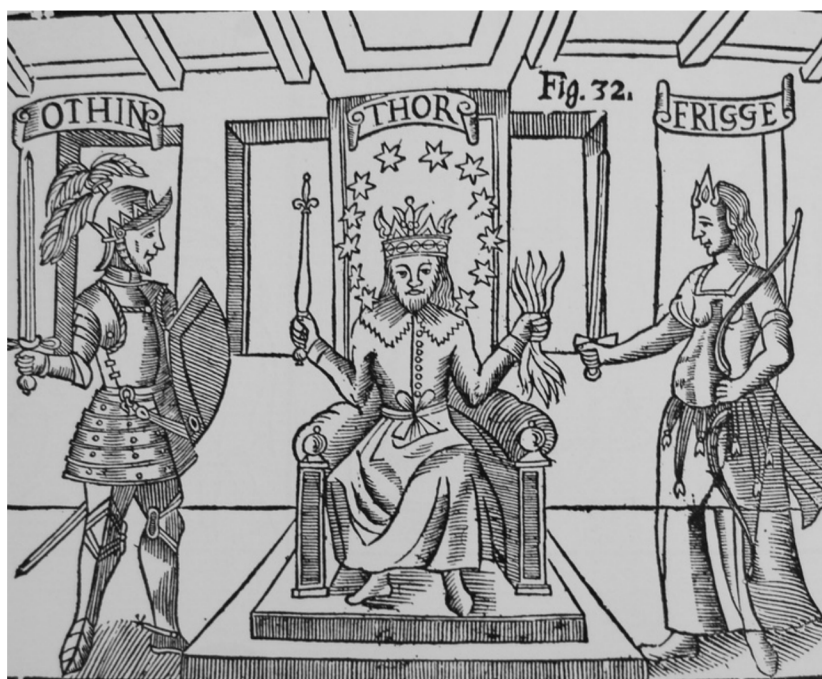


THE FATE OF THE VIKING GODS

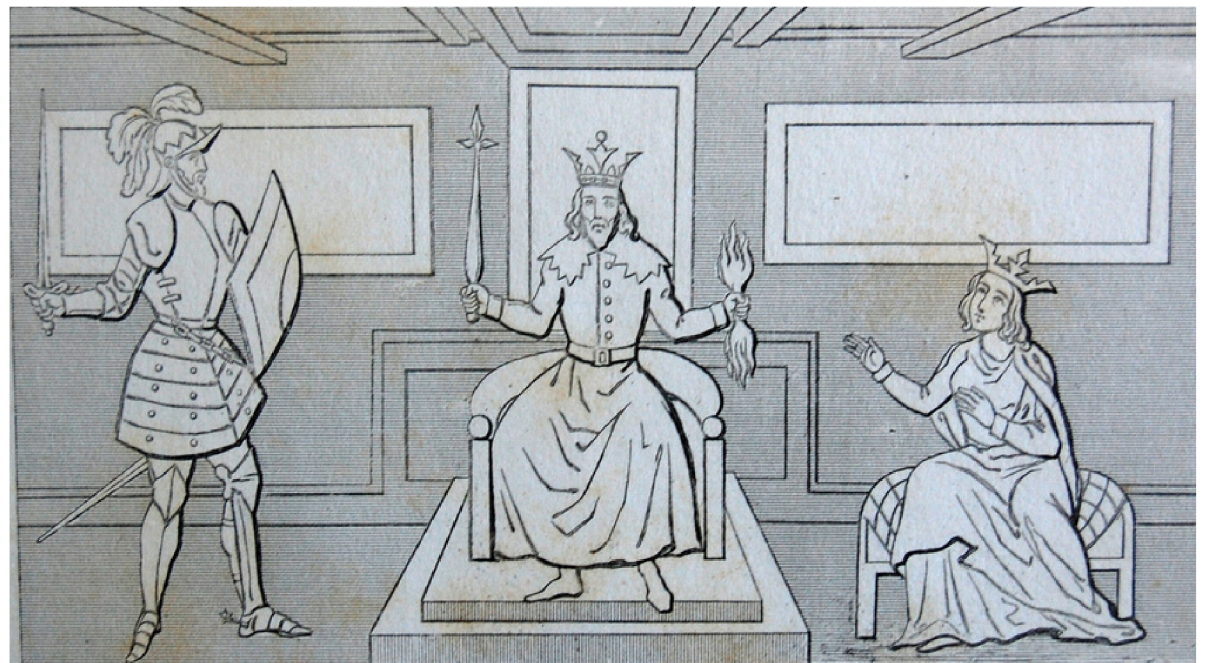


'On the three Main Gods of the Geats.'
Left to right: Frigg, Þórr and Óðinn.

Magnus, Olaus . *Historia de Gentibus Septentrionalibus*. (1555 151)



"Left to right: Óðinn, Þórr and Frigg.
Rudbeck. Olaus. *Atlant Ellor Manheim...* *Olaus Rudbecks Atlantica*
(1689 Vol 2 302)



Left to right: Óðinn, Þórr and Frigg.
(Figure of Frigg adapted from "The Deluding of Gylfi" illustration in DG 11 f. 26v (1325).
Children's book by Lamé-Fleury, Jules Raymond . *La mythologie racontée aux enfants*. (1891 361).

The Magnus Brothers' Woodcut and Its Iterations

The conversion to Christianity circa the year 1000 insured the demise of the tradition of Old Norse oral poetry as a cultural practice in Scandinavia. Memory of the poems and the knowledge based on their content faded in Scandinavia. Eventually only the names of Óðinn, Þórr, and Frigg remained along with a vague association of Óðinn with war, Þórr with weather, and Frigg with fertility.

The Magnus brothers' woodcut of Óðinn, Þórr, and Frigg in *Historia de Gentibus Septentrionalibus* (1555 151) provides compelling evidence of the almost total loss of knowledge concerning Old Norse mythology up to the middle of the sixteenth century. The illustration of the three gods is ubiquitous in early print books where it was often pressed into service with varying degrees of faithfulness to its details.

In 1891, Jules Raymond Lamé-Fleury substituted the figure of Frigg, in a retelling of the myths for children, with a feminine depiction of Óðinn from the DG 11 manuscript (f. 26v) that preserved Snorri's *Prose Edda*, i.e., Norse mythology, for the world.

Adapted from: Baer, P. A. "An Old Norse Image Hoard: From the Analogue to the Digital Present" (2013 304-306).

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and their nationalistic agendas.



Olaus Magnus



Olaus Rudbeck



La Mythologie



Baer