

\* \* \* Iceland, then, has the honor of having discovered America.

“That volcanic-raised island, with its mountains of ice and valleys of lava and ashes, has played no mean part in the world’s history.”—*Christian Union*, July 15, 1874.

The famous GEORGE STEPHENS, in his elaborate work on “Runic Monuments,” having discussed the importance of studying the Scandinavian languages in order that many of our fine old roots may again creep into circulation, says: “Let *us* (the English) study the Scandinavian languages, and ennoble and restore our mother tongue. Let the Scandinavians study Old English as well as their own ancient records, give up mere provincial views, and melt their various dialects into one shining, rich, sweet and manly speech, as we have done in England. Their High Northern shall then live forever, the home language of eight millions of hardy freemen, our brothers in the east sea, our Warings and Guardsmen against the grasping clutches of the modern Hun and the modern Vandal. The time may come when the kingdom of *Canute* may be restored in a nobler shape, when the bands of Sea-kings shall rally round one Northern Union standard, when one *scepter* shall sway the seas and coasts of our forefathers from the Thames to the North Cape, from Finland to the Eider.

“We have watered our mother tongue long enough with bastard Latin; let us now brace and steel it with the life-water of our own sweet and soft and rich and shining and clear ringing and manly and world-ranging, ever dearest ENGLISH!”