

ART. XXXIV.—*Numerals formerly used for Sheepscoreing in the Lake Country, with their affinities, No. II.* BY REV. T. ELLWOOD.

*Read at Whitehaven, December 10th, 1877.*

AS the question of the origin of these numerals was left, in a great measure, undecided by the Meeting at Furness Abbey, it was resolved that the discussion thereon should be resumed at this meeting. I have since then obtained several other important versions of these numerals, which will be found in the tables given herewith, and an animated correspondence, arising in a great measure out of the paper which I read at Furness Abbey, has been for several weeks carried on in *The Athenæum* newspaper on the same subject. In this discussion it has been maintained by eminent philological authorities—as I believe it is also maintained by some members of this Society—that the numerals have come down orally from the ancient British kingdom of Strathclyde. To this question I shall not attempt to give either a negative or an affirmative answer, but content myself with placing before you such additional evidence upon the subject as I have been able to obtain since our last meeting. I am not aware, however, that we are able to conclude from any available test of language that the Welsh branch of the Celtic was spoken in the kingdom of Strathclyde, and till that can be proved we cannot definitely settle the question, for whatever else may be undecided about these numerals there can be no doubt whatever that of all the branches of the Celtic family they have the greatest affinity to the Welsh.

The most ancient form of the Welsh branch of the Celtic is to be found in the *Grammatica Celtica* of Zeuss, and this valuable work I was enabled, through the kindness of Rev. Dr. Longfield, Regius Professor of Hebrew in the University

University of Dublin, whose pupil I formerly was, to consult in the library of Trinity College in that University. Zeuss gives the most ancient forms of the Welsh numerals as follows : —

ANCIENT BRITISH NUMERALS.

*Feminine.*

1 Un		11 Un-ar-dec
2 Dou, (or) Deu	Dui	12 Deudec
3 Tri	Teir	13 Tri-ar-dec
4 Petuar	Peteir	14 Petuar-ar-dec
5 Pimp		15 Pymthec
6 Chwech--(In composition Chwe)		16 Un-ar-pymthec
7 Seith		17 Deu-ar-pymthec
8 Wyth		18 Tri-ar-pymthec
9 Nau, (or) Naw		19 Petuar-ar-pymthec
10 Dec		20 Ucent

Zeuss does not tabulate the numbers between eleven and nineteen, inclusive, but they can (by analogy) easily be inferred from his notes. They proceed, as he shows from ten to fifteen and from fifteen to twenty, by fives; *e.g.*, *teir llong ardec*, thirteen ships; *pedeir blyned ardec*, fourteen years; *teir eglwys ar dec*, thirteen churches; *un dyn ar pymthec*, sixteen men. It will be observed that in the examples thus quoted from Zeuss the noun, which I have particularized by putting it in italics, is placed between the two component parts of the numerals, and that the noun and the component parts of the numerals between which it stands become, through an agglutinative process, almost as one word. It does not appear from Zeuss that these numerals are ever found in extant forms unless joined to a noun as in the instances I have cited, and this is, I think, a point of some importance in determining the origin of our own numerals, for had they come down from the ancient Cumbrian kingdom of Strathclyde, the cognate Welsh nouns would in some cases have been found associated with them. Familiar, however, as some of our dalesmen are with *yan*, *tean*, &c., I have never found  
any

any of them who had the remotest idea *blyned* meant year, *llong* meant ship, or *dyn* meant man, or even that *dafad* meant a sheep.

The two great divisions of the Celtic speech are the Cymric, or Welsh division, whose numerals I have just given, which comprises the modern Welsh and the Breton, which is now spoken by about one and a-half millions of people in Brittany in France, and the Goidelic division, which comprises the Gaelic of Scotland, the Irish, the Manx, and the Cornish. In only one of those divisions (the Cymric) and, moreover, in only one of those subdivisions (the Welsh) do the numerals proceed by fives up to twenty. In all the other systems sixteen is represented by  $10 + 6$ . In the Welsh there is a separate word, *pymtheg*, for fifteen, and then it proceeds *un ar bymtheg*, &c., differently from all the other Celtic systems; and in this it exactly corresponds with the numerals of Lakeland—they have *bumfit*, for fifteen, and *yen-a-bumfit* for sixteen, &c. Now this *ar* of the Welsh, according to Pugh's Welsh Grammar, p. 108, means *over*, or *in excess of*, and so *un ar pymdec*, or *bymtheg*, means, literally, *one over*, or *in excess of*, fifteen, and hence we get the key to our own system for in *yen-a-bumfit* *a* represents the Welsh *ar*, and thus *yen-a-bumfit* means *one over*, or *in excess of*, fifteen. But *bymtheg*, or *bumfit*, is really itself a composite word, and is made up of *pimp*, or *pump*, = 5, and *dec* = 10, so that *yen-a-bumfit* really means 1 in excess of  $5 + 10$ .\*

