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Descent of the Scottish Alexanders



*A Genealogical Sketch, with Discussions of
Some Historic Matters and with
Several Rare Tables*



*These things I find in history and give
them as I get them*



By
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Descent of the Scotch Alexanders

The name Alexander originated with the Greeks. It is formed of two words in their language, *alexo*, to help or defend or protect, and *aner*, man; and means protector of men. The first time it is met with in the annals of mankind seems to be in the story which Homer tells in the Iliad of the siege of Troy by the Greeks. The author of the Trojan war and slayer of Achilles, generally known as Paris, was also called by another name, Alexander. Thus that name is shown to be of great antiquity and to have been in use before the days of authentic history. That wonderful genius Alexander the Great made it illustrious for all time. As a human appellation it has been in constant and extensive use from the date of its origin in the days of myths which antedate printed records, until the present time. Long popular as a name in the early ages, it went into use as a surname on the introduction of that form of designation and ever since both as patronymic and given name has been a favorite appellation. Probably there is no language in Europe which does not contain it and no civilized people in the world who do not employ it frequently. It has been the designation of a Roman Emperor and eight Popes, and has been borne by kings of Macedonia, kings of Aegypt, kings of Syria, kings of the Jews, kings of Epirus and kings of Scotland and many nobles and princes of those and other nationalities. In no country, however, has it met with so much favor as in Scotland. So great has been its popularity in that country for many centuries that a Scotchman is often spoken of as "Sandy," a corruption of Alexander. Always employed there as an individual appellation, it was adopted as a patronymic as soon as surnames came into use. Some of the Macdonalds, a distinguished and ancient race, adopted it at that time as a family name. That family increased in numbers with remarkable rapidity, and, having become widely distributed, introduced it all over the world; for the Scotch Alexanders, particularly the descendants of those

who removed to Ireland and many years afterwards to Pennsylvania, Maryland, Virginia and North Carolina, have scattered over America and most of the remainder of the civilized world. It is the purpose of this sketch to set forth the ancestry of these Scottish Alexanders, giving in a foot reference the authority on which every important statement is made, and thereby enabling anyone who feels an interest in the matter to verify the information or pursue the investigation.

THE DESCENT OF THE SCOTCH ALEXANDERS. BRITAIN AND GAUL.

Many unsuccessful attempts have been made to determine who were the first settlers of the British Islands. Myth and legend have served, as they always do, to throw obscurity over this interesting subject, and learning has substituted ancient speculation, vague and fanciful, for ascertained facts and accurate information. The story of Brutus the great-grandson of Aeneas, is as much a myth as is the story of Aeneas himself; the story of descent from Celto, son of Hercules, is fully as fanciful;¹ that of Joseph of Arimathea, Lazarus, Mary Magdelene, Martha, Peter and Paul coming to Britain is more absurd still; while the old references to Thule were mostly imaginative excursions of poetic minds into the regions of the unknown. Aristotle seems to have had a little more accurate knowledge when he speaks most briefly of "the British Isles," consisting of Albion and Ierne.

History's first acquaintance with Great Britain began with the Roman conquest. It was a custom of the Romans to allot to each principal man for a limited period a province to be governed by him. When Julius Cæsar had been elected to the consulship, Gaul, then but partially subdued, was assigned to him. He entered upon the complete subjugation of that country, and while so engaged, learned of the island of Britain, which lay just across the channel. With him, acquaintance and conquest

¹Geoffrey of Monmouth; Nennius, secs. 10, 11; Matthew of Westminster, c. 17-24; Milton's History of Britain, Book I.; 1 Buchanan's History of Scotland, Book I., xiii.; Baker's Chronicle, 3.

went hand in hand. He undertook to bring the new land under Roman dominion and was partly successful. Afterwards, other Roman generals extended his acquisitions there and enlarged the sway of the empire in that island until the power of Rome prevailed over all of it, except Caledonia, the northern part of modern Scotland. Britain became a favorite province of the Romans and over it they exercised a protective control for hundreds of years. It was here in the city of York (Eboracum) that the emperors Adrian, Septimus Severus, Geta and Caracalla and Constantius Chlorus resided; here Septimus Severus and Constantius died; and here Constantine was born and proclaimed emperor.

But, at last, Roman power began to decline. For many years before the downfall of that mighty empire, its people were employed in a constant effort to protect their homes from invasion, and were compelled to withdraw all attention from the affairs of Britain.

Left to themselves, these islanders established new governments of their own. The country was divided into small kingdoms, every one having a different sovereign. Scotland was a separate state and had her own nationalities and kings. In the days which followed the Saxon invasions, that part of the island now called England was occupied by eight and afterwards by seven different kingdoms or principalities known as the Heptarchy and composed of the states of Wessex, Essex, Sussex, East Anglia, Northumberland, Mercia and Kent. Still later on, these seven kingdoms were reduced to a single one, called England, having but one ruler or king. This situation continued for a long while, until, on the death of Edward the Confessor without a descendant, the English throne became vacant.

