepiscopus Nidrosiensis, venerabili in Christo fratri, Domino Vellelmo, episcopo Orchadensi, salutem in Domino. Quia cum bonæ memoriæ Domina Raghnauldis, uxor discreti viri, Domini Raghnnaldi Aflaci, dudum in præsentia nostra, cum adhuc omnimoda gauderet corporis sospitate ac prædicto Domino Raghnnaldo præfente & consentiente, sibi in ecclesia nostra Nidrosiensi solempniter locum elegit sepulturæ, sicut in literis super hoc confectis clarius continetur, & sic[ut] intelleximus, illud idem in ultimis suis in Orchadia innovavit, non suffi-

cimus

cimus admirari, quâ temeritate præsumitis funus prædictæ Domini Raghnnaldis, contra prædicti Domini Raghnnaldi requisitionem, detinere; qui se paratum offerebat, illud ad ecclesiam nostram Nidrosiensem cum honore transportare; in nostrum & ecclesiæ nostræ cui fidelitatem tenemini ex præstito juramento, præjudicium non modicum, ac sæpedicti Raghnnwaldi dampnum evidens & gravamen, non advertentes, quod ecclesiæ & loca, in quibus contra decedentium voluntates corpora defunctorum detinentur, ipso jure, ecclesiastico supponuntur interdicto, & irregularitatem contrahunt; à qua nisi per sedem apostolicam absolvi nequeunt celebrantes in eisdem. Nos ergo tantam præsumptionem sub dissimulatione præterire nullatenus intendentes, & cum justissimum sit, ut in quo quis dereliquerit, in eodem puniatur, vobis præcipimus, ac sub pœna ingressus ecclesiæ, quam in vos exnunc ut extunc, si mandatis nostris non parueritis, sententialiter ferimus in hiis scriptis, auctoritate Metropolitanâ firmiter demandamus, quatinus corpus sæpedictæ Raghnnaldis, cum omnibus inde perceptis, ad ecclesiam Nidrosiensem in expensis vestris, cum honore debito, ante festum Beati Johannis Baptistæ à dato præsentium proximo subsequens, per personas honestas nobis deferatis, nichilominus pœnas ulteriores pro injuriis, dampnis & aliis inobedientiis, nobis & ecclesiæ nostræ per vos irreverenter exhibitis & illatis, vobis infligendas, auctoritate præsentium, reservantes. Datum Bergis anno Domini MCCCXXIV, kal. Augusti.

Berg. MCCCXXVI.

VENERABILI in Christo fratri & Domino, Domino Willielmo Dei gratiâ episcopo Orchadensi, Audfinnus ejusdem gratiâ episcopus
 2 Bergenfis

Bergensis salutem & fraternam in Domino caritatem. Cum Coloni Hialtlandiæ se voto longis retroactis temporibus, firmiter adstrinxerunt, pro fertilitate terræ suæ, ut singuli singulis annis certam mensuram farinae, quæ Sunnifumiöl in vulgari appellatur, ad scrinium beatæ Sunnivæ Bergis offerrent. Verum quia expensæ terræ prædictorum inquilinorum parcere cupientes, procuratorium nostrum commissimus Domino Evaro ibidem celebranti, pro dicta farina colligenda, ideo supplicamus, ut fraternâ vicissitudine media nobis astetis, & nostro procuratori, ut votum sic pie emissum per memoratos colonos plenariè & fideliter persolvatur, demandantes nobis securè, quæ vobis per nos videntur facienda. Valeat & vigeat vestra reverenda fraternitas in Domino per tempora longiora.

Obligatoria Domini Orchadensis super decima papali ad sexennium.

MCCCXXVII.

