

Several of his companions set sail for Vinland, but simply retraced the footsteps of their chieftain.

Meanwhile a number of hardy and ambitious colonists flocked to Vinland, lured by its beauty, fertility, and healthy climate; they always came by Greenland which was not then the barren, ice bound shore which borders Baffin's Bay. Ocean currents had so altered its climate, that green fields, and wooded hill sides might have been seen where extend the deserts of the present day. There were also several churches and a cathedral, the remains of which have been lately discovered.

To resume our narrative. Eric-Upsi bishop of Gardar, the site of the cathedral we have just mentioned, undertook a voyage to Vinland, and finding there churches and villages established a see with the permission of the reigning pontiff. The curious round tower of Newport is supposed with good reason to be a baptistry of the time, and in fact its style of architecture seems to be a rude imitation of those seen in the ancient cities of Europe. It is stated, and on excellent authority, that the crusades were preached in Vinland in the 13th century. This assertion is also confirmed by a recital of the time. There, among the steel clad warriors of France, Britain, and Germany, were seen the stalwart forms of men from beyond the sea, their dress, manners, and appearance, contrasting strangely with the polished armour and waving plumes of their associates of the old world. Later on the tithes of Vinland are mentioned in the registers at Rome, where they are still extant.

We thus behold Vinland in its most flourishing condition, colonists came unceasingly, when a change in the ocean currents put an end to its prosperity.

In Greenland the days grew colder and the summers shorter, crops were blighted, and from the mountain sides the ever advancing ice fields invaded the plains. The inhabitants sought more genial climes, leaving houses and fields to the solitude of the ice desert. The "Black Pest" broke out in Europe and ravaged America; pirates intercepted the once frequent communications so that in 1377 the bishop of Gardar having died no news of it reached Norway till 1383. As Iceland and Greenland furnished Vinland with colonists their fall brought about its neglect, and soon little or nothing was heard of it. So ended Norwegian relations with America.

Other nations are said to have tried their fortunes in the New World, notably the Irish, and the Chinese, and the latter in some of their old writings described it as Fou-Sang.

However we cannot for a moment imagine that Columbus was not a discoverer. His knowledge of America was only that which his study of natural sciences and personal observation had given him. Moreover it is but reasonable to suppose, that the possession of such documents as we now find, would have smoothed the rugged path of ridicule and of opposition which he had to traverse.

He is said to have often quoted those striking and almost prophetic lines of Seneca:

Veniens annis saccula seris
Quibus Oceano vincula rerum
Laxet, et ingens pateat tellus,
Typhis que novos detegat orbis,
Nec sit terris ultima Thule.

The time has come, and fairer lands than those of the old world are inhabited by an enlightened generation, although they lie beyond the cold and distant, *Ultima Thule*.

VIATOR.

COLLEGE WORLD.

Harvard crew are working at the machines. The papers give daily reports of progress.

A football match lately played between the Harvard and Yale Freshmen terminated in favour of Harvard.

Yale Freshmen have put a crew in training to represent the class in all boating contests in the spring.

Two new professorships have been established at Princeton, one in architecture and the applied arts, and the other in mechanics and civil engineering.

The authorities of Boston University are considering the plan of limiting the size of each class in the Academic Department, and filling the same, year by year, by competitive examinations.

The third Inter-Collegiate Contest came off in New York, on January 3rd. Looking over the list of Colleges named as contestants, we notice that the higher class Universities are conspicuous by their absence.

Dartmouth Navy lost its boats and boat-house in a gale, on Saturday night, January 20th, 1877. The loss is very heavy, amounting in all to nearly \$1,300. We cannot refrain from offering our sympathies to our Hanover friends on the occasion of such a calamity.

The Rowing Association of American Colleges held its Seventh Annual Convention in December last. July 11th is named as the date of the University race; Greenwood Lake, about forty miles from New York, will probably be the place where it is to come off.

The Yale students have managed to get the better of their Faculty in a very ingenious manner. The professors had ordered them to cease all singing in the college buildings (probably because they sang so very badly), and the students, who have regular attendance at chapel, retorted by considering the rule as applying to the hymns, and allowed the professors to sustain the chapel singing by themselves. Our brethren at Yale evidently go in for "whole hog or none."

EXCHANGES.

—The last number of the *Harvard Lampoon* is considerably ahead of the one immediately preceding it. On the whole it is characterized by remarkable originality and spirit. The "religious editor" is getting rather stale; but if he is a permanent institution, we will submit with the best possible grace to his not unpleasant jokes.

—The gem of the *Harvard Advocate* is an article on Slang, as witty as it is original. After the regulation platitudes we have been bothered with upon the evils and vulgarity of talking in a free and easy manner, it is refreshing to tumble upon so much common sense. "The Profanity of our Ancestors" is interesting and readable; and the verses which open the number "Lines to myself," have some rather ingenious rhymings.

—Of the *Boreidin Orient* in general, we cannot give an opinion, as the number we have before us, (January 17th.), has two papers in it which are not due to students, and which are far above the usual style of a college paper. We refer to "An Occasional Poem" by S. V. Cole, and "Reminiscences of College Friends," in which occur the names of Longfellow, Hawthorne, and other famous Americans.