Meanwhile numerous changes, of equal importance, had taken place in the other countries of northern and middle Europe. For centuries many tribes of warlike character and unknown origin had been pouring into Europe from some lands to the east. Ultimately they overran and settled all, or nearly all, of that continent, and their descendants rapidly became, and

yet remain the leaders of the world in thought and action. Their subsequent history is the history of civilization.

After the conquest by Julius Cæsar of Gaul and the countries adjoining it on the north and east, these Gallic lands continued to be, for hundreds of years, a province of the empire of Rome. When the Roman power declined, that former mistress of the world was unable to maintain her dominion northward of the Alps.

FRANCE.

Finally, about 481, Clovis, son of Childeric, son of Meroveus, chieftains of the Salian Franks, a branch of these hordes who had come from the Orient, established in Gaul the kingdom of the Franks, and greatly extended it by conquests among his neighbors. It was this Clovis who founded the Merovingian family of Frankish kings which exercised a sway there of two hundred and fifty years' duration. The last four or five of these kings were such only in name. A family arose among their subjects and grew to great power in the kingdom. Its first known chief was Pepin of Landen, called The Ancient. He became Mayor of the Palace of Austrasia, a section of the French kingdom, under Dogabert I., and his son Sigebert II., and died in 639. For more than one hundred years after his death his descendants, under the title of Mayor of the Palace, really exercised the royal authority in the names of the Merovingian monarchs. Pepin of Landen had a daughter by the name of Bega whose husband was Ansegise, son of Arnulph, Bishop of Metz, her cousin, and who was the mother of Pepin of Heristal. The last, under the title of Duke, was the real sovereign of Austrasia and the kingdom of the Franks. He died December 16, 714; and his son Charles, afterwards known as Charles le Martel (Charles the Hammer), whose mother was Alpaide, soon succeeded him in his dukedom and power. This was the great general Charles le Martel who won the famous battle against the Moors at a place between Poitiers and Tours in 732. Before Mahomet had been dead one hundred years his Arab followers had conquered Syria, Mesopotamia, Aegypt and northern

Africa and had passed into Europe at the Straits of Gibraltar and overrun much of Spain, and, having crossed the Pyrenees, into the country of the Franks, were pushing there, with great rapidity, the subjugation of that land, when Charles le Martel met them near Poitiers, and, by a decisive victory over them there, changed the religion of Europe and the destiny of the world.²

Charles le Martel was followed in the dukedom by his son Pepin the Short, who, in March, 752, became in name, as he already was in fact, the King of the Franks, and was the founder of the Carolingian dynasty. To Pepin the Short succeeded his son Charles, better known to the world as Charlemagne, the greatest monarch of medieval days. No greater man than Charlemagne ever lived or reigned. On Christmas, 800, he was crowned by Pope Leo III. "Emperor of the Romans" and "Augustus" at Rome; "and certainly, if ever the great echoes of the past were to be awakened, they could not have been aroused for a worthier prince." He died in 814 and was succeeded by his son Louis le Debonnair (the Meek or the Pious), whose mother was Hildegarde, daughter of the Swabian duke Godfrey, and Louis le Debonnair was followed by his son Charles the Bald (whose mother was Judith, daughter of Count Welf of Bavaria), and he by his son Louis II., called Louis the Stammerer, and he by his son Charles the Simple,³ whose wife was Edgiva, daughter of Edward the Elder.⁴

GUELPHS.

The Count of Welf, or Wolf, just mentioned, whose daughter married Louis le Debonnair and became the mother of Charles the Bald, was one of the earlier members of the family whose name fills so much space a few years later and for so long a time in the annals of Europe. Welf in the Italian language becomes Guelf.⁵ The family of the Guelfs is said to have gone

²Ency. Brittan., 9th ed., France. Guizot's History of France, c. 9; Florence of Worcester; Chambers's Ency., Carolingians.

³Ency. Brittan., 9th ed., France, Louis I., Charles the Bald; Chambers's Ency., Charlemagne, Carolingians.

⁴Ethelwerd's Chronicle, prologue.

