

market-place, when he noticed amongst some gangs of slaves exposed for sale, three boys, with a fair complexion and flaxen hair. Asking whence they had come, he was told that they were Angli or English. "Rightly," he replied, "are they called 'Angeli', for their faces are as the faces of angels, and they ought to be fellow heirs with the angels in heaven." Again he asked, "From what province do they come?" and was told that they were from Deira, the country between the Tyne and the Humber, including Durham and Yorkshire. "Rightly", he said, "are they called Deirans. From the ire (Latin, *de ira*) of God are they plucked, and to the mercy of God are they called." "And who," he proceeded, "is the king of the province?" "Ælla," was the answer. "Allelujah," he returned, "the praise of God will be chanted in that province." Soon after Gregory became Pope, in A. D. 595, he sent Augustine at the head of a band of forty monks on a mission to England. They were admitted by King Ethelbert into the city of Canterbury, and on Whitsunday, June 2, 597, the king was baptized. The king's baptism was followed on Christmas Day of the same year by that of ten thousand of his subjects, who thus sealed their acceptance of the new faith. From that time forward, the evangelization of England progressed, until the Christian church was firmly established in every part of the country, and burned with missionary zeal to carry the gospel to the kindred tribes in Northern Europe.

CHAPTER V.

CONQUEST OF EUROPE: THE KELTS, GERMANS AND SCANDINAVIANS

It was by missionaries from the churches in Ireland and Britain that the gospel was first