

# The Seaxe

#### Newsletter of the Middlesex Heraldry Society



Editor – Stephen Kibbey, 3 Cleveland Court, Kent Avenue, Ealing, London, W13 8BJ (Telephone: 020 8998 5580 – e-mail: <a href="mailto:stephen.kibbey@which.net">stephen.kibbey@which.net</a>)

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#### The Honourable Artillery Company - From its Origins to the Restoration. Part 1

The origins of The Honourable Artillery Company are somewhat confusing. What is certain is that on 25<sup>th</sup> August 1537, King Henry VIII granted a Charter of Incorporation to a Guild or Fraternity of Saint George. However, it is the ambiguity of the wording of the Charter which casts uncertainty as to whether the Guild of St George was already in existence and was



Arms of the Honourable Artillery Company.

receiving Royal support or whether the Charter was creating a completely new institution.

No regimental records exist of the early times of the Company but in the midtwentieth century the original lease of the Old Artillery Ground in Bishopsgate came into the Company's possession. The lease was granted to the Company by William, Prior of the Convent and Hospital of St Mary Without Bishopsgate, on 3<sup>rd</sup> January 1538. some five months after the incorporation of the Company. The lease is the counter-part and bears the common seal of the Company. About a guarter of the seal is intact, but sufficient remains to show on one side the royal arms of Henry VIII with a griffin or wyvern as a supporter and on the obverse a shield bearing a cross of St George in the centre of which a portion of a lion passant can be discerned proving the existence of Company's coat of arms at that early date.

Prior to the discovery of the counter-part lease the use of a coat of arms by the

Company could only be traced as far back as 1629, when it was used as the frontispiece of a military work. From the shape and size of the seal it is probable that the coat of arms then consisted simply of the lion of England on a cross of St George, and that the feathers and portcullis on a blue chief were added at a later date as an "augmentation of honour".

The 14<sup>th</sup> century saw the rise to fame of the English long bow as a potent weapon. To facilitate the training in the use of the longbow, Finsbury Park and Moorfields became the foremost locations for the archers. Archery became of such fundamental importance to the English army that Edward III by the Statute of Winchester made it compulsory for every male between the ages of 15 and 60 to provide themselves with arms according to their quality. This Statute didn't

seem to have the desired effect because in 1363 a proclamation in the City required the men to practice archery in their leisure time and on holidays and forbade them from playing handball, football, bandyball, cambuch and cockfighting, "or suchlike vain plays, which had no profit in them". Failure to comply was imprisonment. In 1512 an Act of Parliament was passed to enforce the Statute of Winchester and in 1514 another Act was passed to ban tennis-play and bowls "...which only lead to murder and robberies".

It was King Henry III who ordered the Lord Mayor of London to provide a body of armed, disciplined men for the defence of the City. Such men were selected, armed and warned to muster "at the tolling of St Paul's bell". It was also in Henry's reign that the famous "Marching Watch" was initiated. Generally it consisted of up to 2 000 armed men, clothed in white fustian, with the arms of the City on the back and breast, who marched through the City on the vigils of St John the Baptist and St Peter. Over time the event became ever-more popular reaching its zenith in 1510 when King Henry VIII made a special visit to the City to watch the parade. It was lit by 940 cressets borne high on poles. The Lord Mayor was attended by a giant and two pages on horseback, followed by a procession of archers, (honest persons with bows and arrows cleanly harnessed and arrayed in jackets of white with the arms of the



City), pikemen, billmen, and halberdiers, with a body of demi-lances in bright armour. It was the cost of putting on such a display that the Watch was eventually stopped sometime in the reign of Edward VI.

The suppression of the monasteries caused unrest throughout the country and the King, Henry VIII, placed great reliance on the loyalty of the City. And so it was that in 1537 he set his Great Seal to the Charter which incorporated for all time the Guild or Fraternity of Artillery, for the defence of the realm by the maintenance of "the Science and Feate of Shootinge" with longbow, crossbow and handgun. The members of the Guild were men of substance, recruited from the wealthier classes and this is reflected in the privilege of them being permitted to wear silk and velvet, furs and embroideries.

It has been mentioned that early in the sixteenth century the Company acquired the lease to the Old Artilley Ground in Bishopsgate. In the lease the Company is referred to by its Charter title of "Maysters Rulers and Comynalitie of the Fraternitye or Guylde of Artyllary of longbowes Crossbowes and handgonnes". The ground was let for three consecutive terms of 99 years at a yearly rent of twenty shillings with a fine of forty shillings if the rent remained in arrears for three consecutive months. Two years after their incorporation on the 8<sup>th</sup> May 1539, a great procession took place at 6 o'clock in the morning when the citizens of London gathered in the fields from Whitechapel to Mile End and from Bethnal Green to Stepney. They were then inspected to

check that they each had a sword and dagger and that each were "clenely hosed and shodde" in white. 15,000 picked men entered the City at Aldgate and marched to Westminster where they were reviewed by the King and returned via St Jame's Park, Holborn and Chepe. At the head of the procession were cannon mounted on carts followed by hand-gunners, bowmen, pikemen and billmen. As the musketeers passed the King they saluted him with volleys and the great guns were drawn up and "shotte very terribly in divers places and especially before the King."

Archery was still a popular part of military training in the mid sixteenth century, and competitions between the various groups within the Company and other Trained Bands. Accounts still exists detailing some of these archery competitions. One such account tells of 3,000 London archers taking part in a competition at Hodgson's Field in Shoreditch in 1583. The victors were led off the field mounted on horses and attended by 200 torchbearers.



Members of The Honourable Artillery Company escorting the Lord Mayor of London in 1996.

It is interesting to note that surprisingly the Company known today as The Honourable Artillery Company, has since its Royal Charter of 1537 been known by many names. It could have been expected that with the receipt of a Royal Charter the group would have agreed on a name by which they would be known for evermore. There are too many names to mention here but a few are given as it is interesting to see the variety of names used for essentially the same Company. As mentioned earlier, in their Charter of 1537 they were addressed as "Maisters and Rulers and Cominalitie of the Fraternie or Gulyde of Artillary of Lonbowes, Crosbowes and Handegonnes". In 1544 in the Accounts of Roger Highme, Collector of the Rents to King Henry VIII they are listed as "Master & Governors of the Gunners, in 1587 in the Roll of Thomas Lant, they are "Cyttizens of London practised in John Stow in 1588 calls them "Captaines of the Artillery Garden". Other names include, "Societie of Cittizens of London practizinge Armes and military discipline" (1616), "Gentlemen of the Artillery Garden" (1623), "Voluntary Company of the Artillery Garden" (1623) and "Ancient

and Worthy Society exercising Armes in the Artillery Garden" (1647). It was Lieutenant-Colonel Richard Elton who first used the title of Honourable Artillery Company when he addressed them as such in the third edition of his book, 'The Compleat Body of the Art Military (very delightful and profitable for all Noble and Heroick Spirits)'. It was dedicated to the President, Vice-President, Treasurer, and the rest of the Court of Assistants of the Ancient and Honourable Artillery Company of London. The date was 1668.