⁵I Guizot's History of France, c. 12.

from Italy to Germany in the eleventh century. From it the Dukes of Burgundy and the royal house now reigning in Great Britain derive their descents. During the reign of Charlemagne in the ninth century this family first made its appearance in history, and in the eleventh it had attained great power in Germany. Azzo, of the family of Este in Italy, Lord of Milan, Genoa and other cities of Lombardy, became the owner of some of its estates in Germany by his marriage with Cunigunde, heiress of the Guelfs. Their son Guelf I. was Duke of Bavaria, and inherited several of these estates. His son acquired, on his marriage, estates in Saxony which belonged to Magnus, his wife's father. In 1137 the Emperor Lothair gave the Duchy of Saxony to his son-in-law, Henry the Generous, grandson of Guelf I. On the death of Lothair, Conrad III. was made emperor. The latter was opposed by Henry the Generous whose large possessions were, in consequence, mostly confiscated. Henry the Lion, son of Henry the Generous, succeeded his father and became Duke of Saxony. He was of the House of Welf, while Conrad was of the House of Hohenstaufen among whose estates was Waiblingen. War broke out in 1140 between Henry the Lion and Frederick, brother of Conrad. At the great battle of Weinsburg, fought between these rival houses in that year in Suabia, the battle-cry of the Welfs was "Hie Welf," and that of their antagonists was "Hie Waiblingen." This gave rise to the two great parties which for so long antagonized each other in Germany, known as "Welfs and Waiblingens." The popes were then engaged in an effort to force an acknowledgment of their supremacy upon the emperors of Germany. The party which favored the claim of the popes assumed the name of the opponents of the emperors and were called Guelfs, the Italian form of Welfs; while the imperial party were called Ghibellines, the Italian form of Waiblingens. The names of these parties were carried into Italy where the papal party became known as Guelfs and their opponents as Ghibellines. The different states of Italy arrayed themselves under these names on different sides. For centuries their bloody quarrels convulsed the civilized world. The names which they had thus assumed

respectively became the most famous party designations in all the history of partisan warfare.⁶

NORTHMEN.

At some time early in the Christian era, an unknown people coming into Europe apparently from the vicinity of the Black Sea, and said by high authority to be a branch of the Scythian tribe of Aesir,⁷ passed through northern Germany and settled Denmark, Norway, Sweden and some neighboring lands. They came to be known in later years as Danes, Northmen, Norse, Scandinavians or Vikings and Jutes and Saxons. The lives and habits of these settlers in Denmark, Norway and Sweden differed widely from those of the former peoples of western Europe and present marked contrasts with those of modern nationalities. Fond of the sea and fearless in committing their lives and fortunes to its power, they came to be the greatest navigators of their time, if not, indeed, when all things are taken into consideration, the greatest navigators of all times. In frail vessels of rude construction, they pushed boldly out into the tempestuous Atlantic, explored all the western shores of Europe, discovered and colonized Iceland, discovered Greenland, and formed settlements there, and even, it is claimed, discovered America and established themselves in that distant region, although that enterprise was soon abandoned. It is highly probable that Columbus learned from them an account of the western continent which they had found and was led thereby to form the plans that resulted in his discovery of America in 1492.

But the Northmen were not only wonderful seamen. They were also among the greatest merchants of the middle ages. With them there were three noble occupations, war, trade and navigation. All their chief men practised these, and were, at the same time, soldiers, mariners and merchants. In their view commerce was as honorable as conquest. Their kings were their principal tradesmen. They established and carried on actively across Russia a transcontinental commerce with Samarcand and

⁶Ency. Brittan., 9th ed., Guelfs and Ghibellines; Chambers's Ency., Guelphs and Ghibellines; Encyclopedia Americana (1850), Guelfs or Guelphs.

⁷Columb. Cyc., Odin.

other cities of central Asia famous in that day for trade and prosperity. They founded and conducted, with much success, a maritime traffic through the Straits of Gibraltar and over the Mediterranean Sea with all the important cities of the coasts of Greece and Asia Minor.⁸

Then, too, they were among the greatest warriors of that time. War was an occupation in which all the male population took part. When not engaged in some commercial enterprise, their leaders would plan an expedition, assemble a force, launch their boats and set out on a journey of conquest and rapine. All the western coasts of Europe were, at some time, laid waste by them. They even passed up the large rivers which emptied on those coasts and pillaged their borders for hundreds of miles, sometimes seizing and holding as long as they liked several of the larger cities of the western side of the continent. They were the great rovers of the world; and such was the terror which their names inspired that to the prayers used in the churches was added the petition, "*A furore Normanorum libera nos, O Domine!*" From the fury of the Normans save us, O God!"

Rich booty often rewarded an incursion of one of these bands. Finally they began to form settlements in the more desirable places which they plundered. The natives were usually unable to repel these invasions or drive off the invaders. Charlemagne was commonly victorious in his wars. The most noted exception was in that ever memorable fight in the mountains,

"When Rowland brave and Olivier,
And every Paladin and Peer
On Roncesvalles died."

But these pirates of land and sea gave him much trouble. His weak successors were wholly unable to cope with them.

