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KOLLI HRÓALDSSON (*LANDNÁMABÓK*)=
DALA-KOLLR (*LAXDÆLA SAGA*)?

It is evident from the texts of “*Landnámabók*” that the Kolli Hróaldsson who settled in Barðastrandarsýsla and the Dala-Kollr of “*Laxdæla Saga*” have been confused. “*Hauksbók*” and “*Melabók*” state that Kolli Hróaldsson married Þorgerðr Þorsteinsdóttir, and that their son Høskuldr, apparently the Høskuldr of “*Laxdæla Saga*,”¹ married Hallfríðr the daughter of Björn from Bjarnarfjörðr:—

“Hofkolli Hroallz s(vn) nam Kollaf(iord) ok Kvigandiz fiord ok selldi ymsum monnum landnam sitt enn hann fór i Laxardal aa Hoskvllz stadi. hann var kalladr Dala-Kollr. hans s(vn) var Hoskuldr [er atti Hallfridi dottur Biarnar er nam Biarnarf(iord) fyri nordann Steingrims fiord. þeira s(vn) var Þorlacr f(adir) Bolla er atti Gudrunu. Osvifrs dottor.” (“*Hauksbók*.” cap. 98. p. 43).

“(Hofkollle) Hroaldsson nam Kollafiörd og Kviandanes og Quijgandafiörd og selldi ýmissum monnum landnam sitt er hann for i Laxárdal a Höskulldstade er hann quongadest. hann var sijdan kalladr Dalakollur. Son hans var Hoskolldur er a(tti) Hallfrijde d(ottur) Biarnar er nam Biarnarfiord firir nordan Steingrijmsfiörd. þ(eirra) s(on) Þorleikur f(adir) Bolla er a(tti) Gudrunu Osuifursd(ottur).” (“*Melabók*” cap. 126. p. 73).

“*Sturlubók*,” however, does not mention Kolli’s marriage, nor that he had a son Høskuldr:—

“Kolli Hroallz s(on) nam Kollafiord ok Kvigandanes og Kvigandafiord hann selldi ymsum monnum landnam sitt.” (“*Sturlubók*,” cap. 126. p. 167). Further, “*Hauksbók*” states that a certain Kollr, the son of Veðrar-Grímr, the son of Ási, married Þorgerðr Þorsteinsdóttir:—

¹ See below *Laxdæla Saga*, cap. V, p. 9.

“ Kollr het mádr Vedrar-Grimss(vn) Asas(vnar) hersis. hann hafði forráð með Audi ok var merst virðr af henni. Kollr atti Þorgerði d(ottur) Þorsteins rauds.” (“ Hauksbók.” cap. 83. p. 36).

This is supported by “ Sturlubók ” (cap. 96. p. 157) and “ Melabók ” (cap. 96. p. 61):—

“ Kollr het mádr Vedrar-Grimss(on) Alas(onar) hersis. hann hafði forrad með Audi ok var virðr mest af heni. Kollr atti Þorgerði dottur Þorsteins raudz.” (“ Sturlubók.” cap. 96. p. 157).

“ Kollur het madur Vedragrimss(on) Asas(onar) hersis. hann hafde forrad með Audi og var virður mest af henne. Kollur a(tti) Þorgerde d(ottur) Þorst(eins) rauds.” (“ Melabók.” cap. 96. p. 61).

According to “ Sturlubók ” this Kollr had a son Hǫskuldr who married Hallfríðr, the daughter of Þorbjörn from Vatn, and by her had a son Þorleikr; this is supported by “ Melabók ”:—

“ dal allt til Haukadals aar. hann var kalladr Dalakollr. hann atti Þorgerði dottur Þorsteins rauds. baurn þeira voru þau Hauskulldr ok Groa er atti Veleifr en gamli ok Þorkatla er Þorgeir godi atti. Hauskulldr atti Hallfríði d(ottur) Þorbiarnar fra Vatni. Þorleikr var son þeira hann atti Þuríði d(ottur) Arnbiarnar Slettu-Biarnarsonar. þeira son var Bolli.” (“ Sturlubók.” cap. 105. p. 159).

“ Kollur nam Laxardal allan og allt til Havkadalsár. hann var kalladur Dalakollur. hann átte Þorgerde d(ottur) Þorsteins rauds sem fir var getid b(orn) þeirra voru þau Hoskulldur og Groa er a(tti) Veleifur hinn gamle og Þorkatla er Þorgeir gode átte. Hoskulldur a(tti) Hallfríde d(ottur) Þorbiarnar fra Vatne. Þorleikur var s(on) þeirra. hann átte Þuríde d(ottur) Arnbiarnar Sliettubiarnas (onar) þeirra s(on) var Bolle.” (“ Melabók.” cap. 105. p. 63).

