

the world has ever known. Traditions, history, songs, proverbs, prophecies, poems, all are represented there, and have exercised an immense influence, spiritual, mental, and moral, on the nations of Western Europe.

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## Chapter X.

### THE STORY OF CARTHAGE.

(850-146 B.C.)

ONE of the colonies of Phœnicia, mentioned at the end of Chapter VIII., was that of Carthage, founded originally as a trading-station on the African side of the Mediterranean coast.

From this small beginning sprang a nation, unimportant in size, but so successful in the arts of war and of trading that in the third century before Christ Carthage was not only the richest city for its size in the world, but was seriously threatening to take from Rome the glory of becoming Mistress of the Sea.

The legend that tells of the foundation of the city, about the middle of the ninth century before Christ, says that a certain beautiful princess of Tyre, named Dido, was married to a wealthy husband whom she greatly loved. But her brother Pygmalion, the king of Tyre, coveted this man's wealth, and slew him, hoping

