

His views (*Vikingerne*, i. p. 134) may be summarised thus :—

Long before Ireland was attacked, viz. A.D. 700 or earlier, men from south-western Norway—Hordaland, Ryfylke, Jæderen, and neighbouring settlements,— may have sailed over the North Sea and landed in Orkney and Shetland. Several Shetland place-names are formed in a way which had gone out of fashion when Iceland was colonised, as Dr. Jakob Jakobsen notes (in *Aarbøger for nordisk Oldkyndighed*, 1902). Further, the Viking Age settlers had owned their land so long that they could call it their *odal* or *udal*, and the tradition was that jarl Torf-Einar took the odal lands away from the *bœndr*, who got them back from Sigurd Hlödver's son; whereas in Iceland, colonised late in the ninth century, no such word as *odal* is used: the Icelanders who left their native country under compulsion had their odals in Norway, not in Iceland. With the Norse may have come Gotlanders; stones inscribed with the earlier runes (of the kind used before the Viking Age) and found in Norway bear witness to a connexion with east Sweden and Gotland, and in Gotland there is a series of pillar-stones dating from 700 or earlier, with spirals and other ornaments of a Celtic type, which suggests intercourse between Celtic countries and the Baltic, possibly by way of Orkney and Norway.

With regard to these three lines of argument it might be answered that a connexion between Britain and the Baltic in early ages need not be doubted, but that it was more likely to have been by way of Frisia ;