

For if Ella in 477 came to Sussex, and Cerdic in 495 to Wessex, why are we to suppose the Humber neglected by the Northmen till 547, when Ida began to reign in Northumberland? According to Nennius, this great prince, the ninth in descent from Woden, possessed lands on the 'left-hand side' (*i. e.* on the north) of Britain, *united* Deira and Bernicia, and was the first king in *Caer Ebrauc* (York). But the same author tells us that Soemil, fifth in descent from Woden,—and ancestor of Ella, tenth in descent, who succeeded Ida,—was the first who *separated* Deira from Bernicia. This seems to indicate an Anglian conquest of Deira, four generations before Ida—one generation after Hengist.

The twelve sons of Ida landed at Flamborough with forty ships full of Anglians, to assist their father in his wars*. At this time, according to the triads of the Kymri, the country between the Humber and the Lowlands of Scotland (perhaps we may say the mountainous district) was under the command of three British sovereigns—Gall, Dyvedel, and Ysgwnell,—'bards and sons of the bard Dysgyfeddawg' †. No record of their opposition survives. Urien was king in Reged, the British kingdom of Strathcluyd; Rhydder, Gwallog, and Morgant reigned in Cumbria. The poems attributed to Taliesin and Llywarch Hen, and some of the Triads, refer to the contest which these princes firmly maintained against the warlike Anglian chief—'flame-bearing' Ida, and his brave descendants. Llywarch Hen, the great elegiac poet of the Kymri, the personal friend of Urien, stood by the side of the valiant monarch, and embalmed his memory in affectionate and beautiful verses ‡. Ida died in 560, perhaps by the sword of Owain, the heroic son of Urien. Reged was saved till a later day; the Bernician chiefs retired to North Wales, and were welcomed by Maelgwn, whose ancestor Cunedda—four generations before—had quitted Bernicia and settled in North Wales. That powerful monarch also received

* Matthew of Westminster.

† Stephens's *Literature of the Kymri*. The names are differently given by Williams (*Gododin*, p. 3).

‡ *Ibid.*