

from their rulers. In Wales, which has retained the same population from Roman times, the vernacular idiom is not of Latin origin, nor is it very largely intermixed with Latin; it is true and genuine Keltic. The probability is, that the great body of those whose possessions passed into Anglo-Saxon hands spoke substantially the same language. This being so, it would not have seemed strange if the idiom of the conquered people had acted on that of the conquerors, so as to introduce a large Keltic element into Anglo-Saxon and English. But the fact is quite the contrary. The Keltic words in English are altogether few in number; most of them—as *bard*, *druid*, *crowd* (a fiddle), etc.—belong to objects which are specially Keltic; and a large part—including nearly all those of Gaelic origin, as *brogue*, *clan*, *shanty*, *whisky*, etc.—are of recent introduction. It would seem that in the slow and gradual progress of the Saxon conquests, the native British fell back from point to point before the invaders; or, if a part remained in their old homes, they were too few to maintain their old language, and had to exchange it for Saxon; while the independent Britons and Saxons, engaged in constant hostilities, were cut off from that free and peaceful intercourse which might have left a marked impress on the languages of both. In many cases, there is a real connection, but no borrowing—the words having come down both in the Teutonic and the Keltic from the common Indo-European stock. Thus *barrow*, which has been identified with W. *berfa*, is really derived from the root of the verb to *bear*, Go. *bairan*, L. *fero*; while *berfa*, if not taken from the English, was formed on Keltic ground from the same root, as seen in Ir. *beirim*. There remain, however, a small number of words—such as *basket*, *glen*, *lad*, *dun* (color), etc.—in which an early borrowing from the Welsh is either certain or probable. But the words *bran*, *cabin*, *piece*, *quay*, and a few others like them, if they are really of Keltic origin, have not come to us directly from the Keltic, but have passed from a Keltic source into the Romance languages, and from thence into the English.

*The Latin.*—The introduction of Christianity among the Anglo-Saxons at the opening of the seventh century, brought with it the study of the Latin. The cultivation of learning and letters belonged almost exclusively to ecclesiastics, with whom Latin was the professional language. Hence quite a number of Latin or