

CHAPTER TWO

ROGNVALD, EARL OF MERE

Twenty-sixth in Ancestry

Section 1, Rognvald, His Family and The History of His Time— Section 2, His Ancestry, The Yngling Saga.

NOTE:—The generations, both ancestry and descendency, as set forth in this genealogy, are counted so as to begin respectively with Thomas Pearsall (1564-1644) of England, Holland, and America, who was the genearch, or common ancestor, of the earliest American family of Pearsall.

As to his ancestry, each generation, beginning with the oldest, is the subject of a separate chapter in this book. The name of this ancestor is stated at the opening of the chapter. This will enable the reader to follow the line of ancestry, if he so desires, without the necessity of reading the interesting testamentary and collateral details. In each chapter will be given, where it could be learned, the name of the wife of this ancestor together with her ancestral genealogy, and there will also be given the history of the brothers and sisters of the ancestor of this generation, and a pedigree of their respective descendants. All these, together with the transcript of records relating to this

ancestor, will give quite a clear comprehension of him, his associations, and of his time. There may also be a historical statement or other information which will serve to revivify our kinsfolk of this generation.

It cannot be too strongly impressed upon the mind of the reader that the rules of modern genealogy require that succession in ancestry shall be established with all the care and certainty that would apply to the inheritance of lands. The effort has been made in this family history, not only to comply with this condition, but so far as possible to follow the special regulations of the American societies in which the right of membership depends upon established ancestry. The corollary is equally evident, namely, that the author has therefore exercised no choice in the selection of the oldest ancestor as this was determined for him by the succession of descent. This will explain why this work opens with Rognvald to whom the royal line of England is also proud to trace its ancestry.

SECTION 1.

26. ROGNVALD. Earl of Maeir of the Upplandings, surnamed the rich, was Cousin and Councillor to Harold the Fairhaired, who conquered the whole kingdom of Norway, and was the first sovereign thereof. Harold made this Rognvald Lord of North and South Mura. Rognvald was the son of Eystein Glumera, *27 who was the son of Ivar, *28 the son of Halfdan the Old, or the elder, meaning Halfdan the Mild *29 grandfather of Halfdan the Black. Eystein Glumera married Jocunda, daughter of Hunthaefer, King of North and South Mura, two provinces of Norway and later married Ascrida, daughter of Ragenwald, or Reynold, son of Olaus, King of Norway, who kept his Court at Gernstad.

Rognvald married Ragnhild, the daughter of Hrolf the Beaked, surnamed Nephrot Grosshertz, a great Herrse or Baron, of Rumstall. Children:—

1. Ivar, who fell in the Hebrides fighting with King Harold Fairhair.
2. *25. ROLLO, surnamed Gaungu-Hrolf, Chapter 3, section 1, who conquered Normandy, from whom is descended the Earls of Rouen, the Dukes of Normandy, and the Kings of England.
3. Thorir, the Silent, who succeeded his father as Earl of Moeri.
4. Heldina, married Sigurt, surnamed Rice, son of Harold Fairhair. He was King of Norway; also in 900 Governor of the province of Ringarce in Norway.

The Norsemen were polygamists and by other wives Rognvald had sons

5. Hrollauf, king of Iceland, Chapter 9, Section 3.
6. Einer (Eunor) Fourth Earl of Orkney, Chapter 3, Section 2.
7. Hallad (Halladand Tessnall) Third Earl of Orkney.

All the authorities agree that recorded Norman history begins with Rognvald, before that there were the Sagas which modern research have proven to be the most accurate of all historical records.

Rognvald stands forth as one of the great historical characters of all times, and of course there are many stories and legends current in the north concerning him. One of the prettiest being the story brought to light since 1873, of Earl Rognvald and the Dunrossness man. [Publications of the Scottish Historical Society, vol. 5, page 173-175.] The word in the original Icelandic for the Dunrossness man is bondi, the common term in the Scandinavian north for husbandman, land-cultivator, yeoman, i.e., the ordinary farmer of the north, who at the same time derived a portion of his sustenance from the sea, as he still does in Iceland, Faroe, and the Scottish Isles. The term lingered in Orkney and Shetland until comparatively recently. In the present translation, 'country man' is used as perhaps the simplest equivalent.

