

before not indebted to anybody; while in the United States millions and hundreds of millions have been donated to assist in the use of education. I hope that our school teachers and all that are immediately associated with educational affairs will attend to those interests and look after their welfare. I could say to the Elders and young men and young women, who are sent, make yourselves useful in Sunday Schools; feel that you are engaged in the performance of an important mission in training the youth in the fear of God. Our Young Men's and Young Women's Associations are doing very well; and we are growing up among us, I am happy to say, a great many young people who will make their mark in the world; and if they keep humble and faithful before God, and continue as diligent in the pursuit of intelligence as they have commenced, will confer His blessing upon them, and they will grow up the proper representatives of their Father, and help to roll forth this kingdom when their fathers shall be sleeping in the silent dust. So in regard to the Relief Societies; they are also doing a good work. Our Sisters are very useful in looking after the poor and instructing those who require information, and in attending to the various responsibilities associated with female life. And I am glad to see the sisters of the Relief Societies continue in your services; and all these others I have mentioned, and God will continue to bless you and lead you in the paths of life; and He will sustain you and bless you and your posterity after you. And now in regard to the probability of action being taken, as you have seen recommended in President Hayes' message. What does it amount to? It displays an animus. I am very sorry to see exhibited against the rulers of our nation. It is quite contrary to my feeling to say anything disrespectful of the Chief Executive of this nation. I cannot ignore the fact that he has enunciated principles which can be construed in any other way than as being inimical to the principles of human liberty, and repugnant to the spirit and genius of our institutions. Were we disloyal to government, or corrupt and debased in our practices, there might come some show of reason for recommendations such as his. But I am proud to say; that while we are afflicted with regard to these matters, there is not a more virtuous patriotic people in the United States than are the Latter-day Saints; and there is not a place in the United States, or in all the world, where female virtue and the rights of women are more sacredly guarded and protected than in these valleys. Having given us a law, we feel, as servants, under obligations to obey His behests. Is it not singular in this great and magnificent nation, which above all others prides on its liberal institutions, and its defense of freedom and the rights of man, we can not be let alone to put this grand social problem of the interests of humanity and civilization, which Christian statesmen, ministers of the gospel and all good men acknowledge their inability to cope with and overcome, they injure us? They will try, if we cleave unto God and obey His laws and keep His commandments, and perform faithfully various duties that devolve upon them, there is no weapon formed against Israel that will prosper, and by hand that is raised against you will be brought to nought. God will throw a shield around His people and will protect Israel and sustain the Saints in these mountains, as they fear Him and keep His commandments; and there is no power in this nation or any other nation that can hurt you. God will rule all for your good, and His will roll forth and His purposes will continue to be developed, the kingdoms of this world will become the kingdoms of our Lord and His Christ; and every creature in the heavens and on the earth and under the earth will be heard of, blessing and glory and honor and praise and power and might and dominion be ascribed to Him that sitteth upon the throne, unto the Lamb forever. Amen

Origin, Formation and Gradual development of the English Language.

The most ancient inhabitants of the British Isles of whom we have any account, were of that Celtic race that once inhabited a great portion of Western Europe. Like

other primitive nations, the Celts were of a nomadic disposition, and led a roaming and unsettled life. Agriculture was entirely neglected among them, and by tattooing and daubing their bodies, as some of the inhabitants of the Pacific Isles are still doing, they gave an unmistakable proof of their wild and uncivilized condition. Their language ceased to be spoken as other and mightier nations came in possession of their land; yet dialects of this ancient popular language are still to be found, especially in the interior of Wales and Scotland, where not a small portion of the population are direct descendants of this ancient race. With the exception of a few hundred words, which are chiefly the names of local places, towns, etc., the aborigines of the British Isles have had but little influence on the formation of the present English language. A few examples of remains of this primitive tongue may here be of interest. Thus: *basket, cap, cradle, glass*; and names of places like *London, Duncannon, Benlomond*, etc., are ancient Celtic words.

The first important connection between the original Britons and any foreign nation occurred about 55 before Christ, when their country was largely invaded by the Romans under the victorious Julius Caesar. It took, however, a whole century before the Romans were able to subdue the obstinate Britons, who then retired to the interior of the country, from where they now and then made violent attacks on the foreign conquerors. Not till the year 86 after Christ could the Romans consider themselves masters of the central and southern part of the country, which afterward remained a Roman province for more than four hundred years. Those of the Britons who yielded to the Roman yoke received a considerable degree of the enlightened conqueror's civilization; but upon the withdrawal of the Roman troops from England at the beginning of the fifth century, they had to suffer severely for their submission at the hands of their brethren, who came down in great numbers from the mountain fastnesses of Wales and Scotland, and destroyed everything before them, leaving no trace of their former civilization. Ancient Celtic legends describe minutely the vengeance

taken by the Scots and Picts upon those of the Britons who had submitted to the detested foreign yoke. Nor did the Romans, who spoke the Latin language, leave very many words as contributions to the present English. It was not until a much later period that this language became enriched with the many Latin words and expressions which now are its characteristics. The termination *don* in several geographical names, as *London*, is a somewhat varied form of the Celtic *dun*, which means a rock or natural fortification; so also is the term *chester* or *castrum*, a relic from the Roman occupation, and signifies a fortified place (*castrum*); the last syllable of the name *Lincoln* is likewise but a derivation of the Roman *colonia*, which is the same as a column or pillar in English.

