

"Histoire de Dannemarc", locates the scene in Labrador and Newfoundland. Robertson, in 1778, in his "History of America", although with misgivings thinks "that the situation of Newfoundland corresponds best with that of the country discovered by the Norwegians." M. C. Sprengel (1782), in his "Geschichte der Entdeckungen", thinks they went as far south as Carolina. In 1793, Munoz, in his "Historia del Nuevo Mundo", puts Vinland in Greenland. Barrow, in his "Voyages to the Arctic Regions" (1818), places Vinland in Labrador or Newfoundland. Hugh Murray, in "His Discoveries and Travels in North America", (1829), doubts the assigning of Vinland to America. Henry Wheaton (1831), in his "History of the Northmen", thought Vinland should be looked for in New England. Bancroft, the most eminent of American historians, in the original third edition (1840), of his history, says "Scandinavians may have reached the shores of Labrador; the soil of the United States has not one vestige of their presence." Wilson (1862), in his "Prehistoric Man," declares that Markland, "which, so far as the name or description can guide us, might be anywhere on the American coast," and that Nantucket is referred to is assumed, because they spoke of the dew upon the grass, because it tasted sweet. Foster, in his "Prehistoric Races of the United States" (1873), abruptly dismisses the subject, speaking of it as conjecture and no memorials having been left behind. Nadaillac (1882) speaks of the Norse discovery as "legends in which a little truth is mingled with much fiction." Weise, in his "Discoveries of America," (1884), believes the sea-rovers did not even pass Davis' Straits. The Massachusetts Historical Society (1887), through its committee, reports: "There is the same sort of reason for believing in the existence of Leif Ericson that there is for believing in the existence of Agamemnon—they are both traditions accepted by later writers; but there is no more reason for regarding as true the details related about his discoveries than there is for accepting as historic truth the narratives contained in the Homeric poems. It is antecedently probable that the Northmen discovered America in the early part of the eleventh century; and this discovery is confirmed by the same sort of historical tradition, not strong enough to be called evidence, upon which our belief in many of the accepted facts of history rests." It is certainly evident that Winsor, in his "Narrative and Critical History of America," does not depend upon the Norse discovery.

Following the account of the sagas, as given by the astute editors, it is discovered that the first land made by the Norse was Helluland, or Newfoundland. Farther to the south, they came upon a thickly-wooded country, which they termed Markland, or Nova Scotia. After a voyage to the south of several days, Cape Cod was reached. Vinland comprehends Martha's Vineyard and surrounding country. In arriving at these loca-