

above alluded to, abounds in language such as rarely assails ears polite, and that somewhat smirches the valour of the lads, who, with drum and fife, rallied their broken regiment, themselves to fall. The nominally pious person, whose self-imposed duty it is to frighten little children by picturing God as a policeman ever on the watch for their offences, is having a hard time of it in popular literature just now, but not a particle more than such an auxiliary fiend deserves. As for "The Drums," they may be true to nature, but they do not make a pretty story, either from a euphemistic or from a temperate standpoint. Profanity and drunkenness are poor things to bring face to face with death, even in a story.

Miss Cornelia Horsford, daughter of the late Professor Horsford, of Cambridge, Mass., and his literary executor, has favored me with a twelve-page illustrated extract from the *National Geographic Magazine* of Washington, entitled "Dwellings of the Saga-Time in Iceland, Greenland and Vineland." Miss Horsford engaged the services of several explorers, in particular of Dr. Gudmundsson, of Copenhagen, to examine ancient Norse structures and report on the results of their examination. Of such results the pamphlet before me is a brief summary, and tends to shew that the remains of ancient buildings in the vicinity of Boston are of the same character as those of Iceland, thus denoting that Boston's site lay within the Vineland of the Sagas. I have quite an extensive collection of treatises on the Northmen in America, from which I culled the possible records of those who fled before their persecution, and incorporated them into an article called "Culdee Colonies in the North and West," published in the *British and Foreign Evangelical Review* for July, 1881, my copy of which has mysteriously disappeared.

The following notices of books contributed by Messrs. Drysdale & Co. were crowded out of the last number of the "Journal," and now, by a seeming paradox, do appear in the last number. Here is an illustration of Abelard's *Sic et Non*,