You will observe in the version obtained from Kirkby Stephen, Westmorland, that after fifteen the system proceeds *yan-e-boon*. Now this word *eboon* or *aboon* is noteworthy as being the exact translation in our northern dialects of the Welsh *ar* = *over*, or *in excess of*. According to the German work of Professor Pott, (*Quinare und Vigesimal Zahlmethode*, Halle, 1847,) the same idea of above, or in excess

\* Of course those remarks apply equally to the other composite numbers, e.g., *Tyan-a-bumfit* = 2 in excess of  $5 + 10$ . *Tethera-a-bumfit* = 3 in excess of  $5 + 10$ , &c.

of,

of, may be traced in the English systems of numerals for our eleven evidently comes from the Gothic *ainlibin*, and, according to Pott, *ain* is one, and *libin* is *over*, or *in excess of*.

Another reason for supposing these numerals to be Welsh is derived from a comparison of them with the North American Indian versions, which are in most cases almost exactly like the sheepscore numerals of Lakeland.

Dr. Trumbull, who got them in some cases from the Indians, says, they have no affinity whatever with the Indian systems of notation which are very complete in themselves. The numerals found in Rhode Island are extremely like those given by Mr. Browne, as from Borrowdale, and according to Mr. Spurrel, Rhode Island, was colonised by Isaac Williams, a native of Carmarthen, in North Wales. He and his fellow countrymen no doubt carried those numerals there with them, and thus found in the words of their native language one of the strongest reminiscences of their early home.\*

I have endeavoured to tabulate, for the purpose of comparison, the Lakeland numerals as far as ten, and to place them side by side with the various branches of the Celtic and the Sanscrit as the best and earliest extant type of the Indo-Germanic family of languages as given in "Pictet de l'Affinite des Langues Celtiques avec le Sanscrit, Paris, 1837." And a glance at this table will perhaps do more to show their points of affinity than any explanation of mine.

I sent to enquire of Max Muller, Esq., Professor of Comparative Philology in the University of Oxford, who has taken a kind interest in this our enquiry into the origin of our Lakeland numerals, whether any earlier and more radical form of the numerals of the Indo-Germanic family than those of the Sanscrit could be obtained, and I was told in reply that such were at present unknown, but that

\* The earlier settlers probably used these numerals in trading with the Indians for peltries &c., and thus taught them to the Indians. Later comers, hearing the Indians use these numerals, and not having heard them before, and not knowing Indian, would at once set them down as Indian.—R. S. F.

it

it was probable they would be found, if they existed at all, amongst the mountain shepherds of Tibet.

With regard to the word *gigget* or *jigget* for twenty, I can make little or nothing of it. One authority derives it from *ucent* Cymric for twenty. The modern Welsh word for 20, *viz.* — *ugain*, or the Cornish word *iganz*, in Table II, seem to approach it more nearly.

As the object of this paper is rather to introduce a discussion than to exhaust and decide the subject, I have probably said more than enough. I am anxious, in conclusion, to thank A. J. Ellis, Esq., formerly President, now Vice-President, of the Philological Society; Professor Rhys, Professor of Celtic in the University of Oxford; R. S. Ferguson, Esq., Editor of Transactions of the Cumberland and Westmorland Antiquarian Society, and other gentlemen whose names will be found accompanying the various versions, for the very kind aid they have afforded me, and to say that as it is impossible to overrate the extreme importance of those numerals if they have come down from the ancient British Kingdom of Strathclyde, I trust that the discussion will not be terminated until it has been satisfactorily evidenced whether the numerals can be considered to be an oral testimony to the existence of that Kingdom or not.

---

*Note by the Editor.* Some confusion has been caused by these numerals being called "Scotch," and by their having been used by cattle drovers, often Highlanders, for counting their cattle: hence some have concluded them to be Gaelic, imported by Highland drovers. But at one time every stranger, or strange thing in Cumberland, was called "Scotch," the great set of travel being southward. The shire toll of Cumberland, a toll (*inter alia*) on all cattle entering the county, is older than the beginning of the 13th century; it was not worth the collection, and was not collected from Westmorland into Cumberland, but was of great value from Scotland into Cumberland. The antiquity of the toll, and the fact that these numerals were (until steam abolished

abolished drovers and their droves) used for counting the cattle, makes it possible that they may have come down from the early Cumbrian toll collectors, and have come to be called Scotch, just as in America they have come to be called Indian. This lends colour to the Strathclyde hypothesis, and would seem to show that the language of Strathclyde was Welsh, but at present the speculation is hazardous.

