

people from the shores of the Baltic near the mouth of the Elbe (*Angles*), and Scandinavia ; and, in the long run, they permanently occupied the greater part of the land. Then the native tribes, absorbed, slain, or dispossessed of their territories, and slowly driven westwards, retreated to join their countrymen into the distant and mountainous parts of the country, where the relics of this old Celtic people are still extant in Devon and in Cornwall, while among the mountains of Wales the same Celtic element yet forms a distinct and peculiar people. There, till after the Norman conquest, they still held out against the invader, and maintained their independence in a region barren in the high ground, but traversed by many a broad and pleasant valley. Living, as the relics of the old Britons are apt to do, so much in memories of the past, the slowly dying language, and even the antique cadences of their regretful music, speak of a people whose distinctive characters are gradually waning and merging into a newer phase of intellectual life.

It appears then that the oldest tribes now inhabiting our country, both in Scotland and in the south, are to be found among those most ancient of our geological formations, the Silurian rocks, which, by old palæozoic disturbance, form the less accessible mountain lands ; while the lower and more fertile hills, the plains and tablelands, and Scotland south of the Grampians, are chiefly inhabited by the descendants of the heathen, who made good their places by the sword after the departure of the Romans.

On the east of Scotland, also, along the coasts of the Moray Firth, in Caithness, and in the Orkney and Shetland Islands, the people are of Scandinavian origin and speak Scotch, thus standing out in marked contrast