

The origin of the name is evidently from the Gallic word "leac" a flagstone, which has the derivations "leacan" and "leacach," signifying a sloping hillside. Leckie, from its position on the north flank of the Lennox Range, is thus most appropriately named.<sup>1</sup>

In regard to the first known owner of Leckie, it is stated to have been a certain Malis de Leggy who is said to have occupied the lands during the invasion of Edward I. of England.<sup>2</sup> He was a prisoner at Winchelsea, in 1297, with Sir William de Morrene and Andrew de Strugartney, the latter living not far from Leckie in Monteith. They were liberated by the intervention of John Hastings de Strabogie, 10th Earl of Athol, who went surety for their loyalty.<sup>3</sup>

Even if this Malis de Leggy did own Leckie, he must have afterwards lost his estates for we know that the half of the barony nearest "Buchaun," or Wester Leckie, was the private property of King Robert Bruce, and that he exchanged it with Malcolm, fifth Earl of Lennox, for the lordship of a carucate, or ploughland of Cardross, in Dumbartonshire,<sup>4</sup> where the King built the castle in which he died in 1329.<sup>5</sup>

It seems that Baliol's extensive possessions in the west of Scotland, together with the estates of his partisans, were forfeited to the Crown. Robert Bruce retained some of these estates for himself and bestowed the rest upon his most trusty friends.<sup>6</sup> It is probable that the lands of Wester Leckie fell into his hands in this way, and it is quite possible that the aforesaid Malis de Leggy was one of Baliol's adherents who lost his estates through forfeiture.

Donald, sixth Earl of Lennox, inherited Wester Leckie from his father, Malcolm, and it was he who, in the year 1352, resigned the estate into the King's hands in order that it might be granted by David II to Malcolm, the son of Duncan, the son of Murdoch.<sup>7</sup> This Malcolm was the first of his family to assume the name

1 Maxwell's "Scottish Land Names," p. 152.

2 Nimmo's History of Stirlingshire (1817), vol. ii, p. 498.

3 Rymer 2, 790, 791.

4 Registrum Magni Sigilli Scotorum. Robt. I, No. 90.

5 "The Bruces and Cumyns," by M. E. Cumming Bruce, p. 160.

6 Nimmo's "History of Stirlingshire" (1880), vol. i, p. 201.

7 Sir William Fraser's "The Lennox," vol. ii, p. 409.