OMNIBUS Christi fidelibus, has literas visuris vel auditoris, Villelmus Dei gratiâ episcopus Orchadensis, æternam in Domino salutem. Pateat universitati vestræ, quod recognoscimus nos teneri & per præsentem firmiter obligari venerabili in Christo patri ac Domino nostro, Domino Elauo, divinâ providentiâ Nidrosiensi archiepiscopo, in centum octoginta & sex marcis sterlingorum, pro decima, papali sexennali; ita videlicet, quod de bonis & redditibus nostris in Hialtlandia recipiet, seu recipi faciet per procuratores suos, unum vel plures, anno præsentem incipiente ad festum Omnium Sanctorum, tam in denariis quam in denariatis,

X

scilicet

scilicet quod nos ibidem recipere consuevimus, octoginta marcas sterlingorum, & alias octoginta marcas anno immediate subsequente, & viginti sex marcas, quæ residuæ sunt, persolvemus in æstate proximo futura procuratori suo in Orchardia, sine ulteriori dilatione, aut alterius termini prorogatione. Unde prædictam terram Hiatlandiæ dominationi suæ reverendæ paternitatis supponimus & assignamus usque ad terminum biennii prætaxatum, ac etiam quoad usque dicta decima fuerit plenariè persoluta; quæ quidem terra, factâ hujusmodi solutione, ad nos & ecclesiam nostram plenè & integrè revertetur. In cujus rei testimonium sigillum nostrum præsentibus est appensum. Datum Bergis, in crastino nativitatis Beatæ Virginis anno gratiæ MCCCXXVII.

MCCCXXVIII.

IN nomine Domini Amen. Cum nos Elaws Dei gratiâ Nidrosiensis ecclesiæ archiepiscopus, dudum sub anno Domini MCCCXXVIII, auctoritate sedis apostolicæ, nobis in hac parte specialiter commissâ, ad inquirendum de denario beati Petri in episcopatu Orchardensi, ac etiam ad ipsum ibidem levandum, discretum virum, Dominum Ingilbertum dictum Lying, canonicum Orchardensem, vos, Domine Vilelme, Orchardensis episcopo, nuncium nostrum memoratum, immo verius sacrosanctæ sedis antedictæ, omni reverentiâ postposita, propriæ professionis & juramenti penitus immemores, incarcerare præsumpsistis, in ejusdem apostolicæ sedis dampnum & injuriam, ac hujus negotii confusionem & impedimentum manifestum; ipsumque Ingilbertum, juris ordine totaliter prætermisso, præbenda sua & bonis omnibus, mobilibus

mobilibus & immobilibus, in Orchadia existentibus, spoliastis, & adhuc contra nostras ammonitiones & mandatum inobedienter bona eadem detinetis, taliter spoliata; vos insuper de denario memorato, à tempore, quo primo administrationem habuistis ecclesiæ Orchadensis, pro quolibet anno tres marcas sterelingorum cum dimidia & quinque denariis, vestris usibus applicastis, summam hujusmodi per annos circiter quindecim occultando, prout per testium depositiones & vestram confessionem in jure factam coram nobis est probatum. Nos ergo tantam apostolicæ sedis injuriam sub dissimulationis conniventia sustinere non valentes, vos Dominum Vilelmum episcopum Orchadensem, pro injuriis & contumeliis antedictis, ab officio pontificali suspendimus in hiis scriptis, ad solutionem & restitutionem quinquaginta trium marcarum sterelingorum de vestris propriis bonis solvendorum, quas de sæpedicto beati Petri denario vobis usurpative retinuistis, nichilominus condemnantes. Ad cujus quidem pecuniæ solutionem & traditionem nobis plenariam faciendam, terminum vobis trium mensium præfigimus, sub pœna excommunicationis; quam ex nunc in vos ferimus, si mandatis nostris parere contempseritis in præmissis. Infra quem terminum, sub pœna prælibata bona omnia, quibus Dominum Ingilbertum, Domini nostri papæ & nostrum nuncium, spoliastis, restitui præcipimus per hæc scripta; quem & nos ad præbendam & canoniam, quam in ecclesia Orchadensi rite optinuerat, tanquam spoliatum manifestè sententialiter restituimus per præsentem. Lecta & lata est hæc sententia in consistorio curiæ nostræ Bergis, præfato Domino episcopo sæpe sæpius prius, super præmissis monito & vocato, tunc vero ad audiendam hanc sententiam specialiter citato. Anno Domini MCCCXXVIII, kal. Augusti.

Um Pawa tíund ab Hialltlande.

MCCCXXVIII.