At the outbreak of the Civil War both sides enlisted as many fighting men as they could. In London both parties started summoning the Trained Bands to their assistance. The only reasonably efficient trained band was the Artillery Company. They were the reserve on which Parliament depended in all emergencies and therefore it is hardly surprising to find that the majority members of the Company supported the Parliamentary side. In the twelve months

period leading up to the start of the War membership of the Company increased by nearly 300. The following year another 150 joined but thereafter recruiting virtually stopped, only one new member was enrolled in 1664. From that year onwards, due to the complete lack of records, it is assumed that the Company's normal activities ceased during the latter stages of the War. Not until 1655 did the Lord Mayor of London and Commissioners of the Militia apply to Oliver Cromwell for leave "...to revive the power of the Artillery Company, for the better disciplining of the Citizens, whereby they might, upon any emergency, be enabled to act together for his defence". Oliver Cromwell agreed and appointed Major-General Skippon as Captain-General.

Mention has been made of the lack of records for the early history of the Company. The reason for this deficiency can be found in the first Minute Book of the Court of Assistants. It seems that in order to protect the valuables and archives of the Company from the ravages of War, they were put in the hands of the Treasurer of the Company, Lieutenant-Colonel William Manby for safe keeping. After the war ended the Company requested the return of their property, which consisted of plate, money, arms, books and papers. Manby refused to give them up, his reason why is not noted except that there is a hint that he did not consider the Company, as reconstituted, to be the legal successors of the original Company of which he was Treasurer. He ignored all requests, orders and threats. The Company tried every possible means to recover their property including obtaining summonses to appear in Court before the Militia Committee; a Bill in Chancery was tried in vain; petitions to the Lord Protector, to the Committee of Parliament, and later, to Charles II all to no effect. The archives of the Company which probably went back to the time of the Charter have never been recovered and it is presumed that they were destroyed, probably in the Great Fire of London. Among the documents lost was the original lease of the Artillery Ground.

On the death of Oliver Cromwell in 1658, the Court of Assistants of the Company offered their services to provide an escort at the Lord Protector's funeral. The Militia Committee accepted the offer believing the Trained Bands being too numerous. A summons was sent out to all members of the Company:

Sr:

You are desired to appeare on Tuesday morninge the 9<sup>th</sup> of this instant att eight of the Clocke in the Artillery Garden compleately armed and habited with a black feather to march from thence to attend the funerall of his late Highnes Oliver Lord protector and not to fayle in any of the premises as you tender the honor of the Cittie & Company.

Also sent were the following orders:

Major Randal & Capt: Best are desired to speake to the Haroulds (Heralds) to knowe ye tyme of ye Companys Comeinge to attend ye funerall & the place where they shall drawe upp.

Ordered that the Leading Staffe & Partison the heads bee covered with Sipress (cypress) and yt a ribbon bee provided for the Collours.

Ordered that there bee 10 Drums and Fifes and that the Treasurer of this Compamy doe provide blacke bayes (baize) for the coveringe of them.

On the restoration of the monarchy in the form of Charles II, a general pardon was granted to all who had taken up arms against the king's father excepting those individuals involved in the trial and execution of the late king. A number of the members of the Company were included in these exceptions. Those who signed the death warrant included Colonels John Venn and Thomas Pride who both died before the restoration. Colonel John Barkstead was executed, Colonels Robert Tichborne and Edmond Harvey were imprisoned for life, and Colonel Owen Roe was sentenced to death but died in the Tower of London. William Goffe, and Colonels Issac Pennington and John Hewson fled the country. Of those present at the trial, Colonel Daniel Axtell, Captain of the Guard was executed; John Cooke, Solicitor, and Edward Denby,

Sargeant of Arms escaped. Colonel Thomas Atkins and Rowland Wilson had been appointed by Cromwell to serve on the Court but like Philip Skippon had refused to have anything to do with it.

To be continued.

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#### **Two Portuguese Armorials**



The Royal Arms of Portugal from The Book of Nobility.

1755 is not a year that readily comes to mind when one thinks of notable dates. In fact in the time line in 'The Times Complete History of the World' the only event listed for that year is that under Asia, "Alaungpaya founds Rangoon and reunites Burma (to 1824)". It is remarkable that an event that occurred that year in Europe on All Saints Day and out of which saw the birth of the science of Seismology is not considered to be significant enough to be mentioned.

It was approximately just before 9.45am on the 1st November 1755 that an earthquake measuring 8.5 to 9 on the Richter scale occurred in the Atlantic Ocean some 125-175 miles south of Lisbon. This can be compared with the earthquake that hit Haiti in January this year which measured 7.0 on the Richter scale. The main tremor was followed minutes later by two major aftershocks were felt right across Portugal, Spain and Morocco. An hour later three successive tsunami waves roared up the Tagus estuary completely devastating the city and sweeping everything caught in its path along with it. The effects of the tsunamis were felt as far apart as

Ireland and the West Indies. But it was Lisbon, the nearest major city to the earthquakes' epicentre that bore the brunt of the devastation. Being All Saints Day, candles had been lit in the churches and the cathedral. As a consequence the earthquake and resulting tsunamis was followed by fire which raged out of control for over a week destroying anything that had survived the earthquake itself. The number of people who lost their lives is still uncertain. In the early 20th century a meticulous study was carried out by Francisco Luiz Pereira de Sousa who estimated the death toll in Lisbon to be in the order of 30,000 to 40,000. In the rest of Portugal, Spain and Morocco the death toll was put at a further 10,000.

It was the lower part of the city that suffered the most. The River Palace, the Customs House, and the High Court were reduced to rubble as was the palace of the Inquisition. The cathedral was gutted by fire, the opera house collapsed and many nobles' houses were completely destroyed. The cultural losses are incalculable. The magnificent collection of over 200 paintings including works by Titian, Correggio, and Rubens which were held in the Annunciada Palace,

the home of the Counts of Ericeira, were lost. The third. fourth, and fifth counts were all avid book collectors and by 1744 the library in the palace numbered over 18,000 volumes together with the family archives. Priceless maps, globes. navigational charts and other documents irretrievably were damaged by the floods and fire. However, perhaps the greatest loss of all was many SO irreplaceable records of maritime Portugal's and colonising past.

