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The Daily Record

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and THE DRESDEN DAILY.

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WHO DISCOVERED AMERICA? I. THE STORY.

(This is the second of a series of articles on the above subject specially written for the *Daily Record*. The third, commencing tomorrow, will deal with the proofs of statements contained in the previous articles.)

The sea-faring instinct of these Northern Warings (Wanderers) and Wickings (Vikings), their skill and proficiency in navigation and astronomical science which had enabled them to bridge the distance between Norway and Iceland, between Iceland and Greenland, rendered it impossible that these daring and restless sons of the sea, in their sea-worthy craft, as well, if not better, fitted to cross the Atlantic as the ships of Columbus, should remain long in Greenland, within a comparatively short voyage of the vast continent, and not become aware of its existence. So it followed that Leif, the son of Eric the Red, and others went forth and discovered that land, naming Labrador *Hellaland*, the land of flat stones; Newfoundland and Nova Scotia *Markland*, the land of forests; and the coast from Massachusetts to Virginia *Vinland it göda*, or Wineland the Good, because in its southern districts the vine grew in the open and self-sown corn was found, believed by some to be maize, but probably rye or wild rice. It was a land, moreover, where no snow fell, where the cattle fed in the open all the year round, whose streams and rivers abounded in fish and the woods were full of game. The Flora and Fauna of this district denote a southern part of the coast, corresponding more with Virginia than Massachusetts.

The chief and most famous of these early explorers was Thorfin Karlsefni, an Icelandic merchant from Greenland, married to Gudrid. He set forth with a band of one hundred and sixty, together with cattle, for Vineland, where he remained three years, establishing a palisaded settlement at Straumjord as a security against the Skraelinjar or Indians, with whom they had difficulties and hostilities. Perhaps here a still happier analogy may be suggested, à propos of the discussion "America and Calibanism" in the *Daily Record*. Let Vineland and Straumey represent the Enchanted Island; Karlsefni, Gudrid, and the little Snorri find a correspondency in Shakespeare's trio, Prospero, Miranda, and Ariel; while in the Skraelinjar,—described by the Sagas as "swarthy men, and ill-looking, and the hair of their heads ugly, great eyes and broad of cheek"—there is the veritable Caliban, a Cannibal, of which Caliban is but the anagram, in possession of the land and to be subjected by the *Wicking Prospero*.

At Straumjord in A.D. 1003, to this Icelandic chieftain and his lady, was born Snorri, the first European we know of born on the American strand, and the ancestor of a famous line. No determined and persistent efforts, however, seem to have been made from Greenland, Iceland, or Norway at settled and serious colonisation of this Western El Dorado, but frequent voyages were made to various points on this long coast-line in the eleventh century, and less frequently up to the fourteenth century—for timber, big trees of veined hard wood called *Masur*, vines, grapes, fish, and peltries; while a Bishop, Eirik Uppi of Greenland, was appointed as Bishop of Vineland, and set sail in A.D. 1121 for his new diocese, but as no more is recorded of him it is concluded that he was either lost at sea or murdered by the Skraelinjar. It is not difficult to picture what the result would have been if close communication could have been maintained with the homeland, and colonisation had been encouraged and developed.

(Continued on page 4.)

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BRITISH CHRISTIANS' VISIT. THE KAISER'S CORDIAL GREETING.

As briefly reported in yesterday's issue the party of English clergymen and laymen visiting Germany were received on Monday afternoon by the German Emperor in the New Palace at Potsdam. His Majesty delivered the following speech in English:—

Gentlemen:

It gives me real pleasure to receive you today as the representatives of the English Christian Churches, and I sincerely hope that all of you are enjoying your visit to Germany. You have come to return the visit paid last year by the representatives of the German Christian Churches to England. I have had the opportunity of speaking with a number of the German clergymen, and I am happy to be able to tell you that they were most satisfied with their visit and could not say enough in praise of the great hospitality and true Christian brotherly love they were received with in your country.

I am sure that you will find our people not less hospitable, and I hope that you will be pleased with your visit amongst us to the end. I trust that this visit, like that of last year, will tend to promote good feeling between the two great kindred nations.

