

The most prominent of other theories in regard to the progenitors of Alwin MacArchil is that inclined to by Sir William Fraser in "The Lennox," who follows the lead given by the peerage writers, Douglas and Crawford, who state that Arkil, the father of Alwin, the first Earl of Lennox, was the grandson of Arkil, the great Northumbrian baron, who is known to have fled into Scotland after his insurrection against William the Conqueror.¹ The Northumbrian is said to have married a Scottish lady as a second wife and to have had a son named after himself, who in turn had a son, Arkil, father of Alwin, Earl of Lennox.

Fraser himself admits the weakness of this theory as there is no evidence of the baron's second marriage and no reference to an Arkil, son of Arkil, or Arkil, grandson of Arkil. Furthermore, there is nothing to show that the Northumbrian baron ever stayed in Scotland; in fact, there is evidence to the contrary. Freeman in his "History of the Norman Conquest,"² writing of events of the year 1070, says: "And it is clear that, along with the two earls, some of the leading men of Yorkshire made their submission to the Conqueror and were received into some measure of favour. Among these we may probably reckon Archill. He is said to have been sent into banishment at some stage of William's reign;³ but it is clear from the survey that he was pardoned at last. He must, however, have been heavily mulcted, as he kept only a very small portion of his great estate. He appears as a tenant in Capite Domesday, 331, 331b. All his estates had been held by himself T. R. E., but the amount is but small."

Another theory, supported by William Buchanan of Auchmar, traces the descent of the Earls of Lennox, through Alwin MacArkill, from Aluin, or Alcuin, a younger son of Kenneth III, (?) King of Scotland. Buchanan writing on this subject says: "Peter Walsh, in his animadversions on this history of Scotland, derives their descent from Mainus, son of Corus, provincial King of Leinster, who is said to have come to Scotland in the reign of King Fincormachus and to have married Mun-

1 *Sim. Dun. de Obsessione Dunelmi*, p. 157, ed. Hinde.

2 *Vol. iv*, p. 305.

3 *Sim. Dun. de Obsessione Dunelmi*, p. 157, ed. Hinde.