

THE MEN OF THE NORTH AND THEIR PLACE IN HISTORY.

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We are enabled to lay before our readers this morning a condensed report of the very interesting lecture delivered by Mr. HALIBURTON, on Thursday evening, before the Young Men's Christian Association of this city. The lecture was the concluding one of the winter course of the Association, and owing, doubtless, to this fact, and the high reputation of the talented lecturer, drew forth a large and highly intelligent audience. Mr. HALIBURTON well merited all the applause he received; his lecture was a literary treat, which all those present thoroughly enjoyed.

The lecturer commenced by pointing out the importance of a nation having a firm faith in its own future.

Our heritage is the Northern portion of this Continent. The new Dominion is peopled by the descendants of Northern races. Have the men of the North in the New World a hopeful career before them? What is the stock from which we have sprung? Who are the men of the North, and what is their place in history? The lecturer dealt with the question whether it is not due to the cold, bracing winds of the North, that the men of the North have ever been "the scourge of God" upon the sunny South. He then sketched the national characteristics of the four great dominant races that preceded the era when the sceptre of power was grasped by northern men. The Egyptian, patient and enduring, could build pyramids that could defy time, but could not build up a nation that could resist the power of northern invaders. "Destruction cometh, it cometh from the North. The daughter of Egypt shall be confounded, and she shall be delivered into the hands of the people of the North." The Assyrians, worthy descendants of Nimrod "the mighty hunter before the Lord," who still startle us by the stern spirit of the conqueror that breathes in the man-headed bulls, and in their warlike kings striding on with the step of the lion, were destined to fall before a northern power. "Out of the North a people shall come upon her, that shall make her land desolate and no man shall dwell therein." The Greeks conquered the world of letters by their literature and art; the Romans by

their political genius, and by their warlike qualities, made the eternal city the mistress of the world. Both paved the way for a new era, for a Christian civilization. But new soil was needed for the growth of a new religion. New blood was required for a new life. The rotten stem of expiring heathenism could never be a healthy stock on which to engraft a pure faith. And Providence sent the Northern barbarians, as the scourges of the South, to sweep away every vestige of the world of the past. The life and energy of youth were needed for the establishment of a new religion, just as they are necessary for the formation of a new Dominion. The lecturer here referred to the generous enthusiasm of the lamented McGee, and the singular influence that such a spirit wields in the formation of nationalities. As the fire-worshippers at the beginning of the year put out the old fires and re-kindled a blaze from the rays of the sun, it was needful that on the eve of a new era in the history of the world, the light of the past should be quenched forever, and that kindled by the hands of the North, a new and a purer light should blaze from the altars and the hearths of a new civilization. The lecturer showed that our modern literature, science, and jurisprudence have only been productive of satisfactory results when they were the embodiment of northern ideas, and that all attempts to revive the poetry, learning, or laws of ancient Greece and Rome have signally failed. The great mission of the men of the North, was to be the founders of a new civilization, and to be the champions of freedom in every land.

The most interesting of these northern races were the Normans or Northmen, whose sea-king Rollo conquered France, and left Normandy as a heritage to his family. He claimed descent from the gods of the North, as well as from Fornjotr, the old Frost Giant, the Father of the Wind and of the Ocean.

His successor, William the Conqueror, subdued Britain, and it is as his heir that Her Gracious Majesty, the royal descendant of the old Frost Giant, now rules over a Northern race, and sways the sceptre of the sea.

Here in the New World, we, who are sprung from these men of the North, are about to form a New Dominion in this Northern land,