"Japhet, the third son of Noah, begat a son whom he called Magog, whose Gothic progeny, deriving the name of their ancestor from the similitude of the last syllable of the name Magog, produced two tribes of Goths, who were both most valiant in arms. One of which tribes invaded the Further

⁸2d Du Chailu's Viking Age, c. 13.

Scythia, and occupied that country, and for a long time carried on war against the kings of Egypt. And their wives, who were afterwards called Amazons, being vexed at the long absence of their husbands in that country, repudiated all connection with them, and took up arms themselves, and elected two women who were bolder than the rest, to be their queens. And having burnt off their right breasts, for the sake of hurling the javelin, they overran the whole of Asia, and for nearly a hundred years they oppressed that country with the yoke of their most severe dominion. The other tribe of Goths, leaving the island of Scanza with their king, whose name was Berig, soon afterwards disembarked from their vessels as soon as they reached the land, and gave the name of Scanza to the place where they had landed, in memory of the country from which they had set out. And proceeding onwards to more remote countries, they invaded the German gulfs and the sea of Azor and occupied many of the provinces on all sides of those seas. Of which countries, Denmark and Norway afterwards had many famous and powerful monarchs. These men allege that the god Mars was born in their country, a god whom they labored to propitiate by the shedding of human blood. They also say that the Trojans were descended from their race, and that, after the destruction of that city, Antenor fled on account of the treason which he had perpetrated, and landed in Germany. And afterwards he reigned in Dania, or Denmark, and gave a name to the province from his own name. And for these reasons the Danes are well known to derive their origin from the Goths, though the former afterwards prospered and increased to such a degree, that, whenever their islands were too full of men, in accordance with a law which had been established by their kings, the braver men were compelled to emigrate from their homes, in order to acquire inheritances and lasting abodes for themselves and their successors."

Such is the account of these strange people who overran Europe given by Matthew of Westminster, when speaking of the events of the year 914. Of course legend and fable play a large part in his statement. Whether or not it contains any truth, or if so, how much, no one knows.

NORMANDY.

Rollo, or Rolph, or Hrolf, an independent Danish prince and great Norse leader, at the head of a considerable body of his own countrymen, invaded that portion of western France which was subsequently called Normandy and appropriated the lands to their own uses as permanent abodes. Powerless to successfully resist, the French king, Charles the Simple, made terms with the Viking prince. Rollo retained the lands which he had seized and he and his successors governed it under the title of Dukes of Normandy, doing homage for it to the French kings.

To an empty ceremony such as doing homage, the Dukes of Normandy attached little importance. Rollo consented to do homage to Charles the Simple; but when it was demanded of him, as a part of the ceremony, that he should kiss the king's foot, he indignantly refused. This ceremonial act, however, was insisted on and Rollo, at the request of the French, ordered one of his followers who was standing by to perform the act for him. The rough warrior raised the king's foot as if to kiss it, but, instead of kissing the foot, overturned the king. His companions laughed loudly at this, while the king thought best to overlook the insult.⁹

The kings of the Franks had no power to enforce what the Norman dukes declined to grant. These dukes were even more powerful than the French monarchs, and made war when and on whom they pleased without consulting these monarchs. They even made war on the kings of the Franks themselves. In fact, the Dukes of Normandy were sovereigns, and were so regarded and treated throughout Europe. They waged war and made treaties as such, and as such they governed their subjects. They intermarried with the royal houses of the principal nations of the continent. Rollo himself married Gisla or Giselé, daughter of Charles the Simple, King of the Franks.¹⁰ Her mother was Ogina, granddaughter of Alfred the Great.¹¹

⁹Hume's History of England, c. 3; 1 Guizot's History of France, c. 12; Matthew of Westminster, A. D., 912.

¹⁰Hume's History of England, c. 3; Guizot's History of France, c. 12.

¹¹Rapin's History of England, Book 4.

No one thought of questioning the dignity or power of the Norman dukes.

Rollo was born in 860 and died about 932. He was succeeded by his son William I., called William Longsword, and he by his son Richard I., called Richard the Fearless, and he by his son Richard II., called Richard the Good.¹² The English King Ethelred, after the death of his first wife Elfgiva, daughter of Earl Thored and mother of Edmund Ironside,¹³ married Emma, daughter of Richard the Fearless, Duke of Normandy.¹⁴ This Emma, on her marriage to Ethelred, assumed the name of Elfgiva, the English equivalent of the Norman Emma.¹⁵ After the death of Ethelred, she, strange to relate, became the wife of Canute the Great, King of Denmark and likewise King of England and of Norway, with whom her stepson Edmund Ironside contested so long and fiercely for the throne of England. Hardicanute, son of Canute and Emma, was afterwards King of Denmark and also King of England.¹⁶ Edward the Confessor, son of Ethelred and Emma, became King of England.¹⁷ Richard II., called Richard the Good, was succeeded by his son Richard III., and Richard III. by his brother, Robert II., called Robert the Magnificent and Robert the Devil, son of Richard the Good and father of William the Conqueror. It is said that Robert married Estrith, sister of Canute the Great, and that they separated. Robert became enamoured of Herleva,¹⁸ daughter of Fulbert, a tanner of Falaise,¹⁹ or, as others say, daughter of an officer of his household.²⁰ By Herleva Robert had a son William the Conqueror²¹ and a daughter Adelaide, Countess of d'Aumale or Albemarle,²² although

¹²Hume's History of England, c. 3; Ency. Brittan., 9th ed., Normandy.