NOTA. QVOD anno Domini MCCCXXVIII, pridie ydus Julii, græiddí Giafalldr Ivarson af Hialltlande so mikla pawa tíund, úirduleghom herra Audfinní Bpi j. Biorghuín & Suæíni Sighurdar fyní fehyrdi j. konongs garde. Siau skipfund ullar, & æínu lifis pundí faat j. Var þat at spanna tale Híallta. Sextan spön ok xx ullar at Híatlenzkra vaagh.

MCCCXXIX.

EILIFR med gudz mískun erchibiscop. í. Nídarose fænder síra Hakone. síra Salwa. & síra Jone. korsbrædrom. í. Biorghuín ok Remundí de lamena, sub-collectoribus pavatíundar. q. q. & fina. Ver hafum undírstadet, at þer hafet tækít þríar merkor & níu tíghí marka brendra pavatíundar ab Orkneium. & framlæidís æzlast at taka af Stawangs biscops dome allar æftet stædur oskærdar fyr faghdrar tíundar mote herra pawans bode & goduília þeim sem hann gerdí varom herra kongenom ok allu landeno til styrkíar j. mote krittinnar ouinum undir vare skipan & forfio er þat hælmingren af allre fæx ære pavatíund um allt ríkit. Af þui firer biodom ver ydr at þer taket frammare en hælmingen tíundarennar sem nu er faght. Huarke af Stawangre ne Orkneyum eda vidare ok þer aftur lukit sem frammar hafe þer adr tekit vars herra kongfens

Of the Papal tithes of Shetland.

MCCCXXVIII.

OBSERVE, that in the year of our Lord 1328, the 25th day of July, did Giafaldr Ivarson of Shetland, pay to the Reverend Lord Audfin, the Lord Bishop of Bergen, and Suein Sigurdson, comptroller of the King's household, the tenths due to the Pope, viz. 22 cwt. of wool, less than 16 pounds, according to the standard of Shetland, being 36 span Shetland weight of wool.

MCCCXXIX.

EILIF, by the grace of God archbishop of Nidaros, we greet you Sir Hacon, Sir Salwa, and Sir John, canons of Bergen, and Remund de Lamena, sub-collectors of the papal tenths. We have understood that you have gathered ninety-three marks of pure silver as a papal tithe of the island of Orkneys; and that you intend to collect all the arrears of the said tenths due throughout the diocese of Stavanger, however contrary to the writs and favour granted by the Pope to the King our master, and which are to be used, according to our pleasure and orders, for the benefit of the whole realm, against the enemies of the church. And whereas it is one half of the whole papal tithe of the realm, we forbid you to levy more than the other half part of the said tithe, neither in the diocese of Stavanger, nor

kongfens umbods manne ok varom i hendr herra Audfinni biscopi j. Biorghuin. So framt sem þer vilit fordazft vars herra kongfens oblidu. Oc til sanz vitnisburdar sættum ver vart infighli fyrer bref er gört var i Nidarose a annan dagh Jola, anno Domini þta MCCCXXIX.

Litera qvittantiæ super qvinqvaginta sex marcis sterlingorum cum dimidia.

MCCCXXIX.

IN nomine Sanctæ & individuæ Trinitatis, qvorum interest feu interesse poterit in futurum, pateat universis, qvod sub anno Domini MCCCXXIX, III idus Februarii, nos officialis ecclesiæ Bergensis, Fredericus Stirllaugh, Simon luari, ejusdem ecclesiæ canonici, Sueno Sighvardi, thesaurarius illustris regis Norwegiæ Bergis in Sacristia Majoris ecclesiæ, interfuimus & vidimus, rogati specialiter & vocati, qvandam summam sterlingorum, per dominum episcopum Orchardensem ex papali decimâ sexennali per suam dioecesin collectam persolutam, quæ totalis ad centum tredecim marcas argenti, Noricani ponderis, ascendebat. De qua quidem summa, æqualiter in duo divisa Reimundus de Lamena, cum suis procuratoribus, ad hoc per nuncios summi pontificis specialiter deputatis, medietatem, hoc est, qvinqvaginta

of the islands of Orkneys, nor in any other place; and we demand you to repay to the king's agent, as well as to Lord Audfin, the Lord Bishop of Bergen, whatever you have received above the due, as soon as you wish to escape the displeasure of the king our Lord. In witness of this we have put our seal to this letter, written in Nidaros, the second day of Christmas, in the year of our Lord MCCCXXIX.