---

## APPENDIX.

---

### TABLES OF NUMERALS.

#### 1. CONISTON, HIGH FURNESS.

Coniston, High Furness, North Lancashire: Communicated by the Rev. T. Ellwood, rector of Torver, Coniston, as the recollection of Mrs. Ellwood of what she was taught, when a girl, by her mother, the wife of a considerable landowner and sheep farmer in Coniston—

1 Yan	6 Haata	11 Yan-a-dick	16 Yan-a-mimph
2 Taen	7 Slaata	12 Taen-a-dick	17 Taen-a-mimph
3 Tedderte	8 Lowra	13 Tedder-a-dick	18 Tedder-a-mimph
4 Medderte	9 Dowra	14 Medder-a-dick	19 Medder-a-mimph
5 Pimp	10 Dick	15 Mimph	20 Gigget

These numerals have been known at Coniston from time immemorial.

---

#### 2. BORROWDALE, KESWICK.

Obtained by Rev. T. Ellwood from W. Browne, Esq., Tallantire Hall. Mr. Browne says with reference to them, "I got this list of numerals when I was a boy (I am now about 68 years old) from my cousins the Ponsonbys, at the time that Captain Ponsonby was residing at Barrow Hall, close to the entrance of Borrowdale. It is just 60 years since this list of numerals was got from the Shepherds of Borrowdale as being then used by them—considering the retired character

character of the vale at that time, and the slowness of the people to take up anything new, and their small intercourse with others from whom they could learn them—I think there is an absolute certainty that they must have been in use there *very long* before A.D. 1818.

1 Yan	6 Sether	11 Yan-a-dick	16 Yan-a-bumfit
2 Tyan	7 Lether	12 Tyan-a-dick	17 Tyan-a-bumfit
3 Tether	8 Hover	13 Tether-a-dick	18 Tether-a-bumfit
4 Methera	9 Dover	14 Methera-a-dick	19 Methera-a-bumfit
5 Pimp	10 Dick	15 Bumfit	20 Giggot

---

### 3. MILLOM, CUMBERLAND.

Obtained by Rev. T. Ellwood from Mr. J. Hellon, of Dunnerdale, Seathwaite. Learned by him 30 or 40 years ago, as he thought, from Isaac Jones, an old Welshman who came to work at the Old Duddon Smelting Works at Millom Hall. "Upon inquiring more particularly of Mr. Hellon, he says they did not come direct from Isaac Jones to him. My own impression is therefore that they may have come originally from the secluded mountain valley of Seathwaite, High Furness, rendered classic ground by 'the Wonderful Walker' and Wordsworth's references in "The Excursion." T.E.

1 Aina	6 Ithy	11 Ain-a-dig	16 Ain-a-bumfit
2 Peina	7 Mithy	12 Pein-a-dig	17 Pein-a-bumfit
3 Para	8 Ower	13 Par-a-dig	18 Par-a-bumfit
4 Peddera	9 Lower	14 Pedder-a-dig	19 Pedder-a-bumfit
5 Pimp	10 Dig	15 Bumfit	20 Gigg

---

### 4. ESKDALE, CUMBERLAND, (AT THE FOOT OF SCAWFELL).

Communicated to Rev. T. Ellwood, by Dr. Kendall, of Coniston, obtained by Dr. Kendall from a servant who brought them from Eskdale, whence he came. As received from the servant the numbers from 11 to 14, inclusive, were *yaen-a-pimp*, &c., which really represents the numbers 6, 7, &c. The exact order has evidently become confused at that point.