¹³Milton's History of Britain, Book 6.

¹⁴Hume's History of England, c. 3.

¹⁵Hume's History of England, c. 3; Roger of Wendover, A. D., 983; 1 Lingard's History of England, c. 5; Florence of Worcester, A. D., 1002; Anglo Saxon Chronicle, A. D., 1017.

¹⁶Ency. Brittan. 9th ed., England; Florence of Worcester, Genealogy of the Kings of Wessex.

¹⁷Roger of Wendover, A. D., 1045.

¹⁸Ency. Brittan, 9th ed., Normandy; 1 Knight's History of England, c. 13.

¹⁹Ency. Brittan, 9th ed., William I.

²⁰2 Lingard's History of England, c. 1.

²¹Ency. Brittan, 9th ed., Normandy, William I.

²²Ordericus Vitalis, Book 4, c. 49.

others say that Adelaide was the daughter of Herleva by her husband Herlwin of Conteville, whom she married after the death of Robert II.²³ William the Conqueror had a daughter Judith who married Waltheof, Earl of Northumberland, Northampton and Huntington, son of the famous Siward, Earl of Northumberland.²⁴ Other writers tell us that Judith was the daughter of Adelaide and niece of William the Conqueror.²⁵ Waltheof was executed unjustly in the reign of William the Conqueror on the charge of having joined in a conspiracy against William. It was said that miracles were wrought at his tomb.²⁶ Maud or Matilda, daughter of Waltheof and Judith married David I., King of Scotland, and their son was Henry the father of Malcolm IV., William the Lion and David, Earl of Huntington.²⁷ Robert II., Duke of Normandy, went on a pilgrimage to Palestine, but on the journey impaired his health to such an extent that he died on the way back to his dukedom.

FLANDERS.

Flanders, once the name of parts of Belgium and Holland, and ruled by counts of great power, played a very important part in medieval history. It ranked among the greatest of the peoples of Europe in military strength, achievement and fame, whilst in manufactures it outstripped them all. It acquired importance about the time of Charlemagne. The counts of Flanders belonged to the family of the Foresters and traced their descent to Priam, King of Troy. How much of this claim of descent is mythical no one can know. As far as authentic history goes, that family of the Foresters was founded by Lideric le Buc, only son of Saluart, prince of Dijon and of Madame Eringarde, daughter of Gerard, lord of Roussillon, who, according to Lambert, canon of Saint Omer, finding Flanders uninhabited and uncultivated, occupied it. Lideric's son Ingelramn had a son named Baldwin, called Audacer and known as

²³Lingard's History of England, c. 1, n.; Ency. Brittan., 9th ed., Normandy.

²⁴Knight's History of England, c. 15.

²⁵Hume's History of England, c. 4; William of Malmesbury, Book 3.

²⁶Hume's History of England, c. 4; Ordericus Vitalis, Book 4.

²⁷Rees' Cyc., David I.; Chambers's Ency., David I.

Bras de Fer or Iron Arm. This Baldwin married Judith, daughter of Charles the Bald, King of France. Judith had been the second wife of Ethelwolf, King of England and father of Alfred the Great. On the death of Ethelwolf she had married his son and successor Ethelbald, and thereby given much concern to the bishops. Baldwin II., son of Baldwin I. and Judith, married Aelfthryth or Ethelswitha daughter of Alfred the Great.²⁸ Their son Arnulf is best known as the murderer of William Longsword, Duke of Normandy. He married Adela, daughter of the Count of Vermandois. Baldwin III. was their son; and when he was put in charge of the government by his father while Arnulf was yet alive, Baldwin III. established the weavers and fullers of Ghent, a business which rendered famous, not only Ghent, but all Flanders. Baldwin III. died before his father who then resumed the government, and, when he died, left it to Arnulf's son Arnulf, or Arnold II. To Arnulf II. succeeded his son Baldwin IV., called Comely Beard, in 989. Baldwin IV. was followed by his son Baldwin V., called Debonnair, who married Adela, daughter of Robert Duke of France. The oldest daughter of Baldwin V. and Adela was Matilda who was the wife of William the Conqueror.²⁹

