

THE EASTERN ORIGIN OF THE CELTS.

SECOND PAPER.

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In my last paper on this subject I mentioned an important Celtic family which did not trace its descent directly from Gilead, but which, nevertheless, sustained intimate relations with his line. Gael and Cymri, according to Niebuhr, were the two great components of the Celtic stock.¹ Josephus long before had been struck with the connection of the two names, and accounted for it by deriving the Galatians from the patriarch Gomer, in which he has been followed by a large number of writers coming down to the present day.² It was, however, with no intention of tracing the family of Gomer or the origin of the Cymri that I commenced the researches in the departments of comparative geography and mythology that have resulted, as I believe, in fixing the relations of the latter. The result, entirely unexpected and even astonishing to myself, was the consequence of a legitimate and full, but by no means exhaustive, induction from geographical facts and mythological statements extending over a wide field. It rests to a great extent, although far from exclusively, upon the collocation of names in the topographical nomenclature and mythological genealogies of many peoples. I do not claim that all the names mentioned by me refer to the personages whose descendants I seek to trace. These are so numerous that time has not permitted me to make that minute investigation into their history which would enable me to write with certainty. A few of them I have already brought forward in totally different connections, and the present state of my knowledge does not allow me to assert

¹ History of Rome, ii. 520.

² Josephus' Antiquit. I., vi. 1.