

Come, as came our fathers,  
 Heralded by thee,  
 Conquering from the eastward,  
 Lords by land and sea.  
 Come ; and strong within us  
 Stir the Vikings' blood,  
 Bracing brain and sinew ;  
 Blow, thou wind of God !

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## MORTE D'ARTHUR

ALFRED, LORD TENNYSON

A number of Arthur's knights had turned traitor, and, led by Modred, had taken up arms against their king. Arthur marched against them, and at the extreme southwestern point of Britain, had defeated them in a great battle. All the rebel knights were killed, while of the king's army only Bedivere and Arthur remained. In single combat with Modred Arthur had been severely wounded. (*See The Passing of Arthur*).

So all day long the noise of battle roll'd  
 Among the mountains by the winter sea ;  
 Until King Arthur's table, man by man,  
 Had fallen in Lyonesse<sup>1</sup> about their Lord,  
 King Arthur : then, because his wound was deep,  
 The bold Sir Bedivere uplifted him,  
 Sir Bedivere, the last of all his knights,  
 And bore him to a chapel nigh the field,

1. A fabulous land stretching out into the ocean from the southwestern point of Cornwall,

"A land of old upheaven from the abyss  
 By fire, to sink into the abyss again."