

and a nights' sail they reached Bear Island. Another sail, occupying the same length of time, brought them to Kiarlarness, and called the shore Wonderstrand; and here they put the two Scots—Hake and Hekia—and told them to run southward and explore the country. Three days later they returned with a vine and self-sown wheat. Thence the ships proceeded to Straumfiord, where they landed and prepared habitations, and here they wintered. They were in want of food, and failed to catch fish, as the winter was severe. They sailed over the island, hoping to obtain subsistence, but only found little better fare. They prayed to God to send food, without answer. Then Thorhall disappeared, but after three days was found by Karlsefne and Biarne lying on top of a rock, and having asked him to go home with them he complied. After that a whale was cast up, and they partook of it, and all were made sick. Thorhall boasted the whale was given in answer to a hymn he had composed to Thor. When they heard this they would not partake any more, but threw what was left from the rock and committed themselves to God; then there was no lack of food. The company now parted, Thorhall, with nine men, going northward to explore Vinland, and Karlsefne, with the rest, went south. "Thereupon Thorhall sailed northward around Wonderstrand and Kiarlarness, but when they wished to cruise westward a storm came against them and drove them to Ireland, where they were beaten and made slaves. There Thorhall passed his life." Karlsefne and his party sailed south. "They sailed long until they came to a river which flowed from the land through a lake, and passed into the sea. Before the mouth of the river were great islands, and they were not able to enter the river except at the highest tide" They called the land Hop, and there found wild corn and vines. Here they spent the winter, when no snow fell. Here they caught the two Skrælling boys. Thence they went to Greenland and passed the winter with Leif Erikson.

In this second account the distance from Greenland to Vinland is definitely given as three days' sail. While the two accounts are substantially the same, yet there is some material difference. The winter they were pressed for food, the second account narrates, "they sailed over the island, hoping that they might find means of subsistence," while in the first this important event is entirely omitted. The battle with the Skrællings, the most striking of all the events in the three narratives, is entirely omitted in the second and differs materially in the third. That no snow should fall in the Eastern United States would be a remarkable event. A like occurrence is not mentioned since the landing of the Pilgrims. It must have been very striking even to a Norsemen, and yet entirely omitted in the first and third narratives. The second account declares that Biarne was carried into the Greenland Sea, where he came into the "worm