

## PREFACE

In presenting the result of my researches on the descent of the Leckie family I do not attempt to display any literary effort, but simply to put together as coherently as possible the various notes I have collected on the subject. With the exception of the origin of the Earls of Lennox, I have left but little to surmise, and in making definite statements have in every case given references, my point being to enable any other person who takes up this work to ascertain for himself the source of my information.

Immediately following the death of the Honourable W. E. H. Lecky, an article appeared in the Glasgow Herald relative to the Leckie family. In this article it was stated that the Leckies were descended from the Earls of Lennox, but the descent was not given. Several of the other statements seemed to be mere supposition, and the author was written to in order to ascertain the source of his information. His reply was rather indefinite in this respect, and I set about clearing up certain points for myself by the examination of the public records. I found that the origin of the family above quoted was quite correct, but I have been able to give the actual descent from the Lennox family, which had not heretofore been done.

In making the enquiries into the origin of the Earls of Lennox, I find that the information available from old records is very meagre, and in suggesting the origin which I have done, it should be understood, that, in tracing back the ancestors of the first Earl of Lennox, I am only following what I consider the line of least resistance. I feel convinced that Alwin MacArkil was the first Earl of Lennox and I would far rather favour the origin adopted by Sir William Fraser that Alwin was descended from Arkil the Northumbrian baron, than that suggested by Skene. I cannot place any reliance in the origin as contained in the Irish pedigree.

In my researches I have come across many references to junior branches of the Leckie family, and some day I may have time to arrange these for publication, but the present work deals only with the main line or family of Leckie of that ilk. I do not carry this family history, if it may be called such, beyond the time when the estate of Leckie passed out of the hands of the last Laird of that name.

Vancouver, B. C., 1913.

R. G. E. L.