In 841, Rouen had been captured by the Vikings. The rich valley of the Seine was thus opened to them up to Paris. Charles the Bald, King of France, was unable to resist this invasion. Finally in 861 he made a brave adventurer called Robert the Strong, count of Paris, and put him in defence of that city. This Robert was the great-grandfather of Hugh Capet who overturned the Carolingian dynasty and became King of France in 897, and the founder of the Capetian dynasty of kings of France. Robert the Strong made a brave defence of Paris against the Norse and lost his life in the struggle. His sons, however, took up the fight, and Rollo was unable to reduce Paris. Robert, Duke of France, was the second son of Robert the Strong. He was the father of Adela, wife of Baldwin V. and grandfather of Matilda wife of William the Con-

²⁸Ency. Brittan, 9th ed., Flanders; Ethelwerd's Chronicle, prologue; William of Malmesbury, A. D., 928.

²⁹Ency. Brittan, 9th ed., Flanders.

queror.⁸⁰ The descendants of these counts of Flanders became famous afterwards in the days of the crusades. One of them, Robert II., achieved great distinction by his exploits in the first crusade. Another, Baldwin IX. became the founder of the Latin empire at Constantinople. Another Robert, Count of Flanders, established at Bruges the first insurance company.⁸¹

BRUCE.

When, on the death of Edward the Confessor, the throne of England became vacant, William, Duke of Normandy, claimed it, being encouraged to do so because of kinship to the English royal family, derived in the manner above stated, through his great-aunt, Emma. In the assertion of this claim, he raised a large army and invaded England; and at the Battle of Hastings or Senlac, he defeated and slew Harold, whom the English had proclaimed king; and established himself upon the throne, founded the dynasty of the Norman kings, ruled England while he lived, and on his death transmitted the crown to his sons.

Among the chief captains in William's army of invasion was Robert de Bruce, a Norman baron of noble lineage. His shield may be seen on the chart of the Battle Abbey Roll. He was a great favorite with William, who entrusted to him the subjugation of the northern part of England and assigned to him large quantities of land in that region. Here Robert de Bruce took up his residence. "He was Lord of Skelton, Merkes, Wplythmn, S. Westby and Brudone; Lord of Danby, Livingston and Yarum; Lord of Kendal and Annandale. He had all the territory called Estrahaneat and all the lands from the Bounds of Dunegal and Stranit, to the Limits of Ranulph de Meschines, then Lord of Cumberland. He had Hert and Hertness, Brune and Tybthorp, Carleton and Thorp de Arches. He had Carleton by Agnes his Wife, Daughter of Fulco Paynel."⁸² He was the first of the De Bruces of whom we have

⁸⁰Ency. Brittan, 9th ed., France.

⁸¹Ency. Brittan., 9th ed., Flanders

⁸²Stewart's Royal Family of Scotland, 32.

any knowledge. He had a son Robert de Bruce the second of that name of whom we know anything (whose mother was Agnes daughter of Fulco Paynel), and he a son Robert de Bruce the third of that name of whom we know anything, and ne a son Robert de Bruce the fourth of that name of whom we know anything, and he a son Robert de Bruce the fifth of that name of whom we know anything, and he a son Robert de Bruce the sixth of that name of whom we know anything, and he a son Robert de Bruce the seventh of that name of whom we know anything, and he a son Robert de Bruce the eighth of that name of whom we know anything and the victor of Bannockburn.⁸³

These De Bruces married into the families of some of the ancient Celtic noblemen of the north of England. The oldest son of the second Robert de Bruce continued the English family of that name. A younger son (Robert) of this second Robert de Bruce, that is, the third Robert de Bruce, sided with David I. at the Battle of the Standard against Stephen, and founded the Scotch branch of the De Bruces.⁸⁴

SAXONS.

In the fifth century, the inhabitants of southern Britain, abandoned by their former rulers and defendants, the Romans, were assailed by the Scots and Picts from the northern part of the island. The Picts were of Caledonia and of great but unknown antiquity, who inhabited Caledonia in the days of the Roman government in Britain, and claim to have had an established kingdom in Britain in the days of Alexander the Great, and who derived their name from their habit of painting their bodies. The Scots had come to Caledonia from ancient Scotia (Ireland), and are said to have come to Ireland from Spain. For many years the Scots and Picts waged bitter war against each other, but afterwards they united in making inroads upon the territories of other peoples and at last became

⁸³Ency. Brittan., 9th ed., Robert The Bruce.

