

SCANDINAVIAN BRITAIN

INTRODUCTORY CHAPTERS

By the late Professor York Powell

I. MATERIALS

Libros ipsos relegi quorum quamvis verba non recito sensus tamen et res actas credo me integre retinere.—JORD., *De Get.*, Prol.

THE last great wave of Teutonic Migration (before the discovery of America), is that by which great parts of the British Islands and Gaul were conquered and settled by new-comers from the Scandinavian peninsulas. It is with the part of this movement which concerns Britain, that this little book will briefly deal.

The results of this Migration are great enough to justify our spending some little time and trouble upon its history, for our population, our laws, and our language still show clear proofs of its influence, and among the several circumstances that have distinguished the history of our own country from that of other parts of West Europe, the incoming of the Northmen cannot be held the least.