sex marcas cum dimidia sterlingorum, ponderis suprascripti, levavit & ad cameram Domini nostri summi pontificis assignavit & addixit deportandam. Reliquam verò medietatem summæ totalis ante tactæ, hoc est alias quinquaginta sex marcas cum dimidia sterlingorum, ponderis ut præfertur, levavit venerabilis pater & Dominus Audfinnus Dei gratiâ episcopus Bergenfis, nomine procuratoris, ex parte regis Norwegiæ, per dominum archiepiscopum ejusdem regni constitutus, in custodiam seu gardiam, ad hoc per regni Optimates subputatam, reponendam. In quorum omnium & singulorum testimonium figilla nostra præsentibus sunt appensa. Datum loco, die & anno supradictis.

A N N O T A T I O N S.

Page 3. *HAVING put his ship to sea.* The vessels of the ancients being light built, were at the end of an expedition drawn on shore, and kept in houses made for that purpose; and laws were passed which entitled the commander of a ship to the public assistance in drawing up, and fitting her out again. It is more than likely that the same custom has been in use among the Romans; for Horace seems to assert this in one of his odes.

Ibid. *Hacon*, who having been educated at the court of Athelstane, king of England, is called by the Icelandic historians *Adalsteinsfostri*, or *the foster-son of Athelstane*. This truly good and great king succeeded his father *Harald the Hairfair*, on the Norwegian throne, in the year of Christ 936, and was slain in a battle by his brothers in 950. Eivind Skaldaspiller composed on this occasion an ode, which has been published with an English translation, by the first antiquary of our age, among Five pieces of Runic poetry, p. 63, Lond. 1763; and in the Northern Antiquities, p. 240, Lond. 1773.

Ibid. *Brenneyar*, some small islands near the mouth of the river Gothelf, which, till the last century, divided Norway from Sweden. According to *Eigla*, or the life of Eigill Skallagrimson, written in the twelfth century, the pirates resorted to the said islands as a place of rendezvous in the beginning of the tenth century, on account of the brisk trade, which was carried on by the neighbours. Vide cap. 48. The assembly of kings and princes mentioned by our author, had been formerly kept in the town of *Konghella* (now *Kongel* in *Babus lebn*), situated on the border of Norway, close to the abovementioned river, as appears from the name itself, which signifies *the bill of kings*. This place I take to be the same, which the great *Ælfred*, in his *Hormesta*, calls *Sciringesbeal*, i. e. *the hall of judges*. See the Anglo-Saxon translation from Orosius, translated into English by the honourable Daines Barrington, Lond. 1773, p. 24.

On this occasion I shall beg leave to differ from the learned Judge, as well as Dr. Forster, who in his notes, p. 255, places Sciringesbeal on the shores of Uplandia, or Gotbland, and of *at Hethum*, p. 25, makes *Al-hedum*, p. 255, which he

asserts to be a town in the desarts of Jutland, afterwards known under the name of *Ar-bus*. In order to prove what I advance, I do but need to appeal to the royal author, and give the voyage of Othere from Halgoland, the northernmost part of Norway, along the coast, in as literal a translation as possible of his words :

“ Othere sæde þæt sio scir hette *Halgoland** þe he on bude, he cƿæd þæt nan
 “ man ne bude be nordan him. Donne is an port on sudeƿeardum † þæm lande
 “ þonne man hæt Sciringesheal. þyder he cƿæd þæt manne meghte gefeglian on
 “ anum monde gyf man on nyht ‡ picode & ælce dæge hæfde amberne pind.
 “ And ealle þa hƿile he sceal seglian be lande & on þæt steorbord him bid ærest Ira-
 “ land § & þonne þa Iglanð þe synd betƿus Iraland & þissum lande. Donne is þis
 “ land od he cymd to Sciringesheale & ealne ƿæg on þæt bæc bord (are) Nordƿege ||.
 “ Bi sudan þone Sciringesheal fyld spide micel ** sæ up in on þæt land. Seo is
 “ brader þonne ænig man oferseon mege, & is Gotland †† on odre healfe ongean.
 “ Et sidda Sillende. Seo sæ lid mænige hundmæla up in þæt land. And of Sci-
 “ ringesheale he cƿæd þæt he seglode on fif dagan to þæm porte þe man hæt æt ††
 “ Hæthum. Se stent betwuh Winedum, & Seaxum, & Angle, & hyrd in on Dene.
 “ þa he þiderweard seglode from Sciringesheale. þa wæs him on þæt bæc bord
 “ Denameark & on þæt steorbord wid sæ þry dagas. And þa twegan dagas ær he
 “ to Hæthum §§ come him wæs on þæt steorbord Gothland |||, & Silende, & Ig-
 “ landa fela on þæm landum eardodan Engle ær hi hider on land cōmon.” Id est,

* The present name is *Helgeland*.