Gentlemen, I am very glad to have had the pleasure of receiving you. Previously, while presenting the party to his Majesty, the British Ambassador, Sir William E. Goschen, had made the following speech in German:—

Your Majesty:

The gentlemen whom your Majesty has graciously consented to receive, and whom I have now the honour to introduce, are representatives of the Christian Churches in Great Britain and Ireland. They represent every group of those Churches. Among them are Bishops, Deacons, clergymen, and laymen of the Anglican and Roman Catholic Churches; Presidents, clergymen, and laymen of the numerous Free Churches in England, and representatives of the Scotch Synod. They include, moreover, members of both Houses of Parliament and representatives of our Universities and educational institutions. They have come to Germany on the cordial invitation of a committee which represents the corresponding bodies in Germany, and they have taken advantage of this opportunity to renew the friendships formed among their honoured guests of the previous year. Your Majesty knows the aims and intentions of these gentlemen. They have come in the interests of peace and mutual welfare, and in the firm conviction that nothing contributes more to friendship between the nations than mutual acquaintance and frequent intercourse. They are convinced that meetings between the representatives and adherents of the Churches of both nations, which are so closely allied through ties of blood and through the history of their spiritual life, can only have the best and most gratifying results, and it is their earnest hope and belief that the bonds of peace which have so long existed between the two Empires may thereby be strengthened and maintained.

They have commissioned me to express how agreeably moved and gratified they have been by the cordiality of their reception in Hamburg and Berlin; and they desire that I express to your Majesty, the ruler of this great nation, their hearty thanks for the extraordinary friendship shown to them on all sides by your Majesty's subjects.

Permit me to add that nothing has given me greater pleasure than to say these words to your Majesty, addressed as they are on behalf of the friends and advocates of peace and goodwill among the nations of the earth to your Majesty, the monarch under whose rule Germany for so many years has been a loyal adherent of peace and its blessings.

After tea had been served, the guests took leave of their Imperial host, deeply touched and gratified at the unmistakable cordiality of the Emperor's words.

WORDY WARFARE.

(FROM A CORRESPONDENT.)

"There is no calamity which right words will not begin to redress," said Emerson; and we venture to add that there is no tranquillity which wrong words will not begin to disturb. Far too much has been said and written of the "inevitable" Anglo-German war; but as a matter of fact this war has already broken out. Luckily, however, it is a war of words, a campaign of windy verbiage which howls impotently against the proved armour of commonsense. The mighty warriors on either side the North Sea who hurl their inflated verbal bombs so freely are momentarily not dangerous; they are merely amusing. They foam at the pen with concentrated fury, and dip their stiles into the corrosive acid of petty jealousy, racial animosity, and spiteful malice, all blended together in the devil's cauldron. Oceans of ink and incalculable reams of manuscript are expended by these knights of the nib. They are omniscient,—in their own opinion. Their marvellous prescience gives them insight into the secret thoughts of the great ones of this earth. They know in detail the privy ambitions, designs, and stratagems of Great Britain and Germany,—and they say that war is inevitable! Well, if it be so, let us render honour where honour is due. If war is inevitable, it will have become so chiefly through the efforts of the windy gentry of Chauvinist newspapers in both countries. As they are set upon bringing war, why deprive them of their due share of martial glory? Let England and Germany at once form special naval and military divisions of pressmen. Let the first regiments and ships destined to bear the brunt of combat be constituted and manned by our bellicose newspaper scribes. Assign them to the submarines and destroyers, to the attacking line and the war airships. Withhold from them no single opportunity of proving that their warlike demeanour is not confined to the walls of the editorial office. Surely these doughty blustering men of war should form the backbone of a conquering army. Think what precious material the military authorities of England and Germany are leaving untouched! Picture the imposing spectacle which would be provided by the charge of two opposing press regiments (we cannot imagine that any great slaughter would result).

The above suggestion is made after reading the ebullitions which have appeared recently in certain London and Berlin journals, all deliberately tending to excite the worst passions of their readers. Whether the proposal is practicable or not remains for the experts to decide. 'Tis in jesting guise, but ye are wise, and ye know what the jest is worth!"