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## Scandinavian Britain

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over Harold War-tooth, in the eighth century,—a succession of efforts, in fact, on the part of vigorous kings to raise an empire, such as Ermanaric had set up and ruled over for so many glorious years. These efforts to bring the three great peoples under one head failed, but for three centuries they seemed to have absorbed the energies of the Scandinavian folk.

The end of the eighth century saw the renewal of the migrations from the north. *Eastward* went Ruric and Olga, to found the realm of Holm-garth or Garth-ric, with Newgarth (the Russian Nov-gorod) and Kiev for their capitals, pushing whence southward they brought their ships up to besiege the walls of Mickle-garth itself, that New Rome, which was the richest, most populous, and mightiest city of the whole world. But with their fortunes we have not to do here. *Southward*, the great confederacies, Frisian, Saxon, and Frankish, were, though hard put to it no doubt, yet strong enough to repulse any fresh settlers from the North.

The *West way* was still open, and over it there sailed fleet after fleet for 220 years. This western movement is made up of two distinguishable streams of migration; one, mainly *Danish*, starting from the Wick and from the Gothic coast, and Danish isles and headlands, and creeping down the Frisian coast to the Rhine delta; then roving to the East English land, or up the Thames mouth to the East Saxon or Kentish shores, or passing on down Channel attacking the fruitful and open country on either side, occupying