Talks About Books

fifty pages, is a dissertation on Atlantis, including Solon's account of that fabulous region preserved by Plato, extracts from modern writers on the physical geography of the ocean where that region is supposed to have been submerged, and references to Mr. Ignatius Donnelly and other authors dealing with matters geological and ethnological. Among others, the Talker is pleased to find that Mr. Erskine refers to the German Frenzel, who regards the Aztecs of Mexico and the Peruvians as of Celtic origin. Now, the Talker knows nothing of Herr Frenzel beyond this quotation of him, and he is perfectly sure that the Aztecs are not of Celtic descent. But it is rather a coincidence that, a good many years ago, he published in the Canadian Naturalist proof of the Celtic character of a large portion of the Peruvian vocabulary, and that, last May, he submitted to the Royal Society of Canada evidence for the migration of a mixed Celtic and Turanian population from the Canary Islands to Mexico. In the latter country the Turanians were known as Toltees and the Celts as Olmees. They arrived in the beginning of the eighth century, and were expelled by the Chichimees and Aztees in the middle of the eleventh, when they travelled southward, and in Peru founded the Empire of the Incas. These Incas, lords of the Four Quarters, were not Celtic but Turanian, being late descendants of the Hittite Anakim of Kirjath-Arba, in Palestine; but they and the Celts had been companions from very ancient days.

After this learned introduction comes the story. It begins with a storm at sea off the Azores. Then it shifts back, in order to tell how the victims of the storm came there, to Canada and fifty miles from Montreal, where Archibald, the father of Atalyn de Montville, had taken up a seigneury. Atalyn, an applied science student, it follows to Paris, and thence to Eumaling Castle, somewhere in Great Britain, where Sir George Denesmore, Bart., and his daughter Katharine dwelt. Sir George had a grant in British Guiana, in which he had established a colony, and Lady Denesmore had gone out there for her health on the private steam-yacht Essequibo. When the Essequibo returned to England it took Katharine

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