



History of Christian names

Charlotte Mary Yonge

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This historic book may have numerous typos and missing text. Purchasers can download a free scanned copy of the original book (without typos) from the publisher. Not indexed. Not illustrated. 1878 Excerpt: ...with the Aasir, he took the northern name of Agir, Ygg, or (Egir. He was on very friendly terms with the Aasir, gave them banquets, visited them at Asgard, and heard Bragi tell stories of their deeds; but his usual occupation was to raise his hoary head above the water when he meant evil to vessels; and when he raised storms, his wife Ran (from rceina, to spoil,) sat fishing for sailors, whose spirits she imprisoned like a water Hela, so that drowned men were said to be gone to Ran, before Davy Jones superseded her in nautical language. His daughter, Unna, was the wave rising as in human shape. All these images evidently suggested by the wild, heaped, confused, masses of waves in the North Sea, which, instead of forming the even sweep of ridge and furrow of the Atlantic, are in tumbling masses, suggesting the human form. Unna is said to come from the same root as unda, the Latin wave; but the word also means love, and thence a woman, and there is a curious similitude in it to Aine, the granddaughter of Lyr, in Irish legend. In Germany, GSgir was Ecke, but was reduced to fresh water and rivers. In the eighth and ninth centuries the Oder, or Eider, was, however, called GUGisdora, or Egidora, the door to CEgir; and to the present day, Ware (Egir, at the mouth of the Severa, Gare Aigre, at that of the Seine, are memories of how (Egir was once thought to come riding in, on the tidal wave, to submerge the boats in the river-mouth. And no doubt the Ogre of fairy tales, the Oreo of the Italians, are varieties of the terrible (Egir. The root of his name is, in fact, og or uok, the same as our awe. Thence Yggr is a title of Odin, and the great world tree was called Yggdrasil, from ygg, and drisall, a horse or bearer, because of Odin's having hung upon it. Thence com...

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