It so happened one day south in the Dunrossness sea, Dynraust-ness Voe, in Hjaltland, that an old and poor country man (bondi) was waiting long for his boatmen, while all the other boats that were ready rowed off. Then came a man with a white cowl to the old country man, and asked him why he did not row off to the fishing as the other men did. The country man replied that his mates had not come. "Bondi," said the man of the cowl, "would you like me to row with you?" "That will I," says the country man, "but I must have a share for my boat, for I have many children (bairns) at home, and I must work for them as much as I can." So they rowed out in front of Dynraust-head and inside Hundholm. There was a great stream of tide where they were, and great whirling eddies; and they were to keep in the eddy, but to fish outside the raust, that is the Raust of Sumburgh, still so called, a fierce tideway, but a favorite fishing-ground. The cowl-man sat in the front of the boat and pulled and the country man was to fish. The country man bade him take care not to be borne into the raust; and he said that he was quite alive to the danger. But the cowl-man did not attend to what he said to him, and did not take care though the country man should come into some danger. So a little after this they bore into the raust, and the country man was much frightened, and said, 'Miserable was I and unlucky when I took thee to-day to row, for here I must die, and my folk are at home helpless and in poverty if I am lost.' And the country man was so frightened that he wept and feared his end was come. The cowl-man answered, 'Be cheery, man, and don't cry, for we must find our way out of the raust as we got into it.' Then the cowl-man rowed out of the raust, and the country man was very glad. Then they rowed to the land, and pulled up the boat. And the country man bade the cowl-man to go and part the fish. But the cowl-man bade the country man part it as he liked, and said he would have no more than his third. There were many people come to the shore, both men and women, and a number of poor folk. The cowl-man gave to the poor men all the fish that had fallen to his share that day, and prepared to go on his way. At that place the way was up a cliff, and a number of women were sitting there. As he went up the cliff he slipped his foot, for it was slippery with rain, and fell down the cliff. A woman saw that first, and

laughed much at him, and then so did the other folk. And when the cowl-man heard that, said he:—

The girl mocks my dress,
And laughs more than becomes a maid.
I put to sea early this morning;
Few would know an earl in a fisher's weeds.

Then the cowl-man went his way, and afterwards men became aware that this cowl-man had been Earl Rognvald. And it became known to many men, that these were great tricks of his, creditable before God, and interesting to men. And men knew it for a proverb, as it stood in the stanza, 'Few know an earl in fisher's weeds.'

The history of our family is marked by successive residences in four geographical divisions, namely—Norway, Normandy, England and America. It happens, through the way that we are telling the story, that the generation of Rognvald is the only one relating to Norway, that is treated in a separate chapter. It will therefore be necessary at this place to give a full account of all that relates to our family in Norway. It will also serve to greater clearness to have all the characters in which we are interested appear upon the stage of our observation in the proper place, and in the same association with the leading characters of their day as they actually lived according to the Sagas and other history of the times.

Rognvald was contemporary with Harold Fairhair of Norway, who was his cousin german. The reign of Harold Fairhair marks in its record the commencement of written history in Norway. It seems though to have been employed to crush and subdue the Norwegian chieftains, over whom Harold held the nominal rule, and it was because they would not be crushed, and because they would not be subdued, that so many of them set out with their families and all their belongings for Iceland, the Orkneys, England, France, and other lands, to seek that position of self rule and freedom which was so sternly denied them at home. [The Book of the Settlement of Iceland, 1908, by T. Ellwood, page xxiv-xxvi.]

Harold Fairhair was the first to make a kingdom of Norway, which it has continued to be ever since. His father, Halfdan the Black, had already commenced this process, by hard fighting followed by wise guidance of the conquered, but it was Harold Fairhair, his son, who carried it out and completed it. Harold's birth year, death year, and chronology in general are known only by inference, but by the latest reckoning his birth is put down at 850; he began his reign in 860, doubtless under tutelage, and died about the year 933 of our era, a man of 83.

The business of conquest lasted Harold about 12 years, in which he subdued also the Vikings of the out-islands, Orkneys, Shetlands, Hebrides, and Man. His reign is counted altogether to have been over 70 years. These were the times of Norse colonisation, proud Norsemen flying into other lands, to freer scenes, to Iceland, more especially to the Faroe Islands, to the Orkney and the Shetland Islands, the Hebrides, England, France, and other countries where Norse squatters and Norse settlers already were.