1 Yaena	6 Hofa	11 Yaen-a-dec	16 Yaen-a-bumfit
2 Taena	7 Lofa	12 Taen-a-dec	17 Taen-a-bumfit
3 Teddera	8 Seckera	13 Tedder-a-dec	18 Tedder-a-bumfit
4 Meddera	9 Leckera	14 Medder-a-dec	19 Medder-a-bumfit
5 Pimp	10 Dec	15 Bumfit	20 Giggot

### 5. KIRKBY

## 5. KIRKBY STEPHEN, WESTMORLAND.

Obtained from Mr. Ellis, Transliterated into Glossic from the palaeotype of Mr. J. A. H. Murray, who wrote from the dictation of Mr. W. H. Thompson, of Kirkby Stephen, where it is called *Gaelic*. Observe that *d'* is dental *d*.:—

1 Yaan'	6 Hai'tes	11 Yaan'edik	16 Yaan'eboon
2 Tyaan'	7 Sai'tes	12 Tyaan'edik	17 Tyaan'eboon
3 Taed'ere	8 Hao'ves	13 Taed'eredik	18 Taed'ereboon
4 Maed'ere	9 Dao'ves	14 Maed'eredik	19 Maed'ereboon
5 Mimp	10 Dik	15 Boon boom buum	20 Buom'fit buum'fit

## 6.

Obtained from W. Browne, Esq., of Tallentire Hall, who says:—  
 “These numerals were obtained as the result of a number of letters of inquiry in the Cumberland and Westmorland dales. They are from a female traditioner who got them as a girl thirty years since from a woman of fifty years old, who got them from an old woman of eighty years of age when the woman of fifty was about fifteen. The aged lady had known of them time out of mind, that makes 30 + 35 + say 65 = 130 years.

1 Ein	6 Hatus	11 Ein-a-dic	16 Ein-a Boon
2 Tein	7 Latus	12 Tein-a-dic	17 Tein-a-Boon
3 Tethera	8 Sour	13 Tethera-a-dic	18 Tether-a-Boon*
4 Wethera	9 Dowr	14 Wethera-a-dic	19 Wether-a-Boon
5 Pimp	10 Dics (or Dix?)	15 Bumfit	20 Jiget (or Giget?)

## 7. WASDALE HEAD, CUMBERLAND.

Obtained from Mr. Ritson, as used in sheepscoring. A more perfect version was promised, but owing to the remoteness of the district has not been obtained:—

1 Yen	2 Taen	3 Tudder	4 Anudder	5 Nimph
-------	--------	----------	-----------	---------

\* The jingle and euphony and the pronunciation of the “Wethera-a-dic” and “Tether-a-Boon” look very old. Then the simplicity of utilizing the Ein, Tein, &c., by invoking their aid three times is very simple in its mode of rude adaptation of language. The “one aboon 15” for sixteen is amazingly near to the simplest form of natural language.

## 8. EPPING,

## 8. EPPING, ESSEX.

Communicated by R. S. Ferguson, Esq., editor of Transactions of Cumberland and Westmorland Antiquarian Society, obtained by him from A. Harris Esq., who obtained it 42 years ago from an old lady in Epping, Essex.

1 In	6 Lethera	11 In-dick	16 In-a-bumfit
2 Tin	7 Methera	12 Tin-dick	17 Tin-a-bumfit
3 Tethera	8 Co	13 Tether-a-dick	18 Lether-a-bumfit
4 Fethera	9 Debera	14 Lether-a-dick	19 Mether-a-bumfit
5 Fip	10 Dick	15 Bumfit	20 Gigot

## 9. KNARESBOROUGH, YORKSHIRE.

Communicated to Rev. T. Ellwood by W. F. Hunter, Esq., 1, Ainslie Place, Edinburgh, as taught him when a child by his nursemaid, a native of Knaresborough, in Yorkshire.

1 Yah	6 Seezar	11 Yah-dick	16 Yah-de-bumper
2 Tiah (one syllable)	7 Leezar	12 Tiah-dick	17 Tiah-de-bumper
3 Tethera	8 Cattera	13 Tether-a-dick	18 Tether-de-bumper
4 Methera	9 Horna	14 Mether-a-dick	19 Mether-de-bumper
5 Pip	10 Dick	15 Bumper	20 Jigger

Mr. Hunter says he has never heard of anything used in Scotland resembling this.

## 10. MIDDLETON, TEESDALE, DURHAM.

Obtained by Rev. W. F. Bell, Laithkirk Vicarage, Mickleton, Barnard Castle, from a youth who learnt it from his grandmother, a person of about 80, now living at Middleton.

1 Yan	6 Sezar	11 Yan-a-dik	16 Yan-a-bum
2 Tean	7 Azar	12 Tean-a-dik	17 Tean-a-bum
3 Tether	8 Catrah	13 Tether-a-dik	18 Tether-a-bum
4 Mether	9 Horna	14 Mether-a-dik	19 Mether-a-bum
5 Pip	10 Dik	15 Bumfit	20 Jiggit.

