north-western coasts of Europe to the present day. The curious questions connected with the origin of this race are not hidden in mystery so inexplicable that they may not, even yet, be traced out and solved. Investigation and research have not yet been earnestly and fully turned upon this subject, and when they come to be employed in its elucidation; language, mythology, and usages, will throw, if we misapprehend not greatly, a very curious and startling light upon their original history. With that inquiry, undoubtedly a most interesting examination, we have little or nothing to do at present. We are confined to modern history, to the last thousand years, by our own terms, and use them only to furnish the ground for speculation on the future. The Norman invasion we regard, in every sense, as more an apparent than a real inroad on Saxon rule. The invaders were, in reality, part of the same original stock, and they never occupied any great portion of the country, except as its proprietary. They forced back on the Northern English counties, and into Scotland, the Saxon nobles; and for a long period bitter animosity existed between the countries—bitter and unrelenting as the strife of brethren—but the Norman section of the race never greatly promoted the substantial interests of the country, for their victories in France were idle and worthless triumphs; and they are not the men who levelled the forests, tilled the soil, constructed our roads, built up our towns, drained our marshes, made highways of water over our mountains and through our valleys, explored the earth's recesses for their wealth, built and navigated our ships, invented new mechanisms, discovered new countries, extended our manufactures, improved our arts, planted our standard by the St. Lawrence and the Mississippi, by the Ganges, the Jumna, and the Indus—who supplanted animal by steam power, and made the mighty