Anent this season of subduing and driving out the recalcitrant Norwegian Jarls by Harold, the following relation is made in the *Heimskringla* or History of

the Kings of Norway, concerning his ten or twelve years of conquest and the epithet by which he was afterwards known. King Harold sent his messengers to a certain maiden called Gyda, the daughter of King Eric of Hordaland, to ask her in marriage. She replied to his messengers as follows: "Give this my word to King Harold, that only so will I engage to being his sole and lawful wife if he will first do so much for my sake as to lay under him all Norway, and rule that realm as freely as King Eric rules the Swede realm, or King Gorm, Denmark, for only such an one may be called aright a King of the People." Harold replied as follows: "This oath I make, first and swear before the God who made me and rules over all things, that never more will I cut my hair or comb it, till I have gotten to me all Norway and the tithe thereof, and dues, and will rule thereover or else I will die rather," and forthwith he devoted his life to this great aim. His object was not gained without a struggle. The petty chieftains, united by their common danger, fought desperately and long; but Harold, aided by his own personal ability, and fortunately served by some of the best swords of the day, defeated them in a succession of severe encounters. The fierce fighting, crushing and expatriation of the Norwegian chieftains lasted for 10 or 12 years, at the end of which time we are told King Harold had got to him all the land, and thus fulfilling his vow, gained his kingdom and his bride.

One of the principal battles of the campaign was that of Solskiel, which is thus described by Snorro Sturleson. King Harold moved out with his army from Drunthheim, and went southwards to Möre. Möre or Maere appears to be derived from the old northern word Mur, the sea; the same as the Latin More, and retained by us in moor or morass. It is applied to a flat bordering on the sea. Hunthiof was the name of the King who ruled over the district of Möre. Solve Klofe was the name of his son, and both were great warriors. King Nokve, who ruled over Raumsdal, was the brother of Solve's mother. Those chiefs gathered a great force when they heard of King Harold, and came against him. They met at Sol-skeil, an island in the parish of Aedo, in North Möre, and there was a great battle, which was gained by King Harold. The two kings were slain, but Solve escaped by flight; and King Harold laid both districts under his power. He staid here long in summer to establish law and order for the country people, and set men to rule them, and keep them faithful to him; and in autumn he prepared to return northwards to Drunthheim.

Rognvald, Earl of Möre, a son of Eystein Glumera, had the summer before become one of Harold's men; and the king set him as the chief over these two districts, North Möre and Raumsdal; strengthened him both with men of might and strength and gave him the help of ships to defend the coast against enemies. He was called Rognvald the Mighty, or the Wise; and people say both names suited well. King Harold came back to Drunthheim about winter. The following spring King Harold subdued South Möre; but Vernumd, King Audbierers' brother, still had the Fiorde district. King Harold had set Earl Rognvald over South and North Möre and also Raumsdal. The same winter Rognvald went over the inner neck of land, and southwards to the Fiorde district. There he heard news of King Vernund, and came by night to a place called Notsdal where King Vernund was living in guest-quarters. Earl Rognvald surrounded the

house in which they were quartered, burnt the King in it, together with ninety men. Then came Berdlukaare to Earl Rognvald with a completely armed ship, and they both returned to Möre. The Earl took all the ships Vernund had, and all the goods he could get hold of. [Heimskringla, by Snorro Sturleson, trans. by Samule Laing, 1844, chapter xii.]

Having conquered a kingdom, Harold determined to maintain it, build it up, and guard it against aggression. He issued an edict prohibiting raids by the subordinate Sea Kings against any lands that owed allegiance to him as king. This was not understood by his nobles and they continued to make their piratical expeditions whenever and wherever they believed the expedition would yield sufficient booty to pay for the trouble. The result was that Harold became angry and upon capture of the offending chieftain would put him to death or where the chieftain was too powerful to be thus dealt with, the king would banish him from the country.

Of the petty chieftains, many had fallen in battle, scorning to live on in disgrace; a few became his dependents, and ruled their once independent possessions as his vice-regents. Most left their native shores, and sought in other lands the power they had lost at home. The movement thus begun was furthered by the means resorted to by Harold in organizing his newly-won domain. In the preceding times, the Vikings had not confined their piratical incursions to foreign lands; they had plundered their own country as well as preyed on kith and kin. [The Normans in Europe, by Rev. A. H. Johnson.]