Portugal's genealogical and heraldic records also suffered great loss in the destruction of the House of Nobility. Here were kept the 'Cartório da Nobreza' (records of the nobility). Fortunately two important rolls of arms have come pre-dating the down to us earthquake, presumably because they were not in Lisbon at the time. They are of great interest because they were produced in the period known as the 'Golden Age'; that period when the Portuguese seafarers were explor

-ing the west coast of Africa and



A page from the Armerio-Mor. The arms of India Major and India Minor are the attributed arms of Prester John.

eventually discovering the route around the Cape of Good Hope. They then pushed on round to the east side of the continent to Mozambique and on to India, Japan and China. They also crossed the Atlantic to discover and colonised Brazil. Further north they were some of the earliest visitors to Newfoundland which had recently been rediscovered by John Cabot in 1497. Very profitable trade routes were opened up which brought prosperity to the country.

Whilst on their exploration of Africa and India they also looked out for and made enquiries about that elusive legendary figure, 'Prester John'. In 1165 a letter reportedly written by Prester John (Presbyter Johannes) Emperor of Byzantium, was circulating round the capitals of Europe. 'I am the lord of Lords', the letter said. 'Under heaven, I surpass in riches and virtue and power all other kings upon the whole earth.' He claimed that seventy-two kings were subject to him. 'Our magnificence dominates the three Indias and extends Farther India ... There is none to equal us in riches or in the number of our subjects'. Great efforts and resources were put in to locating this King of kings, but alas without success.

The names of these great seafaring explorers, Coa, da Gama, Magellan and Cabral to name but a few, live on in monuments raised in their honour. They also live on in two great Portuguese Roll of Arms, the 'Armeiro-Mor' and 'The Book of Nobility. On their return from their travels they received many privileges and honours, including a grant of arms if they were not already armigerous or an augmentation of honour to their arms as in the case of Vasco da Gama. It may well be due to this increase in the nobility, that caused Manuel I to decide to have

a new roll of arms drawn up to record the new arms being granted. He gave his Portugal King of Arms, a Frenchmen named Jean du Cros, the task of drawing up the roll. It took Cros over three years to produce, starting in February 1506 and completing it in August 1509.

The roll was produced in book form and was called the 'Livro do Armeiro-Mor'. It is also known as the 'Livro das Armas, (Book of Arms), and the 'Livro Grande (Great Book). It was for the personal use of the king who took a great interest in heraldry. It was unfortunate that a roll of arms produced by a King of Arms contained numerous errors which must have irked Manuel. Eight years later he commissioned another roll of arms and gave specific instructions that it was to correct the errors in the Armeiro-Mor. Interestingly he didn't give the task to his heralds but to a nobleman in his court, one Antonio Godinho.

Portugal King of Arms followed a well trodden path in compiling his 'General' roll of arms. Before showing the main body



The Margrave of Brandenburg from the Armeiro-Mor



Bertrand du Guesclin from the Armeiro-Mor

of arms it was usual to start with the kings and emperors, both real and fictional, of the known world. Nine Worthies The were also sometimes included. In the Armeiro-Mor, du Cros not only included Christian, Moorish and Gentile kings, forty-nine in all, but also the figures and arms of the Nine Worthies, the figures and arms of the seven electors of the Emperor as well as the figures and arms of the twelve 'Pairs de France', the great Peers of France.

It was Jean de Longuyon in his 'Voeux du Paon' who introduced the Nine Worthies. The nine consisted of Josuha, David and Judas Maccabaeus representing the Champions of Chivalry of the Old Law (Jews); Hector, Alexander, and Julius Ceasar, the three Champions of the Pagan Law (Pagans) and Arthur, Charlemagne, and Godfrey de Bouillon, the three Champions of the new Christian Law, (Christians). In France the great constable Bertrand du Guesclin was accorded the position of the tenth worthy and it can be no surprise that



A page from the Armeiro-Mor. The arms are the Marquis of Vila Real, Braganza, the Count of Penela and Noronha

since the Armeiro-Mor was produce by a Frenchmen we find the figure of de Guesclin tacked on at the end. Interestingly the arms shown with the figure are not du Guesclin's arms. He bore a double-headed eagle with a bendlet as can be seen on the magnificent equestrian statue of him in his home town of Dinan in Brittany and on his tomb memorial in St Denis, Paris.

At least from the thirteenth century the Holy Roman Emperor was effectively elected by seven electors. The spiritual electors were the Archbishop of Mainz, the Archbishop of Trier and the Archbishop of Cologne. They held the office of Archchancellor Germany, of Gaul Burgundy respectively. The lay members comprised the King of Bohemia, who held the office of cupbearer; the Count Palatine of the Rhine was the seneschal, the Duke of Saxony was the marshal and the Margrave of Brandenburg, the Chamberlain, In the Armeiro-Mor they are all depicted holding symbols of their office together with their arms.

The Pairs de France were originally twelve in number; six ecclesiastical peers and six

lay peers. Instead of holding symbols of office they hold symbols of their role in the coronation of the king. The ecclesiastical peers were the Archbishop-Duke of Reims, the premier peer. He anoints and crowns the king. The Bishop-Duke of Laon bore the ampulla, the Bishop-Duke of Langres bore the sceptre, the Bishop-Count of Beauvais bore the royal mantle, the Bishop-Count of Châlons bore the royal ring, and the Bishop-Count of Noyan, bore the belt. The six lay peers were the Duke of Normandy who holds the first banner, the Duke of Burgundy, who was premier lay peer bears the crown and fastens the belt, the Duke of Guienne or Aquitaine, holds the second banner, the Count of Flanders was the sword bearer, the Count of Champagne was the Royal standard bearer, and the Count of Toulouse carried the spurs.

After the Peers de France is the main body of the work, which begins with the arms of King John II (1455-1495) and his cousin Manuel I (1469-1521), who succeeded him to the throne. Underneath their arms are on lozenges, the arms of their respective wives. John II was married to Eleanor, daughter of Ferdinand, Duke of Viseu. Unusually the label on Eleanor's arms have only two pendants, each charged with the arms of Sicily. These were the arms of her great grandfather, Ferdinand I, King of Aragon and Sicily. Manuel's wife at the time of the compilation was Maria, daughter of Ferdinand V of Castile and II of Aragon. She was Manuel's second wife, his first being Isabella, who died in 1498, and was an elder sister of Maria.

Each folio consists of four shields, there being nearly 300 shields in total. It is not possible to go into any great detail of the arms but a number of interesting points can be mentioned. Firstly, no crests or supporters are shown. With the exception of the kings' arms all the shields hang couché from the interior of the helm by a belt. The two monarchs, the 'Principe' or heir to the throne, (the future John III), the Duke of Braganza, the Duke of Coimbra and the Marquis de

Corte Real all have coronets as befits their rank whilst the rest of the shields have helm, mantling and wreath.

Diapering is prominent to the point of being excessive. Diapering is a way of bringing interest to an area of a single tincture. It should be delicate and not heavily patterned. In comparison, the diapering in the shields in 'The Book of Nobility', which we shall discuss later is much more refined. The final hundred and forty-four shields are completely different from the rest of the book. They are shown couché hanging from a ribbon which is hooked over a nail in the wall. Only the shield is depicted, the helm, mantling and wreath being omitted. Presumably these are of the lesser nobles or 'Fidalgos' as they were called. The artwork is competent but lacks flair and is unexciting. In contrast the 'Book of Nobility' is a positive delight and we shall now turn our attention to this masterpiece.

