

There is much in Hesiod and Theognis and even in Pindar and the Greek tragedians that runs parallel to these saws.

The old *Play of the Wolsungs* gives several maxims of the like type :—

Manifold are the woes of men.
 No man knows where he may lodge at night ;
 Ill it is to outrun one's luck.
 Not many a man is brave when he is old
 If he were cowardly as a child.
 The doomed man's death lies everywhere.
 A good heart is better than a strong sword
 When the wroth meet in fray,
 For I have often seen a brave man
 Win the day with a blunt blade.
 The cheerful man fares better than the whiner
 Whatever betide him.
 All evils are meted out [by fate].
 The home verdict is a parlous matter.
 Wine is a great wit-stealer.
 Most miserable is the man-sworn.

These examples of popular lore form no bad index to the feelings and ideas of the men and women in whose mouths they took shape and life. What has been said and cited above may give some index also to the material state of culture reached by those west-coast folk. The finds in Scandinavia and Denmark show that as early as the third and fourth centuries many of the Roman implements of metal had reached the North, which had long been in the possession of bronze weapons. Iron weapons and tools were known and used in the North as freely almost as in Britain or Gaul, and in dress,