Now Harold adopted vigorous measures to put down this piracy; the turbulent spirits, driven from their own shores, swelled the forces of the exiled chieftains. His measures affected also the peaceful proprietors who had hitherto stayed at home. The expenses of government necessarily increasing with its centralization, he was forced to raise money. This he did, not only by appropriating the common lands hitherto the undivided property of the collective tribes, and by transferring all taxes and fines paid into the common treasury of the tribe or to the chieftain, to the royal coffers, but also by imposing taxes on those who, till then, had held their land in full and free ownership. Irritated at this loss of their freedom, and in some cases perhaps unable to wring sufficient produce from the sterile soil, many of these, the back-bone of the Northern people, joined the other discontented spirits, and furnished an element of stability and organization hitherto unknown in the expeditions of the Vikings.

It is material to note the difference between this later movement and the earlier ones which had preceded it. The first were little more than marauding expeditions for the sake of plunder. The pirates sailed the seas, pounced down upon any defenceless point, harried, sacked, and burnt the place, and were off again before any resistance could be organized. They had no idea of forming any definite settlement, and ravaged the territories of friend and foe alike. They were called Vikings.

The name Viking has no connection with 'king,' being derived from Vik, a bay, Viking, a baysman. By northern law, every freeman was bound to be enrolled in a Hafn, and to contribute towards building and manning a ship for the royal service, the office of Styresman being always hereditary in the family of an

Odal-Bonder. Thus, after the advent of the kingdom under Harold Fairhair and his successors, the royal ship, authorized to kill, burn, and destroy in lawful warfare, sailed from the Hafn, whilst the rover on his own account, put off from the Vik or open bay. Hence the name Viking. [Scotland Under Her Early Kings, by E. William Robertson, vol. 1, page 221.]

The Vikings were the crew of their vessels,
 The Sea king was the commander,
 Woe to the realms which he coasted! for there,
 Was shedding of blood and rending of hair,
 Rape of maiden, and slaughter of priest.
 Gathering of ravens and wolves to the feast!
 When he hoisted his standard black,
 Before him was battle, behind him wrack,
 And he burned the churches, that heathen Dane,
 To light his band to their barks again.
 On Erins shores was his outrage known
 The Winds of France had his bareness blown;
 Little was there to plunder, yet still
 His pirates had foraged on Scottish hill;
 But upon Merry England's coast
 More frequently he sailed for he won the most,
 So far and wide his ravage they knew,
 If a sail but gleamed white against the welkin blue
 Trumpets and bugles to arms did call,
 Burghers hastened to man the wall;
 Peasants fled inland his fury to escape,
 Beacons were lighted on headland and cape;
 Bells were tolled out and aye as they rung,
 Fearfully and faintly the gray brothers sung;
 Save us St. Mark from flood and from fire
 From famine and Pest and Count Witikinds ire.

[The Norse King, by Sir Walter Scott.]

Hengest and Horsa were of the line of Witta in Jutland, and the remembrance of their conquest never faded from the English Chronicles, so that when the new danger threatened from the same old source, the new comers must

necessarily in the minds of the Chroniclers be of the line of the same Count Witikind, as Sir Walter Scott records in the poem, The Norseman, by Sir Walter Scott.

There were no bounds to the conquests made by these expatriated Norsemen except the shores of the Atlantic Ocean. To them the sea was without terror and the voyage had not reached its distinction until the booty filled their vessel to the brim. They did not come to anchor when the stars were obscured by clouds. They did not despair when they lost sight of land. On board every Norman vessel was a chest of hawks and ravens and when the adventurers were uncertain in what direction lay the land, they let one of the birds fly, knowing that he would instinctively make for the nearest coast, and by his flight they steered their course. It was not long after the advent of King Harold Fairhair before these wanderers became tired of fighting with him, and the idea of definite settlement in England and elsewhere becomes apparent. This is an important observation to our family history, as we shall presently see that our ancestor, one of the sons of Rognvald, became one of these wandering sea kings. [The Normans in Europe, by Rev. A. H. Johnson, page 12-14.]