As was mentioned at the beginning of this article Manuel I was not entirely happy with the Armeiro-Mor. It contained many errors, particularly elementary ones such as having colour on colour. Sometime prior to 7th March 1517, we don't know exactly when, the king commissioned Antonio Godhino, a nobleman and guard of the bedchamber to compile a Book of Nobility to correct the errors in the rules of armory observed in the Armeiro-Mor. So far as is known Antonio Godhino did not hold any office within the body of the officers of arms and it is rather surprising to find him frequently involved in drawing up charters, grants, patents and petitions

for the king's consideration and signature. He also acted in the king's name as an inquisitor into the evidence of petitioners for grants of arms.

It must have been rather embarrassing for Portugal King of Arms to have his work revised by someone who was not a herald by training. Clearly the work Godinho had done as inquisitor and clerk impressed the king. Being also a guard of the bedchamber he was one of the very few people allowed in the inner sanctum of the king's chambers. The king's choice was а good although not perfect. The Book of Nobility is considered by many to be the zenith of Portuguese heraldic art. Although artistically superior to the Armeiro-Mor it did not completely meet the king's instructions. Certainly. number of the errors were corrected but some were not. What Manuel thought of the book is not known as he died before the book was completed. Godinho started work on his



A page from the Armeiro-Mor with the arms of Diogo Cão. Two columns, each on a mound with a cross on top represents the pillars (padrão) that he erected to show the limits of his travels.



The arms of Vasco da Gama from the Book of Nobility.

book before 7th March 1517 and finished after 1528 though prior to September 16th 1541. The full title of the book is the 'Livro da Nobreza e perfeicam das armas dos reis Christãos nobres linhagens dos reinos e senhorios de Portugal', which can be translated as 'Book of the Nobility and Perfection of the Coats of Arms of Christian Kings and Noble Lineages of the Kingdoms and Lordships Portugal'. It is also known as the 'Livro da Torre do Tombo' and also 'Livro de António Godinho'. Because Armeiro-Mor was used personally by the king and he was familiar with its layout, he requested that the 'perfected' book was to follow the same order. This procedure was largely followed although not religiously. There are a number of instances where additional shields have been inserted putting the sequence out of order.

The roll consists of forty-two folios with four shields per folio except the last which only has three shields. This folio has clearly been added by another hand as the lettering and paintings are significantly poorer than the rest of the book. All the shields are complete with crests which give an extra dimension and joy. Immediately we see the main difference from the Armeiro-Mor. First

and foremost is the quality. Not only are crests shown but there are no Nine Worthies, no Electors of the Emperor, and no Pairs de France. The roll starts with the usual arms of Christian kings, the King of the Romans, France, Castile and Leon, and England being at the front. At this point it should be pointed out that a number of folios are missing including folio v which contained the arms of Prester John, Jerusalem and the Emperor. It may be that the Nine Worthies were included in the first few missing folios. The shields follow the Spanish shape, that is straight top and sides and a rounded base. They are couché and are suspended by a belt from inside the helm. The shield shapes are identical with the exception of two, those of Sernige and Menezes which are jousting or tournament shields with a notch cut out for the lance. Why these two should be different can only be guessed at.

Canting arms are in abundance. Some are rather obvious whilst others are more obscure. There are too many to list in such a short article as this and so a few instances will have to suffice. Sardinha is Portuguese for sardines and so on the family shield sardines are swimming up a river. There are also sardines being swallowed by a whale in their crest. There are many arms with depiction of wolves. Wolf in Portuguese is 'Lobo'. The wolf therefore can be seen in the arms of the families of Lobato, 'Gules three triple-towered castles Argent on a bordure Or eight wolves statant Sable'; Lobo, 'Argent five wolves passant in saltire Sable'. The wolf is also included in the crest. Lobeira bore Or five fleur-de-lis in saltire Azure on a bordure Vert five wolves passant Gold langued Gules. Again the wolf appears in the crest. Coelho (rabbit) bore

'On a lion rampant Pupure armed and langued Gules with three bars Azure decorated nebuly Gold on a bordure Azure five rabbits Argent. Slightly more obscure are the arms of Pina, the name translating as pinacle. The arms of Pina are 'Gules a tower Argent on a cliff Proper'. The cliff here being the pinnacle. Leitão being pig in Portuguese has one as a crest. and finally the family of Lagatos have three lizards (lagato), on their shield and one as their crest. And so it goes on, there are many more which cannot be listed here. It is fortunate that these two books were not lost in the 'Great Earthquake' of 1755 but have come down to us to enjoy and marvel at the truly remarkable achievement of this small nation.

#### Some Canting arms from the Book of Nobility.



The Arms of Loberia (Wolf)



The arms of Coelho (Rabbit)



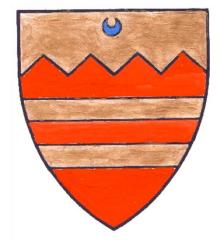
The arms of Sardinha (sardines)



The arms of Lagartos (Lizard)

#### Did you know....

...that John Hare, Richmond Herald committed suicide in the College of Arms in 1720?



He was born c.1668 at Syderstone in Norfolk being the son of John Hare of Bromsthorp, Norfolk and Susan, daughter and coheir of John Walpole Esq. He was educated at King's Lynn and St John's College, Cambridge and gained a B.A. In 1700 he joined the College of arms being appointed Rouge Dragon and four years later became Richmond herald. He was one of the first members of the Society of Antiquaries when he became a member in 1718 a year after the foundation of the Society.

The unfortunate fellow went insane whilst at the College. On 14<sup>th</sup> May 1720 he left the College of Arms and threw himself into the River Thames. Noble, in his History of the College of Arms, describes the incident. "Unhappily becoming insane, he left the

College, and threw himself into the Thames: being brought out of the river he was conducted back to his apartments, but those with him being too inattentive to him, he seized a sword saying, "now gentlemen I defy your attempts to oppose my designs," ran it through his heart and instantly expired". He was 52 years of age. He was buried in the churchyard at St Benet's, Pauls Whalf, opposite the College of Arms.

He had built up a large library including an important collection of precedents, by William Flower, Norroy, and bequeathed all his books and manuscripts of heraldry to the College.

Arms, confirmed in 1614: 'Gules two bars and an indented chief Or, a crescent for difference'. Crest: A demi-lion Argent with a Gold crown about its neck.

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#### FOUND AND LOST...... By Clive Alexander



By rights, this article should have been titled **Lost and Found** but, alas, its subject (a metal badge) has gone to ground or, worse, been lost – hopefully not for ever!!