† *þæm lande*, shews evidently that *Sciringesheal* cannot be searched in *Sueoland*, Sweden; but on the contrary in the country belonging to Othere.

‡ To pic is to move, i. e. to proceed, in the Icelandic *at vicia*.

§ *Iraland* involves here that part of Great Britain called Scotland.

|| *Nordƿege* cannot imply *Northwara*, as translated by the honourable Mr. Barrington; for *Northwards* is always given by king Ælfred with the word *Nordƿearð*. It must therefore signify the same country, which in the Saxon Chronicle is called in *Nom. plur.* *Nordƿege*, *Dat.* *Nordƿegum*, *Acc.* *Nordƿegan*, or the present *Norway*, a name perfectly descriptive of that part of Scandinavia which, facing the north, lies behind the southern way, which for the same reason got the name of *Sudraƿeg*, *Suerige*, or *Sweden*. The inhabitants of Norway called themselves *Nordmen*, and their patry *Norƿeg*, *Nordmannaland*, and *Normannia*, was, however, at an early period more known abroad than *Norƿegia*, which, though Adam of Bremen says it was of a later date, yet I cannot consider it to be later than Pytheas' *Nerigon*.

** The sea mentioned here is the present Cattegat, an arm of which called *Ifastford* runs up the island of *Sælland*.

†† The part of Sweden now called *Wester Gotland*, or *West Gotland*.

‡‡ *Æt* is a particle used in the Anglo-Saxon, as *at* and *of* in the modern English. *þæm porte æt Hæthum*, i. e. the port of *Hæthum*.

§§ *Hæthum*, a sea port and town, situated between the Wandals, the Saxons, and the Angles, and yet belonging to the Danes, cannot be any other than *Sleswic*, which during the middle age was called by the Icelanders *Heider*, and *Heidabær*. Vide *Knytlinga Saga*. Snorro Sturleson, &c. by the Danes *Hedeby*, in the preface of king Waldemar I. Cimbric law. In the Latin translation of which Bishop Canute, of Wiborg, styles it *Slesvicum*, as does Saxo Grammaticus, and the German writers. Nay Adam of Bremen says expressly *Sleswig quæ & Heitaby dicitur*, p. 2.

||| *Gotland* here alluded to is the present *Jutland*, which king Alfred, in the Saxon translation of Beda's Church History, book iv. cap. 16, calls *Eotaland*, and the inhabitants *Geata*, book i. cap. 15.

“ Othere

“Othere said, that the shire which he inhabited is called Halgoland, and that no one dwelt to the north of him. In the south of this land is a port called Sciringesheal. Thither he told nobody could sail in less than a month, although he proceeded in the night, and every day had a fair wind. And during the (said) time he should sail near the land, and have on starboard first Ireland, and then the *other* islands, which are between Ireland and his country. Then, before he arrives at Sciringesheal, and all the way on larboard is the land of Norway. To the south of Sciringesheal a great sea runs up into the country, and is so wide that nobody can see across it. Opposite (to Sciringesheal) on the other side is Gothland, and then Sæland, which by the said sea is intersected for many miles. And from Sciringesheal he said that he sailed in five days to a harbour called the port of Hæthum, which is situated between the Wandals, the Angels, and the Saxons, but belongs to the Danes. When he sailed thither from Sciringesheal, Denmark lay on the larboard, as did a wide sea on the starboard, in the course of the three first days. But the two days before he arrived to Hæthum, he had Gothland, and Sæland, and many islands (which the English inhabited before they came to England), on his larboard.”