The men who left Norway towards the end of the ninth century of the Christian era, were of no savage or servile race. As we look at it now, and from another point of view, we see that what to them was unbearable tyranny, was really a step in the great march of civilization and progress, and that the centralization and consolidation of the royal authority, according to Charlemagne's system, was in time to be a blessing to the kingdoms of the north. But to the freeman it was a curse. He fought against it as long as he could; worsted over and over again, he renewed the struggle, and at last, when the isolated efforts, which were the keystone of his edifice of liberty, were fruitless, he sullenly withdrew from the field, and left the land of his fathers, where, as he thought, no freeborn man could now care to live. Thus there was ready at hand a large army of men, and a great fleet of vessels, which ultimately came under the rule and sway of the son of Rognvald when he was banished from Norway. But before this after King Harold had subdued the whole land, he was one day at a feast in More given by Earl Rognvald. Then King Harold went into a bath, and had his hair dressed. Earl Rognvald now cut his hair, which had been uncut and uncombed for ten years; and therefore the king had been called *Lufa*, that is, with rough matted hair. But then Earl Rognvald gave him the distinguishing name—Harold *Harfager*, i. e. Fair Hair; and all who saw him agreed that there was the greatest truth in that surname, for he had the most beautiful and abundant head of hair. Any modern Scandinavian would however translate *Lufa* by a stronger English word than rough matted hair. [The Story of the Burt Njal translated from the Saga by Sir George Nibbe Dasant, 1906, Editors, Rasmus B. Anderson and J. W. Buel. *Heimskringla* or the Chronicles of the Kings of Norway, by Snowe Sturlason.]

King Harold heard that the vikings, who were in the West Sea in winter, plundered far and wide in the middle part of Norway; and therefore every summer he made an expedition to search the isles and out-skerries, or uninhabited dry or half-tide rocks of a coast, on the coast. Wheresoever the vikings heard of him they all took to flight, and most of them went out into the open ocean. At last the king grew weary of this work, and therefore one summer he sailed with his fleet right out into the West sea. First he came to Hjalmland (Shetland), and he slew all the vikings who could not save themselves by flight. Then King Harold sailed southwards, to the Orkney Islands, and cleared them all of vikings. Thereafter he proceeded to the Sudreys or Hebrides, plundered there, and slew many vikings who formerly had had men-at-arms under them. Many a battle was fought, and King Harold was always victorious. He then plundered far and wide in Scotland itself, and had a battle there. When he was come westward as far as the Isle of Man, the report of his exploits on the land had gone before him; for all the inhabitants had fled over to Scotland, and the island was left entirely bare both of people and goods, so that King Harold and his men made no booty when they landed. So says Hornklofe:—

The wise, the noble king, great Harold,
Whose hand so freely scatters gold,
Led many a northern shield to war
Against the town upon the shore.

The wolves soon gathered on the sand
Of that sea-shore; for Harold's hand
The Scottish army drove away,
And on the coast left wolves a prey.

In this war fell Ivar, a son of Rognvald, Earl of More; and King Harold gave Rognvald, as a compensation for the loss, the Orkney and Shetland isles, when he sailed from the West; but Rognvald immediately gave both these countries to his brother Sigurd, who remained behind them; and King Harold, before sailing eastward, gave Sigurd the earldom of them. Throstein the Red, a son of Olaf the White and of Aud the Wealthy, entered into partnership with him; and after plundering in Scotland, they subdued Caithness and Sutherland, as far as Ekkjalsbakke. Earl Sigurd killed Melbridge Tooth, a Scotch earl, and hung his head to his stirrup-leather; but the calf of his leg was scratched by the teeth, which were sticking out from the head, and the wound caused inflammation in his leg, of which the earl died, and he was laid in a mound at Ekkjalsbakke. His son Guthorm ruled over these countries for about a year thereafter and died without children. Many vikings, both Danes and Northmen, had set themselves down then in those countries.