Having been asked to assist in the demolition of an old garden shed, the last thing we expected to find pinned to the back of the door among the spiders was a pressed metal armorial badge. It had no appearance of being British so questions immediately came to mind: What was it? Where did it come from? Why was it fixed to the back of the shed door?

The last of these questions may only be speculated about. We will never know. The

best guess is that it came back from Europe after the war, and the then holder found a place to mount his trophy. Where it stayed for fifty-odd years.

Clearly, the thing to do was to see what information could be obtained about it. From a physical examination and observation, two things were apparent: the first being that the crown was of the Imperial type, which indicated it was European, and the second being that the charge featured upon the shield was Sinister.

The next step towards unravelling its secret was to ask friends at a Heraldry Society meeting. Here the arms were quickly identified as German (probably that of Saxony) but what puzzled people was why the bend, now identified as a crown or Croncelin, was sinister and not dexter, as in the case of the arms of Saxony. With this information it was then easy to summon the power of the Internet which revealed details about the arms of Saxony and answered nearly all of the questions.

The shield, as can be seen, is represented in the Baroque style and the blazon may be described thus: Or and Sable barry of ten a croncelin bendwise sinister vert.

The Croncelin is a representation of an ancient crown cut across rolled out, here placed bendwise sinister. This charge is often depicted in Gold, but more often tinctured Vert, since the crown is also known as the 'Rue Crown', a symbol that has formed part of the arms of Saxony since the Middle Ages.

The history of Saxony is conveniently divided into periods – The Saxon Tribes, whose famous

and noted weapon was the 'Seax', mentioned by the historian Ptolemy in 130AD;.

the medieval Duchy of Saxony 880 – 1356.

From 1356 to 1806 a period known as Electorial Saxony. The birthplace of Martin Luther and the cradle of the Protestant Reformation. Then after 1806 emerged The Kingdom of Saxony until 1918. Fredrick Augustus III became King Fredrick Augustus I of Saxony. The third King of Saxony, again a Fredrick - Augustus III, allied Saxony to the Emperor Napoleon. Fredrick was rewarded for his alliance, when Napoleon divided his spoils and gave Fredrick the Grand Duchy of Warsaw in 1807. This furthered our understanding of the badge. Fredrick Augustus III created the Order of the Rue Crown (Orden der Rautenkron) on the 29<sup>th</sup> of July 1807 as a reward to loyal members of the Royal Family and honoured guests.

The motto on the ribbon – Providentaie Memor – translates to 'Take note of providence' or perhaps more prosaically 'Don't bite the hand that feeds you'. An honourable reminder of who is in charge.

Last but not least, the arms are supported by lions rampant rear guardant. The final mystery was why the charge was placed upon the shield Sinister. The answer to this came from inquiries made by the secretary of the



The arms of Saxony from the Armorial Bellenville

Heraldry Society, Melvyn Jeremiah, whose German contact in Bochum explained: 'The metal badge is called "Majestaetswappen", one of the Saxonian Dukedoms. In this form it is granted to purveyors to the court and other warrant holders. It is a mirror image inverted to distinguish from the genuine state-arms of Saxony.'

It seems that it was not the done thing for people other than the 'Royal House' to use the State arms. Those having a reason to use them did so with a difference, that being the reversal of the Croncelin. It was used in the manner of a 'Royal Warrant'.

A date for the badge might be some time between the wars, given that it is pressed rather than cast, but after 1889 the badge underwent a redesign. Further information would be welcome!

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#### Order of the Crown of Rue or Crancelin.

The Order of the Rue Crown is the highest Order of the Kingdom of Saxony. It was founded on 20<sup>th</sup> July 1807 by Friedrich Augustus, the first king of Saxony at the Treaty of Tilsit. There was only one class with the King as Grand Master. The Order was only granted to the highest dignitaries with the royal princes automatically being admitted to the order at birth.

As it was the highest Order of Saxony it was conferred on foreign sovereigns with Napoleon being one of the first recipients. The kingdom of Saxony came to end in 1918 when Frederick Augustus III, who was a field marshal in the German Army, was forced to abdicate and Saxony became a province of the German Republic.

The insignia of the Order comprises the Star of the Rue Crown and the Badge of the Rue Crown.





Badge of the Rue Crown

Order of the Rue Crown badge, reversed



Star of the Rue Crown

The star is an eight-pointed rayed star with the central roundel in gold bearing the motto PROVIDENTIAE MEMOR and the green enamelled crown laid on a silver band. The ribbon is dark green. The badge is a green enamelled eight-pointed Maltese-cross with white enamelled edges and a central roundel in white enamel bearing the same motto as the in the Star of the order surrounded by a white enamelled band with the green enamelled rue crown laid thereon.

On the reverse in the roundel are the letters FA surmounted with an arched crown, the initials referring to the Orders' founder Friedrich Augustus.

Acknowledgements are made to Guy Stair Sainty's article on the Order in Burke's 'World Orders of Knighthood and Merit' 2006. – Ed.

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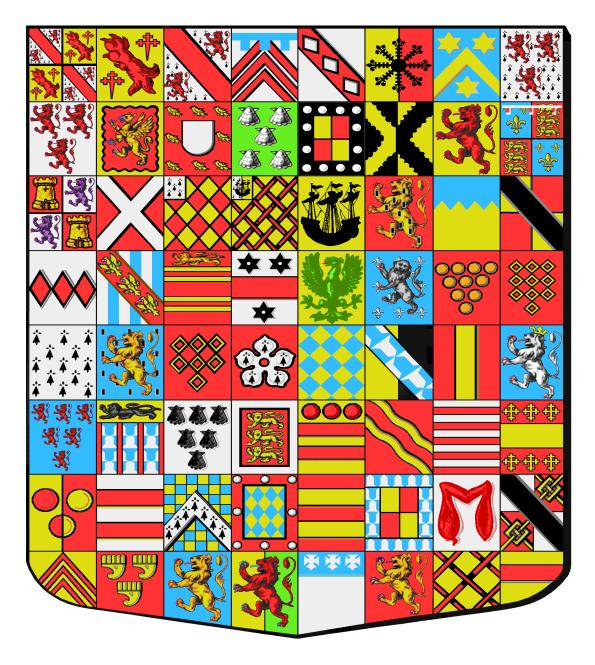
#### Building a large achievement of arms, by Tim Powys-Libbe

This has been a long project. So far, on and off, I have been working at it for over ten years. It is not quite finished, three blazons are missing, but I am waiting for the publication of the final two volumes of the "British Dictionary of Heraldry - Medieval Ordinary", due in a year or three. The project was originally to construct an armorial pedigree, not to the quality of the Pigot Roll (for many years at Doddershall, Bucks) but at least to show what could be done. I have now got to the stage of constructing a full, and admittedly over the top, achievement of arms.