Ibid. *A Russian hat.* From hence, as well as from the life of Nial, cap. 31, it appears, that hats manufactured in Russia have, during the ninth and tenth century, been highly esteemed. For Harald Gormson, king of Denmark, gave along with his suit of cloaths a Russian hat to Gunnar af Hlidarenda, an Icelandic nobleman. It must also be remarked, that the Icelanders, called Russia, particularly the principality of Kiow, Gardarike, from Gorod, or, as they have spoken it, Garad, and Gard, a word so frequent in the end of the proper names of places, viz. Novogorod, Inganagorod, Iamogorod, which signifies the same as *gardr*, an inclosure, a fast place, a burg, or castle. Vid. Notas in Gotreks sagam, p. 96.

P. 4. *Three marks of silver.* From this one might draw the conclusion, that the Norwegians had no coins, as the silver was weighed in scales; but the life of St. Olave shews that coins were not received in the market without being first examined and weighed.

P. 9. *Building materials.* The gentlemen of fortune, being fond of large and extensive dwelling houses, brought frequently building timber from Norway; and those who were satisfied with less, found materials enough in the woods of their own island, which, we are told, were in the beginning of its being discovered, and long time since, covered with extensive forests. See Landnama in many places, particularly chap. 14, p. 16, which tell us that Avangr, a Norwegian, having taken into his possession the land of Botn, near the firth called Huals fiord, in the south of Iceland, found it abounding with great woods, which enabled him to build a vessel fit for foreign trade. He loaded her in a place called Hladhammar. Svarfdælasaga relates the same of Svarfardal in the north.

P. 9. *The child was baptised.* The baptism frequently used by our heathen ancestors was a religious act of no small importance, being invested with all those rights and privileges which the laws of Christians still annex to that ceremony. Before the baptism, the child was left to the mercy of a despotic father, who considered his newborn babe by no means better than a brute, which he could preserve or destroy according to his fancy. But no sooner was the child baptised, and characterised with a name, than a parent, who caused his offspring to be killed, became guilty of an atrocious murder. See *Holmveria Saga*, an Icelandic history, published, Holum, 1756, pp. 77, 78. The baptism was consequently a solemn ceremony, by which a child was introduced as a new member of the human society; and having received a distinct name, shared the rights of individuals, and of a family into which he had thus been received by his father, on whose pleasure the performance of the baptism, and the name annexed thereto, entirely depended. The particulars of the baptism of the heathens are described by Ot. Sperling, in his book *de Baptismo Gentilium*, Havn. 1700, 8vo; and Joh. Lomejer *De Iustratione Gentilium*, Zutphan. 1700, 4to.

Ibid. *Olafse Pheylan*, an Irish nobleman, who at an early period settled in Iceland, and left a numerous posterity, to which many of the first families in that island, still existing, owe their birth.

P. 15. *Merchandizes of Iceland*, during the course of the republic, consisted chiefly in broad cloth, which the inhabitants brought in bales into the markets of Norway, Denmark, Sweden, and Russia. Great quantities of garments ready made were likewise exported and sold with a considerable advantage, particularly to the Norwegians, as we are told by Snorro Sturleson, in the life of Harald Grafeld, the king of Norway. This Prince being once informed of the arrival of an Icelandic merchant, who formerly had had the honour to be known to his majesty, went on board the vessel, and having viewed her cargo, consisting of ready-made cloths, of that kind which were called *feldr*, bought a suit of grey colour; on which occasion the king received the epithet of *grafeldr*, or the grey coat.

P. 17. *Inclosure.* At an early period of the republic of Iceland, it was enacted by law:

1. That all cultivated land be inclosed with walls and fences built of entire stone, or earth.

2. That these walls be five feet thick at the bottom, three feet at the top, and six feet high.

3. That the inclosure laid across the public road have a gate of eight feet wide, shut up with a wooden frame on iron hinges, which may be opened and closed by a man on horseback.

4. The offences against this law be popular, and be tried by nine jurymen before the court to which the offender belongs. See Graga's, the book on Tenure, chap. xv.

In consequence of this wise law, a regular trade of inclosers was established and carried on till the fourteenth century. From that period, during the course of almost five centuries, the inclosures have moulded away and been totally neglected, till the husbandry of Iceland got new patrons in a Sieman, a Reventlou, a Schimmelman, an Erichsen, and a Todahl.

