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DENMARK AND THE DANES.

BY THE EDITOR.



CROWN PRINCE OF DENMARK.

"Saxon and Norman and Dane are we." So sang Tennyson in welcoming to England our future Queen Consort, the Princess of Wales. Many a thorpe and town from the Tyne to the Thames commemorates the invasion and settlement by the sea kings of the north. This virile race extended its conquests to the Orkneys, Iceland, Greenland, Markland, and Vinland. Their pirate galleys penetrated every river in Europe from the Elbe to the Guadalquivir. They sacked alike Utrecht, Antwerp, Cologne, Bonn, Treves,

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Metz, Bordeaux, Lisbon, and Seville. They overran Tuscany, Naples, and Sicily, and besieged both Constantinople and Paris. From Novgorod to Morocco their fierce and fiery energy was felt. They stabled their horses in the Cathedral Church of Charlemagne at Aix-la-Chapelle, and defeated the Moorish conquerors of Spain at Cordova. "From the fury of the Northmen deliver us, O Lord," came to be a part of the Catholic litany. The intrepid spirit of our Norse and Danish ancestors throbs in the exploits of Howard and Drake, of Frobisher and Hudson, of Collingwood and Nelson, of Dewey and Schley.

The early home of these world conquerors is that narrow tongue of land thrust out between the Baltic and North Sea, with its adjacent islands. The surface of Denmark is almost an unbroken plain, in most cases but a few feet above the ocean, and in others below its level. Great fiords or arms of the sea penetrate far inland, so that no part of Denmark is more than forty miles from tide-water. Over much of its surface tempests and sand-storms sweep with destructive fury. Great forests, largely of beech, once covered its soil.

Surrounded and penetrated by the sea, commanding the entrance to the Baltic, and abounding in good harbours, its hardy sons led