My purpose here is to outline the process of constructing an achievement, specifically listing the principal stages and to discuss one difficult problem that I have yet to solve. The main stages are to establish first the genealogy, second the quartered armigers, third the blazons of their arms and finally to draw the achievement.

Firstly, doing the genealogy takes time. It needs also a firm view of what standards you are going to use. In my case, I started by accepting almost anything that someone passed on but fairly soon realized that I could do better than my father's maxim that whatever the College of Arms had done was good enough for him. Roughly I set my standards to work from other people's research who had themselves taken sight of copies of the primary documents. This took a long time and many alterations and much perusing of books, articles and documents. I have now found a little over 8,500 ancestors, a little over 10,000 relatives of those ancestors and some 7,000 in-laws. I should explain that I was building on the shoulders of giants as genealogy has been a family hobby on and off for 250 years. This meant that I had a lot of leads, some very good research and many links to publicly documented families. And my grandfather had got the College of Arms to do him an achievement of 64 quarters in 1927 and this extended to many medieval families including one supposed armiger who died in 1069, some 50 years at least before heraldry was invented.

Second it was a common statement within our family that we could display a few more quarterings. It took me several stages to get to the number I now present and a few clarifications of which rules I was to operate by. What, for instance, was I to do about ancestors



1. Powys-Lybbe.	2. Powys.	3. Lybbe.	4.Barrington.	5.Mercy,	6 Mandeville	7. Chetwynd.	8. Betthouse
gBayard	10.Batte11.	11.Enfield.	12.Holbech.	13.Rochford	14.Pole	15. Pote	16.Plantagenet.
17.Castile.	18. Nevill	19.Nevi 11.	20.Nevill	21. Nevill.	22.Butmer.	23.Middleham	24. Gitz Robert
25 Montacute.	26.Grandison	27. Iregoz.	28.Elwias.	29.Monthermer.	30.Holland.	31,3ouch.	32.Rohan.
33. Brittany.	34.Beaums	35.Quincey,	36.Bellomont.	37.Mellent.	38.Gwadyr.	39.Grantmesnil.	40.Galloway,
41.Longspee.	42.Rosemar.	43.Riddlesford.	44.Plantagenet.	45.Wake	46.Brewer.	47.Stutteville.	48.Beauchamp.
49. d'Abetot	50.Mauduit.	51,Newburgh.	52.Warwick.	53Harcourt.	54.FitzSeffrey.	55. Toni.	56.Despencer:
57. Clare.	58.Gloucester	59.FitzHamon.	60.Marshall	61.Strongbow.	62.Burghersh	63.Verdon.	64.Lacy.

The Quarterings of. Reginald Cecil Lybbe Powys-Lybbe, of Rectory Farm, Streatley, in the County of Berks.

bollege of Arms. London. Artur Cochrane Clerinceux King of Anns. who are now ascribed arms but who never had any during their lifetime, particularly Waleran, earl of Mellent mentioned in the previous paragraph? Then what should I do about those quarterings clearly legitimate in the College's records but for whom modern research shows equally clearly not to be acceptable? More seriously what about the fact that that modem research was well enough known before the achievement was constructed for my grandfather around 1927? And finally what about those ancestors who had used arms for some time but did not have them in the College's records? To sum up, the College's records are not wholly reliable and so I am going to take the best evidence going rather than what the College says; doubtless I could get the College's records updated if I were prepared to spend the enormous sums to fund the required research. Then the College allows arms to be granted for people who are no longer living so I am assuming that this could also be done for the few ancestors whose arms are not recorded therein but who could probably be added with another vast sum of money. Finally my purpose is to go for the Full Monty, to include the whole ridiculous lot, as a matter of record of what can be done; and so I have also included multiple heiress routes to the same ancestral armiger that allow the one coat of arms to be quartered several times. I will return later to the problem of ascertaining the order of quarterings.

As an aside, 92 per cent of the quarters came with a 22 year old young woman, related by marriage to a neighbour of my three times great grandfather who then married her in the early 19th century and of whose family it was written in the first half of the 17th century by the poet Francis Quarles that descent from the Barringtons is enough to fill "even Th'insatiate vastnesse of an Heraults tongue".

Thirdly the blazons came in fits and starts. I had those for my grandfather's achievement, as kindly given in Fox-Davies' Armorial Families. Some years ago I commissioned some research on a few early medieval arms. The first two volumes of 'British Heraldry: a Medieval Ordinary' have been both excellent and invaluable. Fox-Davies additionally had a few blazons for early arms in the quarterings for other families, a life-saver at the last minute. My grandfather had found one or two for our post-medieval relatives. I found a few in the visitations. Finally I took one or two from that less than scholarly Burke's 'General Armory'.

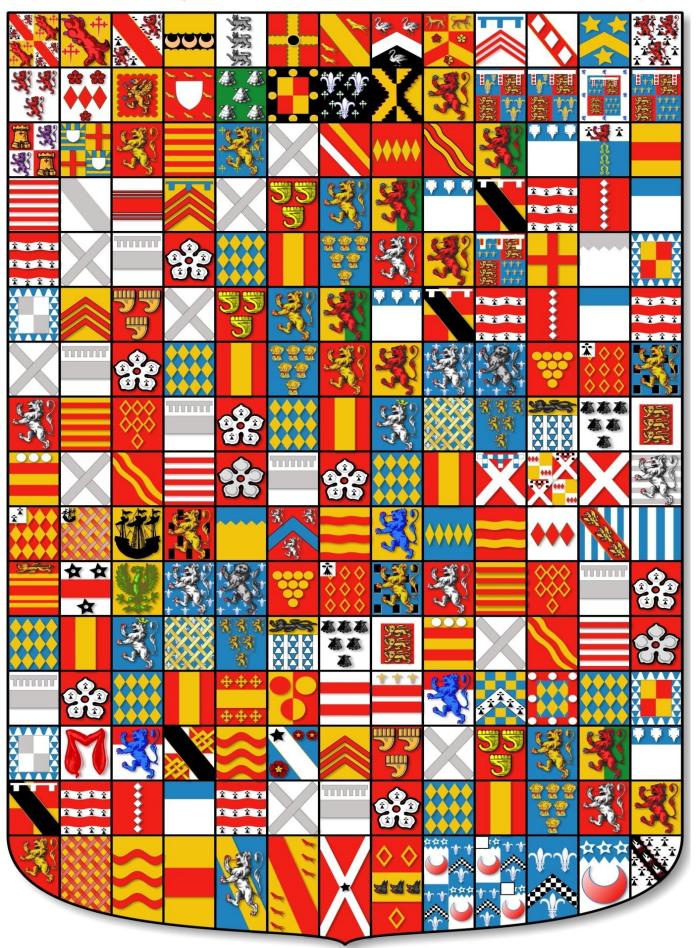
Drawing the achievement took a surprisingly short amount of time. I had forecast that it would take me a year but in fact it was about three months. I must underline that I am no artist. So I have used computer packages to make the whole thing possible. First I used a vector drawing package to hold the general outlines and constrain some simple shapes; I am not going to explain this now as it really needs demonstrating. To this I added some bit-map images of various charges; bit-maps are made up of lots of coloured dots and are like painting in miniature. Over the years since I first started experimenting with computerized drawing I have accumulated a large collection of images of charges which now makes it very quick to add these to a new schema.