P. 17. *A present of a gold ring on the appearance of the first tooth of a child.* The northern nations, well acquainted with the danger to which children are subjected during the course of teething, were extremely anxious to perpetuate the emotions of their joy on having had the gratification to see that their children have got teeth; and this they did by making them some valuable presents, which were called *tanfe*, i. e. the gift of teeth. This custom, frequent among our heathen ancestors, gave birth to donations made by parents and godfathers to children, on occasion of their being baptised. As a remnant of the said custom we may consider the presents which are laid upon the cradle, and intended as a premium to the nurse for her care and tenderness.

P. 19. *Harald Grafeld*, son to Harald the Hairfair, succeeded his brother Hacon, the foster-son of Athelstan, king of England, to the kingdom of Norway, in the year of Christ 950, and died in the year 962.

Gunnild, daughter of Auzor Tota, was queen dowager of Norway, and mother of many princes, sons to Harald the Hairfair. She is particularly known by the Icelandic writers under the name of *konga moder*, or the mother of kings. She was fickle, inconstant, faithless, revengeful, malicious, restrained by no principle of duty, insatiable in her pretensions; and she was never deterred from employing the most criminal, and most dishonourable expedients. In short, her ambitious and despotic principles were as restless, as her amours were unbounded. See Snorro Sturleson, in the life of Harald Grafeld, and Olaf Tryggvason, kings of Norway. Copenhagen, 1775. *Saga Olafs Tryggvasonar*, Skalhote, 1689. *Nialfaga*, Copenh. 1772, p. 5. & seqq.

Rut, or *Hrut*, an Icelandic nobleman, of Rutstad in the county of Laxardal, was descended by males from Ragnar Lodbrok, king of Denmark. He was distinguished by many eminent gifts of nature. In his personal qualities he was courteous, affable, engaging, full of insinuation and address, active, and enterprising; and he had the masterly prudence to elude some artful schemes devised by Gunnild, the queen dowager of Norway, whose love intrigues might have been equally ruinous to himself and his native country.

P. 23. *The king and queen promised to shade him with their auspices*, i. e. to aid and assist him by their genius and royal fortune. Our ancestors, following the opinion of Pythagoras and Plato, imagined that every person had a certain number of tutelar spirits, which the Greeks called *Dæmonas*, and the Romans *Genii*; and that on these beings depended their fate and fortune. Of all these *Genii* none was more

obliging than the *Hamingia*, or *Gista*, a female deity, who, according to the pleasure of her master, could be transferred, lent, and given, to another, for the purpose of operating in concert with the Genii of his own. Thus a conjunction, as Cicero calls it, was effected, and the person, whose tutelar spirits had been recruited by a prince, scorned all danger, and pursued with confidence the object of an undertaking, however hazardous and difficult. On the doctrine of the Genii, or tutelar spirits, see Apuleius, Servius Grammaticus, Gensforinus, Alexander ab Alexandro, Th. Bartholinus's *Antiquitates Danicæ de Causis contemptæ a Danis gentilibus mortis*. Havniæ, 1689, 4to, p. 614. Johan. Erixi *Observationes ad Antiquitates Septentrionales*. Havn. 1769, 8vo, p. 151. Johan. Erixi *Tentamen de Nominibus propriis*. Havn. 1753, 8vo, pp. 29. 34.

P. 25. *The Irish claimed the vessel under the sanction of the laws, which confiscated whatever they should find on the shore as a wreck.* The barbarous custom practised by the ancients, according to which, those who had been unhappy enough to be wrecked on a foreign coast were taken prisoners, sold as slaves, and robbed of their property, is fully described by the excellent lawyer Johan. Charl. Henr. Dreyer, LL.D. syndic of Lybec, in his *Specimen Juris Lubecensis circa inhumanum jus naufragii*. Buezow, 4to: for the treaties entered into on this subject between Lubec and the kings of Denmark, England, France, Norway, Scotland, &c. are here published from the originals, and illustrated with such notes as could be wished for from a Dreyer. Conf. David Nehrman's *de Jure fisci circa bona naufraga*, Lond. Scanor. & Ol. Walangeri *Historia Juris Warechi* Lond. Scanor. Jac. Schubachi *de Jure Littoris Commentarius*. Hamburgi, 1751, cum fig. 4to.

