



# **WONDER TALES FROM BALTIC WIZARDS**

**FRANCES JENKINS OLCOTT**

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**WONDER TALES FROM  
BALTIC WIZARDS**

**BY**

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**SKIS:** A pair of long slender runners usually of birchwood, to bind to the feet, so that one may easily run over the snow or leap down hillsides.

**SLEDGE:** The Lapp sledge is called a pulka. It is boat-shaped, and when drawn rapidly over the snow by the swift reindeer, it rocks violently from side to side. But if it had runners, it could not pass so easily over all kinds of ground, bumpy, hilly, and flat.

**STALLO:** A man-eating Giant in Lapp stories, who is so stupid that any bright Lapp can easily outwit him.

**SUOMI:** See, FINLAND.

**TUNDRA:** The wide treeless plain near the Arctic Sea. In winter it is frozen. In summer it is wet and boggy. Reindeer moss grows on the tundra.

**ULDAS:** A kind of fairy folk in Lapp stories, man-size, and usually invisible.

**VIKING:** This word means sea-rover, sea-robber, pirate. It does not mean a King of any kind.

**WIZARDS:** The Red Indian has his Medicine Man, the Eskimo has Shamans, the African Negro has Witch Doctors, and the Lapp has his Wizards--and all of these magicians are supposed to control bad and good spirits, and to be able to throw spells on folk. They are usually great rogues and practice trick magic. The Lapp Wizards used to be very powerful men keeping the poor people in great fear of their spells. They used to beat magic drums pretending to call upon spirits for help and advice. Christian teaching has done away with much of this superstition, and the magic drum is no longer used.

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