The greatest problem I had, in terms of getting it right, was establishing the correct order for all the quarterings. First one has to have a list of all the genealogy, then within this a list of all the heiresses, then a categorization of whether the ancestors have unique arms and finally whether any of those ancestors are sovereigns (as those cannot be quartered). The procedure is:

- 1. Start with the person whose achievement you are constructing. Mark that he is the Source Armiger (or similar) and note that he is Quarter No 1.
- 2. Go up his male line of ancestors and note the nearest ancestor who has a different coat of arms. Mark this person and note that he is Quarter No 2. Of course there may be no changes of arms and no quarters that appear in the male line.
- 3. If either of the ancestors found is a Sovereign, stop there and do not include either of those persons. Go back to their son and go to item 5.

# A Powys-Lybbe's Quarterings

(The most recent of our ancestors whose mother was an heraldic heiress)



# Key to A Powys-Lybbe's Quarterings

1. Powys-Lybbe	2. Powys	3. Lybbe	4. Justice	5. Keate	6. Girle	7. Slaney	8. Michell	9. Tash	10. Barrington	11. Mercy	12. Chetwynd	13. Belhouse
14. Bayard	15. Blomvyle	16. Battell	17. Enfield	18. Holbech	19. Rochford	20. Hillary	21. Poole	22. Poole	23. George Plantagenet Duke of Clarence	24. Richard Plantagenet Duke of York	25. Richard of Conisbrough Earl of Cambridge	26. Edmund of Langley Duke of York
27. Peter The Cruel King of Castile and Leon	28. Mortimer	29. Meschin	30. Rumilly	31. Braose	32. Judhel of Barnstaple	33. Miles of Gloucester Earl of Hereford	34. Neufmarché	35. Brewer	36. Marshal	37. FitzGilbert	38. Joinville	39. Lacy
40. Lusignan	41. Fougères	42. Badlesmere	43. Thomas de Clare Lord of Thomond	44. St Hilaire du Harcourt	45. FitzRobert	46. FitzHamon	47. Marshal	48. FitzGilbert	49. Lacy	50. Lacy	51. FitzNeel	52. Lisours
53, Lacy	54. Quency	55. Quency	56. Bellomont	57. Waleran Earl of Mellent	58. Grantmesnil	59. Kivelioc	60. Gemon	61. Meschin	62. Lionel of Antwerp Duke of Clarence	63. William de Burgh Earl of Ulster	64. Walter de Burgh Earl of Ulster	65. FitzGeffery
66. FitzPiers	67. Clare	68. Clare	69. St Hilaire du Harcourt	70. FitzRobert	71. FitzHamon	72. Marshal	73. FitzGilbert	74. Lacy	75. Lacy	76. FitzNeel	77. Lisours	78. Lacy
79. Quency	80. Quency	81. Bellomont	82. Waleran Earl of Mellent	83. Grantmesnil	84. Kivelioc	85. Gernon	86. Meschin	87. Holand	88. Holand	89. La Zouche	90. Porhoet	91. Belmeis
92. Meschin	93. Rumilly	94. Quency	95. Quency	96. Bellomont	97. Waleran Earl of Mellent	98. Grantmesnil	99. Alan Lord of Galloway	100. Morville	101. Longspee	102. William of Salisbury Earl of Salisbury	103. Ridelsford	104. Edmund of Woodstock Earl of Kent
105. Wake	106. FitzGilbert	107. Brewer	108. Stuteville	109. Quency	110. Quency	111. Bellomont	112. Waleran Earl of Mellent	113.Grantmesnil	114. Richard Neville Earl of Warwick	115. Richard Neville Earl of Salisbury	116.FitzMaldred	117. John de Stuteville
118. Geffrey de Neville	119. Geoffrey de Neville	120, Gilbert de Neville	121. Bulmer	122 FitzRando	123. Glanville	124. Valoignes	125. William (III) Percy	126. William (II) de Percy	127. Brewer	128. Montacute	129. Grandison	130. Grandson
131. Tregoz	132. Ewyas	133, Monthermer	134. Holand	135. Holand	136. La Zouche	137. Porhoet	138. Belmeis	139. Meschin	140. Rumilly	141. Quency	142. Quency	143. Bellomont
144, Waleran Earl of Mellent	145. Grantmesnil	146. Alan Lord of Galloway	147. Morville	148. Longspee	149. William of Salisbury Earl of Salisbury	150. Ridelsford	151. Edmund of Woodstock Earl of Kent	152. Wake	153, FitzGilbert	154. Brewer	155. Stateville	156. Quency
157. Quency	158, Bellomont	159. Waleran Earl of Mellent	160. Grantmesnil	161, Beauchamp	162. Abitot	163. Mauduit	164. St Liz	165. Waltheof Earl of Huntingdon	166. Newburgh	167. Newburgh	168. Waleran Earl of Mellent	169, FitzGeffer
170. FitzPiers	171. Toni	172. Waltheof Earl of Huntingdon	173. Le Despenser	174. Basset	175. Gai	176. Clare	177. Clare	178. St Hilaire du Harcourt	179. FitzRobert	180. FitzHamon	181. Marshal	182. FitzGilbert
183. Lacy	184. Lacy	185. FitzNeel	186. Lisours	187. Lacy	188. Quency	189. Quency	190. Bellomont	191. Waleran Earl of Mellent	192. Grantmesnil	193. Kivelioc	194. Gemon	195. Meschin
196. Burghersh	197. Verdun	198, Valoignes	199. Lacy	200. Weyland	201. Gobert	202. Ralph Neville	203. Marshall	204. Trotter modern	205. Trotter personal	206. Brown	207. Trotter ancient	208. Gilleπ

- 4. Repeat item 2 and 3 until you have arrived at the earliest known male ancestor who is not a sovereign nor has a wife for a sovereign.
- 5. Then examine the wife of the earliest ancestor to see if she is an heiress. If she is, find her father and mark him and note that he is in the next Quarter. Do items 2, 3 and 4 for his male line ancestors until you arrive at the earliest male ancestor in this line.
- 6. Do item 5 for the earliest ancestor of this distaff line and continue until you have reached the earliest ancestor of this line.
- 7. At this stage you start coming down this line to find the first male descendant of the earliest ancestor who has married an heiress. If an heiress is found, then repeat items 3,
  - 4 and 5 for this distaff line too.
- 8. Repeat item 7 by continuing to come back down each line.
- 9. When you have returned to the Source Armiger, you have finished. Do not count the source armiger twice.