⁸⁴Ency. Brittan., 9th ed., Robert I.; Imperial Dictionary of Universal Biography, Bruce; Columb. Cyc., Bruce.

a single race under a common government. Unable to protect themselves against the invasions of the Picts and Scots, the Britons applied for aid to the Saxons, a fierce and warlike people of piratical habits, who claimed to be descended from the ancient Macedonians of the days of Alexander the Great³⁵ and who inhabited the western coasts of Europe from Jutland to the mouth of the Rhine. This is practically the territory later denominated Holstein. A band of these Saxons, under the leadership of two brothers, Hengist and Horsa, went to the assistance of these Britons in compliance with the invitation of the latter, extended through their king Vortigern, and aided them to drive back the Scots and Picts. Soon, however, the newcomers quarreled with their allies, and, having received reinforcements from their own people and formed an alliance with the Picts and Scots, they turned their arms against the Britons; and, after many battles, in one of which Horsa was slain, Hengist and his people established in Britain the Saxon kingdoms of Kent and Northumberland. These successes of Hengist and his companions incited other bands of Saxons to invade the island.

Speaking of the acts of Cynric, a Saxon chieftain who was among these invaders, Florence of Worcester says: "Cynric, King of the West Saxons, fought with the Britons and routed them at a place called Searesbyrig; his father was Cerdic, who was the son of Elesa, who was the son of Esla, who was the son of Gewis, who was the son of Wig, who was the son of Freawine, who was the son of Freothegar, who was the son of Brand, who was the son of Baldeag, who was the son of Woden."

Woden, or Odin (stated by some to have been the son of Bestlan and Bor³⁶ and grandson of Buri),³⁷ was he whom, even before his death, the Northmen and Saxon peoples apotheosized, making him the chief god of a new religion.³⁸ He was a chief of the Aesir, a Scythian tribe, who, being assailed by the

³⁵1 Du Chaillu's *Viking Age*, 18-19; 1 Buchanan's *History of Scotland*, Book 4.

³⁶*Ency. Brittan.*, 9th ed., *Mythology*; *Columb. Cyc.*, *Odin*; *Chambers's Ency.*, *Odin*.

³⁷*Lippincott's Biographical Dictionary*, *Odin*.

³⁸*Lippincott's Biographical Dictionary*, *Odin*.

Romans, passed through Germany³⁹ and conquered and settled Holstein and Scandinavia, afterwards known, those in Holstein and adjacent lands as Saxons, and those in Scandinavia and adjoining lands as Northmen, Norse, Danes, Scandinavians, or Vikings, and all generically as Teutons. From Woden we get Wednesday (Woden's day) as from his wife Freya we get Friday (Freya's day). Woden was the son of Frithowald, son of Frithuwulf, son of Finn, son of Godwulf, son of Geat.⁴⁰

In 495, one of these Saxon bands, under the leadership of Cerdic (otherwise written Cedric), and his son Cynric, invaded and settled in that part of the southern end of the island of Britain which from them acquired the name of West Saxons, or Wessex. The Britons there made a spirited resistance, calling to their assistance Arthur, Prince of the Silures, him of the Round Table; but were unable to expel the invaders, who founded there the kingdom of the West Saxons, or Wessex, embracing what is now Cornwall, Devonshire, Dorsetshire, Somersetshire, Wiltshire, Hampshire and Berkshire.⁴¹

ENGLAND.

This proved to be the most powerful kingdom of the Heptarchy and finally swallowed up the others. It was governed for a great many years by kings who were descendants of Cerdic. Ultimately, one of these, Egbert, who had spent some time at the court of Charlemagne and served for three years in the army of that emperor,⁴² ascended the throne of Wessex in 799, and, after many years and conquests, succeeded, in 827, in uniting all the kingdoms of the Heptarchy into a single nation under himself as king and at that time became the founder of the kingdom of England and of the Saxon dynasty. His wife was Redburg.⁴³

³⁹*Chambers's Ency.*, *Odin*; *Columb. Cyc.*, *Odin*; 1 *Turner's Anglo-Saxons*, 59.

⁴⁰*Columb. Cyc.*, *Odin*; *Roger of Wendover*, A. D., 758; *Anglo-Saxon Chronicle*.

⁴¹*Ency. Brittan.*, 9th ed., *England*; 1 *Turner's Anglo-Saxons*, c. 3; *Henry of Huntington*; *Florence of Worcester, Genealogy of the Kings of Wessex*; *Baker's Chronicle*, 5.

⁴²1 *Lingard's History of England*, c. 3.

⁴³1 *Hume's History of England*, c. 1; 1 *Rapin's History of England*, 84; *Ethelward's Chronicle*, A. D., 857.

Egbert was the son of Alchmond, the son of Eta, the son of Eoppa, the son of Ingild,⁴⁴ the son of Cenred, the son of Colwald, the son of Cutha, the son of Cuthwine, the son of Ceawlin, the son of Cynric, the son of Cerdic.⁴⁵ Of these some were kings and the others were princes of the West Saxons.