The real foundation then for the laws and language of those nations that speak the modern English was first laid between the middle of the fifth and the middle of the sixth century. Warlike adventures from regions around the Elbe, from Holstein, Schleswig, Jutland and the shores of the Baltic crossed in great numbers the North Sea, and gradually occupied the same places in England, where formerly Celts and Romans had been contending about the supremacy. The lower and more accessible parts of Scotland were also conquered by them; and there, as well as in the eastern and southern parts of England, their language, which was a rich and powerful dialect of the Germanic (Gothic), soon gained firm foothold. This new colonization of the country grew stronger and stronger by fresh immigrations of Teutonic tribes, until at last, after the lapse of a few centuries, they formed several independent states which, as a whole, were called the Anglo-Saxon Heptarchy or Seven Kingdoms. In 827 they were all made subject to Wessex (the land of the West Saxons), and there were now prospects of a rapid and powerful national development. But no sooner had the union of the Anglo-Saxon tribes taken place than the Northmen made their appearance in great numbers, changed the supremacy over a great portion of the country, and tried to subdue the Saxons as thoroughly as these had subdued the Celts. The Saxon

language, however, which for the most part superseded the Celtic and Roman, forms the basis of the modern English language, to which it gave a supply of about 23,000 words. Thus most of the common words in English are of Saxon origin, as for instance, *bad, good, great, small, hear, see, etc.*

For many years Scandinavia continued to send forth hosts of adventurers, who distinguished themselves by as unusual a strength, courage and bravery as contempt for the Christian name. No land then known was safe from these adventurers, while England in particular was most exposed to their unfriendly visits. The mere mention of their name was sufficient to strike terror in the enemy with terror; and it very often happened that in Christian churches, prayers were offered up to the Almighty, beseeching him to deliver them from the wrath and power of the Northmen. Large colonies from Norway, Denmark and Sweden settled on the eastern coast of the British Isles; and as they were continually recruited from their respective native countries, they even aspired to the supremacy of the whole land. The struggle between the two strong Teutonic nations lasted through six generations, during which each alternately had the superiority. For a space of about 26 years, the Northmen reigned exclusively; but when the North at last ceased to send forth her adventurous sons to the foreign country, the natural ill-feeling between the two nations also ceased, and inter-marriages frequently took place. The two languages, which were besides mere branches of one and the same tongue, commixed, and even to-day are distinct traces found of the Scandinavian colonization in the dialects of the countrymen, in current family names, and in the appellation of places, especially in the north and east of England, and on the eastern coast of Scotland. Words such as *clap, earl, flag, flail, etc.*, are of Scandinavian origin, and stand as venerable monuments from those times.

About 900 years after Christ the celebrated Norse giant Gange Rolf (Walking Rollo) and his companions left Norway on account of dissatisfaction with the state of affairs in their native country, and conquered a portion of land in the northern part of France, which they called

Normandy, after their northern home. The gradual blending of these Norwegian conquerors and the native French population in this new founded state, produced the Norman nationality which through the middle ages took such a conspicuous part in affairs on land and sea. Their language was employed in law, in song, and in poetry. Their culture was expressed in literature, in architecture, and in oratory, and far surpassed every other European nation during the middle ages. Their bravery was great and was known far and wide. Rolf's grandson, the celebrated William the Conqueror, even crossed the English Channel during the middle of the 11th century, and conquered, after several hard-fought battles, the whole of England. After the famous battle of Hastings, in 1066, he was acknowledged king of the land, and undertook from that hour radical changes in his new kingdom. Norman feudalism was introduced, the land divided among a number of chiefs, and the foundation thus laid for the noted Norman nobility of England and France. The language of the native population remained, however, almost entirely unchanged through the following century, on account of the peculiar position of the conquerors. It was in the second and third centuries after the conquest that a considerable change first took place in this respect, when both languages rapidly commixed, and a great many French words were adopted, of which nouns as *baron, damsel, feud, and fief* are relics. From the fourteenth century, therefore, the modern English language commenced forming, and ever since it has been adopting a great many different words and expressions from the best known living and dead languages. English authors and writers of celebrity have besides tried, as much as possible, to purify the language by throwing away local expressions, by abandoning old inflections, and by more completely blending its different component parts. Thus from the five nations mentioned, viz., the Celts or Britons, the Romans, the Saxons, the Northmen (from Scandinavia), and the Normans (Norwegian colonists in France), the powerful English and American nations, and the widely spoken English language have sprung. J. A. B.

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