I believe this is the complete procedure; any corrections will be gratefully received.

The obvious problem with this is that it is very difficult to get the numbering right on a normal genealogy database. It is not obvious where the last found quarter was and thus what the next number should be, particularly if you have gaps of days or weeks between covering each branch.

The problem gets worse the larger the known genealogy is. In my case I have found 8500 odd ancestors; I can draw a tree with around 800 ancestors on 8 pages of A2 paper, so the printed tree would cover at least 80 pages of A2, which is about 20 square metres, 4 metres wide by 5 metres high. Perhaps for each quartered armiger one needs to put a grid reference to the previous quarter and the subsequent quarter, to make it easier to be sure of who is next and previous in the order of quarterings.

In fact the main tree can be shrunk significantly by deleting all bits of ancestry that do not have a quartered armiger in them. This is what brought the probable 80 pages of A2 down to 8 pages which is what, at one stage, I printed out. Obviously all this close examination revealed the odd error and led to some severe re-working, again taking time.

At this stage perhaps I should explain that I ran into these difficulties with a modest set of quarterings, at about 172, nothing like the 719 that were produced for the Grenville Diptych in the nineteenth century. But it remains that the rules above are relatively easily stated. I already have the genealogy on a computer database and it must be possible to write a program to work out the Quarter numbering without using a fallible mind. Currently I cannot think of an easy way of doing this!

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#### Armorial Family Tree of Humphrey and Margaret Moseley, by Richard d'Apice



Moseley impaling Heigham

This heraldic family tree of Humphrey Moseley Secondary of the Wood Street Compter, London and of Tunstall, Staffordshire and his wife Margaret nee Heigham of St. Nicholas Cole Abbey, London and their immediate issue displays, hanging in the branches of the central tree, the impaled arms of Humphrey and Margaret and, hanging from all but one of the suckers, the arms of Moseley impaled, in the case of one son and three daughters, with arms of the child's spouse and in the case of the other three sons with a blank shield, presumably representing sons who were not married at the time when the tree was painted or, at least, at the time at which this heraldic snapshot of the family was taken which I estimate to be around 1599.

The motto ribbon bears the words "Incrementum dat Deus" which translates as "The increase God gave us."

The parental arms hanging in the tree are:

Dexter: for Humphrey Moseley (who died 1592), the quartered arms of Moseley (Sable a chevron between three mill picks Argent), representing his father, Nicholas Moseley, and of Sherwood (Argent, on a chevron Sable three scallops Argent) representing his mother, Elizabeth Sherwood daughter of John Sherwood of Whittington, Staffordshire.

Sinister: for Margaret nee Heigham, the quartered arms of Heigham (Sable, a fess countercompony Or and Azure between three horses heads erased Sable) for her father, Sir Clement Heigham of Barrow, Staffordshire, and of Munning of Nedging, Suffolk (Gules a chevron engrailed Argent between three eagles displayed Argent) for her mother, Anne Munning daughter of Thomas Munning or Monnynge of Bury St Edmunds, Suffolk.

Research reveals seven children of Humphrey and Margaret all of whom were christened at St Nicholas Cole Abbey, London. In the painting they are arranged with sons to the dexter and daughters to the sinister in descending order of age away from the trunk.

The painting hints at a further generation in the buds on the suckers above only the shields which display marriage alliances. Red (gules) and white (argent) flowers are used with the gules flowers in the sinister and the argent flowers on the dexter of each sapling. I take the buds gules to represent male issue and the buds argent to represent female issue and the wilted flowers of both colours to represent deaths of issue of that sex before the work was painted. On this hypothesis, I have inserted a number of children below the entry for the relevant children of Humphrey and Margaret.

The chronological numbering has been added to the image, The marriages of the sons who were unmarried at the date of the painting are not included.

- 1. Henry
- c. 1559

#### d. 13 Nov 1560

#### 2. Richard

c. 9 July 1560

m. Lettice daughter of ----- Clarke of Farnham (who died 1619) whose arms may be Gules, three bars vert, in chief as many plates or d. 1630

3 daughters living

#### 3. Mary

c. 2 July 1561

m. MM (probably Heydon by which name Mary is referred to in Margaret's will whose arms were Quarterly, azure and argent, a cross engrailed counterchanged. 3 sons and 4 daughters living

#### 4. William

c. 22 February 1562

#### 5. Joane

c. 30 November 1565

m. MM (probably Lyon by which name Joane was referred to in Margaret's will whose arms were Argent, a bend ermine between two lions rampant sable.

m.? 6 February 1586 at St Nicholas Cole Abbey, John Beane

1 son living, 1 son dead and 1 daughter dead

#### 6. Clement

c. 19 August 1567

#### 7. Anne

c. 30 November 1568

m. Thomas Wolseley of Wolseley whose arms were Argent, a Talbot passant gules 1 son dead and 1 daughter living

#### 8. John

c. 1 October 1571

It appears to me that the painting shows the position of the family circa 1599.



?? impaling Joanne Moseley



?? impaling Mary Moseley



Talbot impaling Anne Moseley



The Armorial tree of Humphrey and Margaret Molesely

I would appreciate any comments or corrections but would especially welcome assistance in identifying the marriage dates and spouses of Mary and Joanne.

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## Next Meetings

Two Portuguese Rolls of Arms Stephen Kibbey Saturday 6<sup>th</sup> March 2010

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The Luttrell Carpet Keith Lovel FHS Saturday April 2010

Barn Hall Community Centre Chiltern Avenue Amersham on the Hill Bucks. HP6 5AH

Joint Meeting with the Chilterns Heraldry Group.

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My family's quarterings Tim Powys-Libbe Saturday 1st May 2010

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Summer Break

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Edward Bysshe – Cromwell's Garter Dr Andrew Gray Saturday 4<sup>th</sup> September 2010

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The St Johns' of Battersea Stephen Kibbey Saturday 2<sup>nd</sup> October 2010

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Meetings start at 2.30pm and are held at the Guide Hut in Bury Street, Ruislip – part of the Manor Farm, Library, Great Barn group of buildings and are usually on the first Saturday of each month. Meetings will be followed by tea and biscuits.

Visitors are most welcome

### New Members

We extend a very warm welcome to the following new members:

Dr K. Mourin, Dereham, Norfolk Mr A. L. Jones, Ickenham, Middlesex

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### The Society's website

For up to date information on the Society's activities visit oiur website at www.middlesex-heraldry.org.uk

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## Officers and Committee

Chairman Stephen Kibbey
Hon.Treasurer Stuart Whitefoot
Committee member Dr Andrew Gray

All correspondence regarding this edition and articles for future editions should be sent to The editor, 3 Cleveland Court, Kent Avenue, Ealing, London W13 8BJ. Tel. 020 8998 5580



The arms of Ferdinand Magellan. Magellan's expedition of 1519-1522 was the first to circumnavigate the globe.