

CHAPTER II.

FIRST PERIOD.

FROM THE DORIAN MIGRATION TO THE FIRST OLYMPIAD.

B.C. 1104-776.

I. Leaving the dim twilight of legendary Greece, we come to a period when there took place those movements of tribes that resulted in settling the Hellenes in those parts of Hellas in which we find them during the times of authentic history. The chief of these movements was that known as the *Dorian Migration* or *Return of the Heraclidae*, this latter name following the legend that the descendants of the demigod *Heracles* (hē'ra-clēz) (Hercules), called *Heraclidae*, after being driven from the Peloponnesus, returned thither in alliance with the Dorians. The event thus referred to is really the *Conquest of the Peloponnesus by the Dorians*, and the date assigned to it is B.C. 1104, about 80 years after the supposed date of the legendary Trojan War. The germ of historical truth in the matter is that about B.C. 1100, the Dorians, under various leaders, made their way from their abodes in central Greece into the Peloponnesus, and conquered the greater part of the peninsula after a long and severe contest with the Achæans and others who were established there. All Peloponnesus, except Arcadia and the part called afterwards Acha'ia, became Dorian, including the kingdoms of *Sparta*, *Argos*, and *Messé'nia*, *Elis* being occupied, it is said, by Ætolian allies of the Dorians. This great movement led to other changes in the Hellenic world. Of the Achæans in the Peloponnesus some were subdued and remained in the land as an inferior class, tilling the soil as tenants under Dorian lords. Other Achæans, expelled from the south and east of the peninsula, fell back upon the northern coast, inhabited by the Ionians, whom they drove out into Attica and other parts of Central Greece. From this time the Peloponnesus was mainly Dorian, the Ionians being dominant in Central Greece and many islands of the Ægean Sea.

2. The Dorian conquest was succeeded by the planting of numerous colonies on the west coast of Asia Minor and in the neighbouring islands of the Ægean Sea. These colonies were settled by the three races, the *Æolians*, *Ionians*, and *Dorians*. The *Æolians* colonized the

Dorian
settlement in
Peloponnesus.

Greek
colonies in
Asia Minor.