The same Dala-Kollr is mentioned in “ Laxdæla Saga ” where he is said to have married Þorgerðr Þorsteinsdóttir, and

to have had a son Høskuldr who married Jórunn, the daughter of Björn fróm Bjarnarfjörðr in Strandasýsla:—

“ Þat sama vár, er Unnr setti bú saman í Hvammi, fekk Kollr Þorgerðar, dóttur Þorsteins rauðs. Þat boð kostaði Unnr; lætr hon Þorgerði heiman fylgja Laxárdal allan, ok setti hann þar bú saman fyrir sunnan Laxá. Var Kollr enn mesti tilkvæmðarmaðr. Þeira son var Høskuldr.” (*Laxdæla Saga*, cap. V. p. 9).

“ Björn hét maðr; hann bjó í Bjarnarfirði ok nam þar land Ljúfa hét kona hans. Þeirra dóttir var Jórunn; hon var væn kona ok ofáti mikill; hon var ok skörungr mikill í vitsmunum. Sá þótti þá kostr beztr í öllum Vestfjörðum. Af þessi konu hefir Høskuldr frétt, ok þat með, at Björn var beztr bóndi á öllum Ströndum. Høskuldr reið heiman með tíunda mann, ok sækir heim Björn bónda í Bjarnarfjörð. Høskuldr fekk þar góðar viðtökur, því at Björn kunni góð skil á honum. Síðan vekr Høskuldr bönorð, en Björn svarar því vel, ok kvaz þat hyggja, at dóttir hans mundi eigi vera betr gipt, en veik þó til hennar ráða. En er þetta mál var við Jórinni rætt, þá svarar hon á þessa leið: “ Þann einn spurdaga hófum vér til þin, Høskuldr, at vér viljum þessu vel svara, því at vér hyggjum, at fyrir þeiri konu sé vel sét, er þér er gipt, en þó mun faðir minn mestu af ráða, því at ek mun því samþykkjaz hér um, sem hann vill.” En hvárt sem at þessum málum var setit lengr eða skemr, þá varð þat af ráðit, at Jórunn var fóstnuð Høskuldi með miklu fé; skyldi brullaup þat vera á Høskuldsstöðum.” (*Laxdæla Saga*, cap. IX. p. 17).

“ Hauksbók ”² and “ Melabók ”³ state that Høskuldr the son of Kolli Hróaldsson married Hallfríðr, the daughter of Björn fróm Bjarnarfjörðr, but “ Melabók ” agrees with “ Laxdæla Saga ” and states that it was Jórunn the daughter of Björn who married Høskuldr:—

“ sijdar a(tti) Þorbiorgu Þorbiorn inn haukdælske brodir Jorunar Biarnad(ottur) er a(tti) Hoskulldur i Laxardal.” (“ Melabok.” cap. 122. p. 71).

² See above “ Hauksbók ” cap. 98, p. 43. ³ See above, “ Melabók ” cap. 126, p. 73.

It would appear, therefore, that there is confusion not only in the story of Kolli Hróaldsson and Dala-Kollr, but also in the story of Høskuldr. "Hauksbók" and "Melabók" state that Kolli Hróaldsson and Dala-Kollr both married Þorgerðr Þorsteinsdóttir, and that the son in each case was Høskuldr. "Sturlubók" does not mention the marriage of Kolli Hróaldsson, but its evidence for the marriage and family of Dala-Kollr agrees exactly with that of "Hauksbók" and "Melabók." Secondly, according to all three texts, Høskuldr, the son of Dala-Kollr, married Hallfríðr, the daughter of Þorbjörn from Vatn, and by her had a son Þorleikr, but "Hauksbók" and "Melabók" state that the Høskuldr, who is supposed to have been the son of Kolli Hróaldsson, married Hallfríðr, the daughter of Björn from Bjarnarfjörðr, and by her had a son Þorleikr, whose son Bolli is also said to have been the son of Høskuldr Dala-Kollsson and Hallfríðr the daughter of Þorbjörn from Vatn. In addition to this, "Laxdæla Saga" and an isolated reading in "Melabók" state that Høskuldr Dala-Kollsson married Jórunn, the daughter of Björn from Bjarnarfjörðr and, according to the saga alone, had by her a son Þorleikr.

Perhaps this confusion can be solved by reference to the ancestry of Dala-Kollr. Dala-Kollr's grandfather was Ási, whose brother, according to all texts of "Landnámabók," was Hróaldr:—

"Grimr h(et) maðr Ingialls s(vn) Hroallz s(vnar) or Haddingia dal broðir Asa hersis. hann fór til Islandz í landa leit ok siglði fyrir norðan land. hann var vm vetrin i Grims ey a Steingrims firði. Bergðis h(et) kona hans en Þorir s(vn)." ("Hauksbók." cap. 56, p. 23).

