

his chains and a vast continent shall appear and a pilot shall find new worlds, and Thule (probably the Orkney Isles) shall be no more earth's bound."

The Chinese in the archives of their Buddhist monks, from the time of the fourth or fifth century of our Christian Era, have an account of an expedition across the Pacific Ocean to a land called Fusang, which has a strong resemblance to Mexico. They state that copper, gold, and silver were found there, and that domestic animals such as horses, oxen, and stags were used in drawing waggons. The people of Fusang lived in houses supported by wooden beams. Since we know that in last century Japanese junks were driven from Japan across the Pacific Ocean to the west coast of America, the possibility of such an expedition from China to America is by no means improbable.

Another legend is found among the Welsh dating back to the twelfth century of our era that one of their princes, Madoc, sailed across the Atlantic and in the far west planted a Colony. One of the Welsh bards in the fifteenth century before the expedition of Columbus had sailed, wrote

Madoc I am . . .
No lands at home nor store of wealth me please,
My mind was whole to search the ocean seas.

Less traditional, but still not within the range of real history, is the account of the Norse sagas that after taking possession of Iceland in the ninth century, one of the most daring sea captains, Erik the Red, was banished from Iceland as an outlaw, and in the tenth century settled in Greenland. Toward the end of that century the saga relates that Leif Erikson, son of the old outlaw, visited the islands along the east coast of North America, which they called Helluland, Markland, and Vinland. Attempts have been made to identify these with Newfoundland, Nova Scotia, and Massachusetts, but thus far all the American discoveries of the Norsemen are in the region of mystery and doubt.