

The so-called American evidences he regards as a hoax, and speaking of the Newport stone mill, says: "Those sly rogues of Americans dearly love a quiet hoax. With all gravity they address a solemn communication to the Royal Society of Northern Antiquarians at Copenhagen, respecting these interesting remains of 'a structure bearing an antique appearance,'—'a building possibly of the ante-Columbian times,'—'a relic, it may be, of the Northmen, the first discoverers of Vinland!'

* * * * It must be allowed that these Rhode Island wags have played off their joke with admirable dexterity." Relying on the Sagas alone, Laing would confine the discoveries to the coast of Labrador, "or some places north of the Gulf of St. Lawrence".

The eight chapters relating to the Norse discovery of America, which Peringskiöld inserted in his Swedish and Latin translation of the "*Heimskringla*", Laing reproduces in an appendix to the third volume. In one of the notes added to these extra chapters, he animadverts to the statement that Karlsefne had taken "cattle of all kind" to Vinland, and demonstrates that such could not be true; and further remarks: "It looks as if the Saga-relator was applying his ideas formed on Iceland, where cattle and food for them are not scarce, to a country by nature so totally different as Greenland, and that he did not know of the difference." This goes to confirm the position taken in the following pages.

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