11. THE

## II. THE CORNISH NUMERALS.

Communicated to Rev. T. Ellwood by Professor Rhys, Professor of Celtic in the University of Oxford and extracted by him from Norris' Cornish Drama, vol ii., p. 243.

1 Un, or, onen	11 Ednack, or, unnack
2 Deu, dyw, dew	12 Dewtheck
3 Try, ( <i>fem</i> ) tyr, ter	13 Tardhak, or, trethuk
4 Pes-war, pedyr ( <i>fem</i> )	14 Peswarthack
5 Pymp	17 Pymthek
6 Whe	16 Huetag, or, whettak
7 Seyth	17 Seitag, or, seytek
8 Eath, or, Eyth	18 Eatag, or, eythek
9 Naw	19 Nawnzack, or Naunthck
10 Dek	20 Igan, or, ugens

In a version obtained from Rathmell, near Settle, Yorkshire, 20 is represented by *iggan*.

## 12. THE BRETON NUMERALS (FROM BRITTANY IN FRANCE).

Communicated by Professor Rhys, and extracted by him from Le Gonidec's Grammar, p. 23.

1 Unan	6 Chouech	11 Unnek	16 Chouezek
2 Daou, diou ( <i>fem</i> )	7 Seiz	12 Daouzek	17 Seitek
3 Tri, teir ( <i>fem</i> )	8 Eiz	13 Trizete	18 Triouech*
4 Pevar, peder ( <i>fem</i> )	9 Nao	14 Pavarzek	19 Naoutek
5 Pemp	10 Dek	15 Pemzek	20 Ugent

It is of importance to observe in the classification of the ancient British numerals that neither the Cornish nor the Breton counts in the second ten by fives, as the Welsh does. In this, the sheepscoring numerals agree with the Welsh branch of the Celtic, and differ from the Cornish and Breton branches of it.

## 13. MAINE (NORTH AMERICAN INDIAN).

Used by the extinct Wawenocs, in Maine, as written by Dr. Ballard. Sent to Mr. Ellis by Dr. Trumbull, Hartford, Connecticut. †

1 Een	6 Een-pimp	11 Een-geeget	16 Een-bumfra
2 Teen	7 Teen-pimp	12 Teen-geeget	17 Teen-bumfra
3 Tother	8 Tother-pimp	13 Tother-geeget	18 Tother-bumfra
4 Fither	9 Fither-pimp	14 Fither-geeget	19 Fither-bumfra
5 Pimp	10 Geeget	15 Bumfra	20 Frith-en-y

\* Literally three-six. † v. p. 397.

## 14. HEBRON, CONNECTICUT (NORTH AMERICAN INDIAN).

Written in Glossic by Dr. Trumbull, from the dictation of a gentleman of Hartford, Connecticut, about 60 years old, who had been taught the scoring when a child by an old Indian woman who used to come to his father's house in Hebron, Connecticut, 20 miles south-east of Hartford, to sell baskets, brooms, &c. "She must have been," says Dr. Trumbull, "a Narragausett Piquot or Mohegan Squaw." The woman used to stroll the country gipsy-like to sell the articles of her own manufacture.

1 Een	6 Sat	11 Een-dik	16 Een-bungki
2 Teen	7 Latta	12 Teen-dik	17 Teen-bungki
3 Tudhur	8 Poal	13 Tudhur-dik	18 Tudhur-bungki
4 Fedhur	9 Def'ri	14 Fedhur-dik	19 Fedhur-bungki
5 Pip	10 Dik	15 Bungki	20 Gigit

## 15. CINCINNATI, OHIO, UNITED STATES (NORTH AMERICAN INDIAN).

The following version was communicated to A. J. Ellis, Esq., in February, 1875, by Mr. H. Jenner, of the British Museum, who had heard it that day from Mr. E. A. Guy, Cincinnati, Ohio, U.S., who was visiting the Museum. He stated that he had been taught it when a child by his mother, a native of the same place, who told him that they were the same numbers as those used by the Indian hunters, and that she had learned them from the white hunters and trappers who came in from the forests. He said that he never knew any one but his own brothers who knew them, and they were stated to be used by the Miami Indians, a now extinct tribe formerly living in the south of Ohio.

1 Een	6 Soter	11 Een-dick	16 Een-bumptege
2 Teen	7 Loter	12 Teen-dick	17 Teen-bumptege
3 Tother	8 Poter	13 Tother-dick	18 Tother-bumptege
4 Feather	9 Debber	14 Feather-dick	19 Feather-bumptege
5 Fib	10 Dick	15 Fib-dick	20 Unick

The two last versions and most of the preceding ones now appear in print for the first time.

