Page 12. Mr. John Fiske, in his Discovery of America, p. 156, speaks of Greenland having been discovered by Gunnbjörn in A. D. 876; and its colonization was in A. D. 986; the Icelandic colony began at Julianshaab in 986, led by Lief, son of Eric the Red, who took Roman missionary priests there from Iceland, and the colony spread across to Godthaab on the west coast, north latitude 64°. Lief had become a Christian and was baptized. The colony maintained its existence for more than 400 years, having intercourse with Europe.

Early in the 14th century the West Bygd, near Godthaab, seems to have contained 90 farmsteads and 4 churches: while the East Bygd, near Julianshaab, had 150 farmsteads, with 1 cathedral and 11 smaller churches, 2 villages, with 3 or 4 monasteries. At the "cathedral" church of Kakortak, a massive structure of the Gardar bishopric, now in ruins, the Credo was intoned and censers swung while ten generations lived and died. In 1112 Eric Gnupson was appointed by Pope Paschal II. bishop of Greenland. Bishop Eric is mentioned in at least six different vellums as going in search of Vinland in 1121. Vinland is supposed to have been North America. In 1349 the West Bygd was attacked and destroyed by Esquimaux; in 1379 they invaded the East Bygd and wrought sad havoc, and it is believed that some time after 1400 they completed the destruction of the colony, which gradually fell into oblivion. Precisely when and how it perished we do not know.

Greenland was again discovered, by the Danes, in 1595. Page 15. Soundings of 1750 fathoms, two miles, have been made.