"Grimr het madr Ingialldsson. Hroallsson(ar) or Haddingiadal brodir Asa hesis. hann fór til Islandz i landa leit ok siglði fyrir nordan landit. hann var vmm vetrinn i Grimsey aa Steingrimsfirði. Bergdis het kona hans enn Þorir son þeira." ("Sturlubók." cap. 68. p. 146).

"Grimur h(et) madur son Ingialldz Hroalldzs(onar) ur Haddijngiadal brodir Asa herses hann fór til Islandz i landaleit

og siglde firir nordan landet. hann var um veturinn i Grijmzey a Steingrijmzfirde. Bergdijs het kona hans enn Þórir s(on) þeirra." ("Melabók." cap. 68. p. 46). Þórir, the son of Grímr, the grandson of Hróaldr is the Sel-Þórir who appropriated land "fyrir sunnan Gnúpa til Kaldár fyrir neðan Knappadal milli fjalls ok fjöru,"⁴ and apparently, according to all texts of "Landnámabók," Ingjaldr, the grandfather of Sel-Þórir, had a second son Ási, whose son Þórir was that Þórir who appropriated "Kaldnesinga hrepp allan upp frá Fyllarlæk ok bjó at Selforsi."⁵

It is scarcely possible that Dala-Kollr and Kolli Hróaldsson should both have married Þorgerðr Þorsteinsdóttir, and both have had by her a son Høskuldr, who married Hallfríðr the daughter of Þorbjörn from Vatn, and it seems strange that if both Dala-Kollr and Kolli Hróaldsson had sons named Høskuldr both sons should have married a Hallfríðr, the one the daughter of Þorbjörn from Vatn, the other the daughter of Björn from Bjarnarfjörðr, and, if this is strange, then it is almost incredible that the sons of both Høskuldrs should have been named Þorleikr. It is evident then, that the characters have been confused, though, if Kolli Hróaldsson was the son of the Hróaldr who was the brother of Ási, the grandfather of Dala-Kollr, this confusion can be understood, because Dala-Kollr and Kolli Hróaldsson then belonged to the same family. In his 1925 edition of *Landnámabók*,⁶ Finnur Jónsson accepts the statement of "Hauksbók"⁷ and "Melabók"⁸ that Kolli Hróaldsson left Barðastrandarsýsla and went to Laxárdalr. "Sturlubók"⁹ has no reference to Kolli's supposed move to Laxárdalr, but states that he left Barðastrandarsýsla. If Kolli was the son of Hróaldr the brother of Ási, then it is most probable that he

⁴ *Landnámabók Islands. udgiven efter de Gamle Håndskrifter af det Kongelige Nordiske Oldskriftselskab til minde om dets hundrede år 1825-1925.* Edited by Finnur Jónsson. København, 1925, cap. 118. pp. 48-49.

⁵ *Idem*, cap. 35. p. 21.

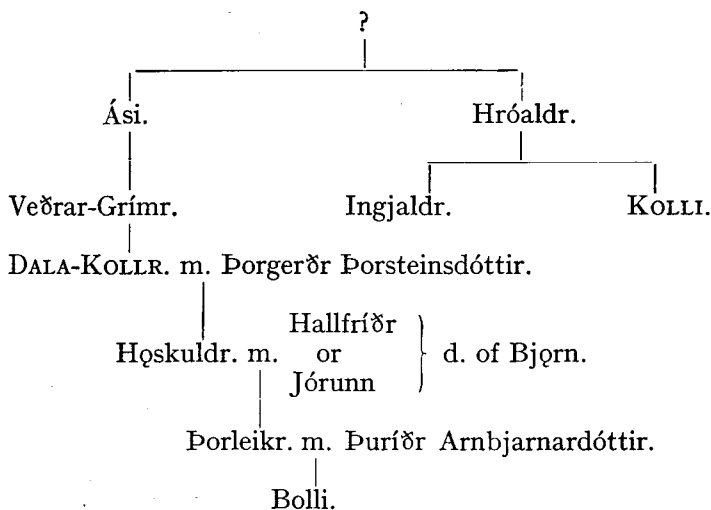
⁶ *Idem*, cap. 175, p. 77.

⁷ "Hauksbók," cap. 98, p. 43.

⁸ "Melabók," cap. 126, p. 73.

⁹ "Sturlubók," cap. 126, p. 167.

went to Laxárdalr, the new home of his family, and this confirms the reading of "Hauksbók" and "Melabók." From this, the following genealogy seems probable:—



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