

more important of the Icelandic manuscripts accessible to the Danish public, the other should render all valuable Scandinavian histories and records accessible to the entire English-speaking public. This highly necessary work has already been deferred much too long. With every hour that is delayed will the after compunction and humiliation be increased, the painful sense of having defrauded the Scandinavian North of its rightful position, of having been guilty of the basest ingratitude. In the near future it will be realized, too, how deeply we of English descent have defrauded ourselves in defrauding them, how seriously we have lowered our own rank in lowering theirs!

Still, after all remissness and shortcomings, the destiny of the united nations of the Scandinavian stock is a bright one. In a joint act we will both acknowledge our ancestors and be acknowledged as their true heirs and descendants; to give will be to receive in a sense never realized before; once hospitable to Northern thought, Northern history, Northern memories, Northern poetry, to the beauty that Northern genius has evoked from marble and canvas, to the noble legends and traditions that, having done so much to inspire genius in their native realm, will also lead the commercial and materialistic mind of the Continent and the United States to lofty ideals,—once hospitable to these, we will entertain many an angel un-awares!

What we are called upon to do, and what we will soon do with glad eagerness, is to attribute to our honoured Norse progenitors the grandest discovery that was ever made, the discovery of the American continent; the conquest and remodelling of nearly the whole of Europe; the founding of several great empires and republics; the manly and determined resistance, for five hundred years, to the system of idolatry known as the Roman Catholic or Christian religion; the renewed opposition to this during the Reformation; the permanent rescue of the three Scandinavian nations, including Iceland, and the American Republic, from the