Egbert was succeeded on the throne of England by his son Ethelwolf, who, after an interval, was succeeded by his son Alfred.⁴⁶ This was Alfred the Great, scholar, general, statesman, author, law-giver, reformer and patriot, one of the greatest men and noblest kings whom the world has ever known.⁴⁷ His mother was Osburga, daughter of Oslac, or Aslat, the famous butler of King Ethelwolf and descended from Stuf and Whitgar, two brothers and nobles to whom their uncle Cerdic gave the Isle of Wight.⁴⁸ Alfred's wife was Elswitha, a Mercian lady of noble birth, daughter of Athelred, surnamed Mucil (Great), Earl of Gaini, and whose mother was Eadburga of the race of the Mercian kings.

Alfred the Great was succeeded by his son Edward the Elder, whose wife was Edgiva, and he, after an interval, by his son Ethelred, whose mother was Elfhryth, or Elfrida whose mother was Saint Elfgiva, and he, after an interval, by his son Ethelred, whose mother was Elfryth, or Elfrida, and he by his son Edmund Ironside, whose mother was Elfgiva, daughter of Ethelbert, the ealdorman, first wife of Ethelred. Edmund Ironside, so called for his valor, married Algiva, or Elgitha.⁴⁹ During the short reign of this great king and general, Canute, King of Denmark, who claimed the throne of England, in attempting to acquire which by conquest of that country, he and his father Sweyn had been engaged for some

⁴⁴1 Hume's History of England, c. 1; Florence of Worcester, A. D., 849; Ethelward's Chronicle, A. D., 857; Anglo-Saxon Chronicle, A. D., 855.

⁴⁵Anglo-Saxon Chronicle, A. D., 855; Florence of Worcester, A. D., 849; Roger of Wendover, A. D., 689; Ethelward's Chronicle, A. D., 857.

⁴⁶1 Hume's History of England, c. 2.

⁴⁷1 Hume's History of England, c. 2; Florence of Worcester, A. D., 849.

⁴⁸Florence of Worcester, A. D., 849; Anglo-Saxon Chronicle; Henry of Huntington; Roger of Wendover, A. D., 849.

⁴⁹1 Hume's History of England, c. 2; Asser; Florence of Worcester, Genealogy of the Kings of Wessex, A. D., 849, A. D., 1015; Matthew of Westminster, A. D., 868; Roger of Wendover, A. D., 868; Ency. Brittan., 9th ed., Ethelred; 1 Lingard's History of England, c. 5.

time while Ethelred was king and his army was led by Edmund Ironside,⁵⁰ invaded England with a large force. Edmund made a brave struggle; but his people would not give him the support necessary to drive out the Danes. After a prolonged and severe contest, Edmund, unable to accomplish more, was compelled by the demands of his nobility and persuaded by Edric and Witan, to make terms with Canute. They entered into an agreement that hostilities should cease and the kingdom should be divided into two parts, of the southern one of which Edmund should be king, while Canute was king of the other, consisting of East Anglia, Mercia and Northumberland. Soon afterwards, Edmund was murdered, through the treason of Edric Streon, by the latter's son or by two of his own chamberlains; and Canute, claiming to be king over all England, seized the crown and drove Edmund's son Edward, called the Atheling (nobleman, freeman or prince), into exile. The latter found an asylum at the court of Solomon, (or, as Lingard says, Stephen), King of Hungary, where ultimately he married a Hungarian princess, Agatha, sister-in-law to Solomon, the king, and daughter of the Emperor Henry II.,⁵¹ who was canonized by Pope Eugenius III., as was also his wife Cunigunde at a later day.⁵² There is some difference among the authorities as to whether Agatha was the daughter of Henry II. or his granddaughter and the daughter of Henry II.'s daughter Gisla and her husband Solomon the king; but the weight of authority supports the former view.⁵³

GERMANY.

Henry II. was the son of Henry the Wrangler, Duke of Bavaria, son of Henry, son of Henry I., called Henry the

⁵⁰Henry of Huntington, A. D., 1013.

⁵¹Roger of Wendover, A. D., 1017; Henry of Huntington, A. D., 1016; Matthew of Westminster, A. D., 1016, c. 19; Ency. Brittan., 9th ed., Henry II.; 1 Hume's History of England, c. 3; William of Malmesbury, c. 10; Florence of Worcester, Genealogy of the Kings of Wessex; 1 Lingard's History of England, cc. 5, 6.

⁵²Ency. Brittan., 9th ed., Henry II.

⁵³1 Hume's History of England, c. 3; 1 Lingard's History of England, c. 6 n.; Malmesbury; Wendover; 1 Buchanan's History of Scotland, Book 7, and Aikman's note.