TABLE

TABLE EXTRACTED FROM "PICTET DE L'AFFINITE DES LANGUAGE CELTIQUES AVEC SANSKRIT,"  
PARIS, 1837.

Note

	SANSKRIT.	OLD IRISH.	ERSE.	OLD WELSH.	BRETON.	CORNISH.	MANX, obtained for this paper.
1	eka	an or aon	aon	un	unan	un or onen	unnane
2	dui	di, da, or do	da	dau	dau	deau	jees
3	tri	tri	tri	tri	tri	tre or trei	three
4	c'atur	ceathar	ceathar	pedwar	pevar, peder	peswere	kiare
5	pancan	cuig	cuig	pump	pemp	pemp or pymp	queig
6	s'as	se	se	chwech	chuech	huik	shey
7	saptan	seacht	seachd	saith	seiz	seith	shiaght
8	astan	ocht	ochd	wyth	eiz	eath	hoght
9	navan	naoi	naoi	naw	nao	nau	nuy
10	dasan	deich	deich	deg	dek	deg or dek	jeigh

The Manx for 20 is *feed*. Gaelic or Erse for 20 is *fichead*. An old version from Weardale, Durham, gives *feeba* for 20. Compare Maine Indian *Fritheny*.

*Note*—Dr. Trumbull took the Indian version, No. 13, from the Historical Magazine, 2nd series, vol. iii., p. 129, New York, Mar., 1868, and also received them in a private letter from the late Rev. E. Ballard, D.D., Secretary of the Maine Historical Society, by whom they were communicated to the above Magazine. R. K. Sewell, Esq., of Wiscasset, who gave the Historical Society a brief description of the Wawenoc tribe, stated in his paper that there had been preserved a clear traditional record of the sounds embodied in this system of numeration extant as early as A.D. 1717, well understood and often used by the aged white men of that day, who had been long resident in the Sheepcot waters in the Wawenoc territory, and on terms of intimacy with the surviving natives, and this information was given by a worthy man now [1868] in his 81st year. The Wawenocs were a tribe of the Abnaki nation, and their territory is said to have extended from Sagadahock, the mouth of the Kennebec River, eastward to the Musongas River, along the coast of Maine, including the peninsula of Pennaquid, now in Lincoln County, Maine. Only two or three families of this tribe were living in 1747, and a few years later these removed to Canada to join the Abnaki settlement begun at St. Francois and Becancourt. Dr. Trumbull does not find the Wawenocs mentioned as a distinct tribe after 1750. They are referred to by a historian of Maine, in 1804, as extinct. Dr. J. G. Kohl, in his history of the discovery of Maine, says:—“Also among the Wawenoc Indians of Maine, near Pennaquid, certain numerals have been handed down by tradition bearing a resemblance to the Icelandic, which may have been derived by them in their barter with the northern strangers.” Dr. Ballard informed Dr. Trumbull that Mr. Kohl relied on the Norse or Icelandic 1, eyn; 4, fiorde; 5, fim; which are usually spelled 1, einn; 4, fjogur, fjorar, fjorir; 5, fimm. But upon comparing the whole Norse numeral system it will be found that there is not so much resemblance as between the Norse and Welsh. As Dr. Trumbull correctly observes, “if these numerals were in common use by the Wawenocs of the 18th century, it is more probable that they borrowed them from the English sailors or colonists after 1607, than that they learned them from Thorfinn in the beginning of the 11th century, or Madoc and his companions in the 12th.” I obtained this valuable note from Mr. Ellis, and I think upon carefully collating our versions obtained in the Lake Country with the Icelandic which, owing to its isolated position, has remained the best and most unchanged type of the ancient Norse, that there is (except in the numerals named above) just as little affinity between the Lakeland numerals and the Norse, as there is between those of the Indians and the Norse. There is, however, evidence that the Norsemen did leave their traces in the language of Cumberland and the Lake District. Haaf is the Icelandic for sea, and the fishermen of the Solway to this day call their sea nets the haaf-nets. Hause (German *hals*, meaning neck,) is the Icelandic term for the neck or pass which joins two mountain valleys, and is used in exactly the same sense in Lakeland at present, e.g., Seatoller Hause, the pass between Buttermere and Borrowdale, Tarn Hause, &c., &c.

---