When Earl Rognvald in More heard of the death of his brother Earl Sigurd, and that the vikings were in possession of the country, he sent his son Hallad westward, who took the title of earl to begin with, and had many men-at-arms with him. When he arrived at the Orkney Islands, he established himself in the country; but both in harvest, winter, and spring, the vikings cruised about the isles, plundering the headlands, and committing depredations on the coast. Halladet-tesnall, called by Wiffen Halloden, third Earl of Orkney, married Tora, daughter of Find the Squinteyed, a great lord of Norway. They had a son Ragenwald, Lord of Eivy, who married Gunhella, daughter of Toraport, Lord of Hilgaland, or Heligoland. Earl Hallad grew tired of the business, resigned his earldom, took up again his rights as an allodial owner, and afterwards returned eastward into Norway. When Earl Rognvald heard of this he was ill pleased with Hallad, and said his sons were very unlike their ancestors. Rognvald called together his sons and asked who of them was then minded to go to the islands, and Thorir bade the Earl do as he pleased concerning his journey; the Earl said he had spoken well, but said he should abide there, at More, and have that dominion after his day. Then Hrolf or Rollo stepped forward and volunteered to go to Orkney; Rognvald said it suited him well, inasmuch as he was both strong and valiant, but he was minded to think that his temper was too wild for him to settle down now already in the rule of the lands. Then Hrollaug stepped forward and asked if it was his will that he should go; but Rognvald said he would not be likely to become an Earl; thy ways lead out to Iceland; in that land thou wilt be deemed a noble man and become prosperous in thy kindred, but here destiny hath nought in store for thee. Then Einar stepped forward and said: let me go to Orkney, and I will promise thee what thou wilt deem the best, that thereafter I shall never come within the sight of thine eyes. The Earl answers: I am well content that thou go away, however scanty hope I have about thee, for all thy mother's kin is thrall-born. Thereupon Einar fared west and subdued

to him the islands as is told in his saga. [Noble British Families by Drumond, London, 1844. The Viking Age, by Paul Du Challeau.]

Another account says:—Then said Einar, "I have enjoyed but little honor among you, and have little affection here to lose; now if you will give me force enough I will go west to the islands, and promise you what at any rate will please you—that you shall never see me again." Earl Rognvald replied that he would be glad if he never came back; "For there is little hope," said he, "that thou will ever be an honor to thy friends, as all thy kin on thy mother's side are born slaves." Earl Rognvald gave Einar a vessel completely equipped, and he sailed into the West sea in harvest. When he came to the Orkney Isles, two vikings, Thorer Treskeg and Kalf Skurfa, were in his way with two vessels. He attacked them instantly, gained the battle, and slew the two vikings. Then this was sung:—

Then gave he Treskeg to the trolls,
Torfeinar slew Skirfa.

Einar afterwards was earl over the islands, and was a mighty man. He was ugly, and blind of an eye, yet very sharp-sighted withal. It was long after this conquest before the descendants of this son of Rognvald ceased to occupy a commanding position in Scottish and English History. [Heimskringla, or Chronicles of the Kings of Norway, by Snowe Sturlason.]

After this Hrollaug betook himself to King Harold and stayed with him for a while, because father and son could not agree together.

Hrollaug went to Iceland by the advice of King Harold, and had with him his wife and sons. He came up in the east at Horn and there cast overboard his High Seat Pillars, which were borne to land in Horn-firth, but he himself was driven away beyond the land to the westward and fell in with a rough tossing about with scarcity of water. They landed in Miry Creek, in the Nesses; there he was the first winter. Then he had news of his High Seat Pillars, and from thence he went to the east; he was for another winter under Ingolf's fell. Thence he went eastward to Hornfirth and took land eastward of Horn in westward to Folds' river, and resided first under Skard-brink in Hornfirth, but afterwards he abode at Breidabols-stead in Fellshverfi. By then he had parted with those lands which were north from Borgarhofn, but he retained until the day of his death the lands which were south from Hreggsgerdismuli. Hrollaug was a great lord and kept up friendship with King Harold, but never went abroad. King Harold sent to Hrollaug a sword, an alehorn and a gold ring which weighed five ounces.

Afterwards Kol, son of Side Hall, owned the sword, and Kolskegg Deep-in-lore had seen the horn. Hrollaug was father of Ozur Keilis-elk, who married Gro, the daughter of Thord Evilmind; their daughter was Thordis, the mother of Hall o'Side. Another son of Hrollaug was Hroald, father of Ottar Hvalro, the father of Gudlaug, the mother of Valgerd, the mother of Bodvar, the father of Gudny, the mother of the Sturlungs. Onund was the third son of Hrollaug. Hallo'Side had for wife Joreid, the daughter of Thidrandi; their son was Thorstein, the father of Magnus, the father of Einar, the father of Magnus the Bishop. Another son of Hall was Egil, father of Thorgerd, the mother of Bishop John