

lakes, has an area of 136,000 square miles, and is more abundantly supplied with water than any other country in the world.

King Erik the 9th of Sweden invaded Finland in 1157 A.D., and conquered the country. The result was almost continuous war between Russia and Sweden. At length Finland became a province of Russia. On the 27th of March, 1809, the Czar Alexander first visited Finland and proclaimed it a Russian Grand-Duchy. At the same time he allowed the country to have its own government and laws, and these it still, though not without struggle, retains.

When King Erik entered Finland he was accompanied by Archbishop Henry of Upsala, Sweden, (an Englishman). The Finns, who had been pagans, were forcibly baptized near the city of Turku, at that time the capital. The Archbishop remained in the country to Christianize the people, and preached and baptized everywhere, until in January of the next year he was assassinated by a Finnish farmer. He was afterwards made the patron saint of Finland.

The church long remained Roman Catholic, but during the reign of Gustaf Wasa of Sweden (died 1560) the Reformation entered both Sweden and Finland, and since then they have enjoyed many liberties. The first translation of the New Testament into Finnish was made by