

Contributed Articles.

CORNISH LITERATURE.

ISAAC Taylor in his *Words and Places* affirms that the word *Cornwall* or *Cornwales* signifies the *Country of the Welsh* or *strangers of the horn*. Cornwall may be regarded as a compound of *corn*, a Cornish word signifying *horn*, and *Waller* a *stranger*. The origin of the term *corn* a *horn* may be discovered in the peculiar form of Cornwall, running as it does like a horn into the sea. *Cernow* is the Cornish word for Cornwall and *Cernwee* and *Kernuah* for Cornish. The writer of an article on Cornwall in the *Encyclopædia Britannica*, states that Cornwall is in effect a long promontory which gradually narrows towards the Land's end, and has one deeply projecting spur in the Lizzard. The greatest length of the country from the Tamar to the Land's end is 80 miles. It covers an area including the Scilly Isles, of 869,878 acres or 1359 square miles. The population in 1861 numbered 369,390 persons. . . . Cornwall formed part of the British Kingdom of Damnonia, which long resisted the advance of the Saxons westward, and remained almost unbroken in power until the reign of Ine of Wessex (688-726.) From that time the borders of the British Kingdom gradually narrowed, until, about the year 926, Athelstane drove the Britons from Exeter and fixed the Tamar as the limit between them and the Saxon of Devon. In the third volume of his chips from a German workshop, Max Muller thus writes, "No doubt it is well-known that the original inhabitants of Cornwall were Celts, and that Cornish is a Celtic language; and that if we divide the Celtic language into two classes, Welsh with Cornish and Breton forms one class, *the Gymric*; while the Irish with its varieties as developed in Scotland and the Isle of Man forms another class which is called the Gaelic or Gadhelic." Dr. Bannister, the author of a Glossary of Cornish names, states "that the old language of Cornwall, which did not altogether cease to be spoken till the end of last century use to be thought Semitic and allied to Hebrew, having been introduced by the Phoenicians. Some have also questioned whether the aboriginal inhabitants were not akin to the people now inhabit-