P. 39. *At Christmas the king presented Olaf with a suit of purple-coloured cloth.* By our best historians we are informed, that the custom which still prevails among the Turks and the Eastern nations, of presenting a cloth of honour to a person distinguished by a superior rank, or personal abilities, has been common in the North of Europe: for Eathelred, king of England, in the year 1006, rewarded Gunlaug, an Icelandic poet, with a cloak of scarlet, lined throughout with precious furs. Vide *Gunlaug Ormstungu Saga*, Copenhagen, 1776, 4to, p. 87. And Harald Gormson, the king of Denmark, honoured Gunnar, of Hlidarenda in the South of Iceland, with a magnificent suit of cloaths, besides a pair of gloves embroidered with gold, a pair of garters with golden buttons at the end, and a hat manufactured in Russia. See *Nialfaga*, Copenhag. 1772, 4to, p. 46. I must also beg leave to observe, that the feast which I have translated Christmas, was called *Iol*, or *Iul*, which signifying a sumptuous treat, is still known under this name in Denmark, Norway, Iceland, and Sweden; nay, even in the North of Britain; and from whence the month of Januarius by the Saxons was styled *giuli*, i. e. the festival. And as this feast had originally been dedicated by our heathen ancestors to the sun, their supreme deity; so the Christians, for the purpose of engaging the minds of their Ethnic brethren, ordered it should be celebrated in memory of the birth of Christ.

And thus it has been through ages a feast of joy and entertainment. We are indebted to *Procopius* for the first account of this feast. See his *History of the Goths*, book II. edit. Grotii, p. 260. Conf. *Ol. Wormii Fasti Danici*, Havn. 1643. *Gerb. Schonningi de festo post occidui solis reditum in Septentrione olim celebrato Programma*. Soræ, 1766, 4to. *G. Schonningii Programma de ratione anni apud veteres Septentrionales*. Soræ, 1767, 4to. *Christi. Nettleblad Heliolatria veterum*, Gryphiswald. *Job. Bircherodii Palestra Antiquaria s. antiquitates Juliæ*. Havn. 1688, 8vo. *Ott. Sperling de nomine & festo Jul.* Havn. 1688, 8vo. *Andr. Dablbon de veterum Svegothorum hiemali festo Jul.* Holmiæ, 1703, 8vo.

P. 43. *Egil Skallagrimson*, one of the greatest men in Iceland, is equally distinguished by his love of military glory, and great skill in poetry. He fought under king Athelstan the famous battle at Brunanborough in the year 926, and was much loved by that monarch. See *Egil Skallagrimsonar saga*. MS. *The Northern Antiquities*. Lond. 1772. *Olai Wormii Literatura Runica*. Havn. 1652. *Specimen Lexici Runici*. Havn. 1650.

P. 55. *His sons erected a magnificent barrow to his memory, depositing therein but a small sum of money*. The custom of burying along with the dead whatever had been dear to them, as money, horses, dogs, and servants, was abolished by the Christians. This may be seen from a treaty of the year 1249, entered into between the Prussians and the Brethren of the Holy Cross of Livonia, through the medium of which the new Christians promised, that they for the future would neither burn nor inter along with their deceased friends, either horses, or men, or weapons, or cloaths, or any other thing of value, which till then had been practised among them, according to the rites and manners of the heathen. See *Leoni's History of Prussia*, p. 59. In addition to what is mentioned above, we are told by *Oddr Munk*, in the *Life of Olave Tryggvason*, and the *Annals of Flatey*, that the ancient laws of Sweden bound a widow to be interred alive along with her husband. A law more barbarous than those of the Heruli, which ordered the unhappy fair to be strangled near the grave of her mourned partner. See *Procopius' History of the Goths*, book II. p. 256.

Ibid. *The Law hill* was a rising ground, or a hilloc, boarding upon the plain called *thinguollr*, where the states of Iceland kept their general assembly. From this hilloc the law, the decrees, and sentences, rendered by the supreme court, were solemnly published.

P. 59. *Keartan*. His life is handed down to us in the *Laxdæla*, and the *History of Olave Tryggvason*, by *Oddr Munk*; and his posterity is still very numerous in Iceland.

