

# SOMERSET HERALDRY SOCIETY

Journal Christmas 2004



## COLIN POWELL GRANTED ARMS

On 28th September 2004, Lord Lyon King of Arms, Robin Blair presented to General Powell the Letters Patent of a grant of arms made to his father Luther Powell and a matriculation and further grant of a crest and motto to the general. The presentation is shown below, Lord Lyon wearing court dress. The full achievement as on the Letters Patent is shown to left.

The grant in memory of Luther Powell, a resident of Jamaica, was possible as he lived within the British Commonwealth. It was just of arms, without a crest or motto, which allowed for a second grant in the name of General Powell, his only son. The collar around the arms and the pendant cross are for the Honorary KCB

which of course, requires that his helm should be open. In the more modern style it does not face directly forwards, and indeed this would not work with his crest being the head of an American bald-headed erased proper. This practice has long been customary in Scotland, but has now been adopted also in England.

The grant and presentation were arranged by David Garrison and Brigadier General Nicholson, who are both members of the Scottish Heraldry Society and of the Society of Scottish Armigers, and who were both present. The symbolism of the charges and crest will doubtless not be lost on keen heraldists.



## PROGRAMME OF EVENTS    **Spring 2005**

<b>Wed 19th January</b>	8.00 pm	Teach-in on blazon and any other things on demand with Alex Maxwell Findlater
<b>Wed 23rd February</b>	4.00 pm	Visit to the Hanging Chapel, Langport, a mediaeval Chantry Chapel now used by the Masonic Portcullis Lodge, followed by the AGM and after supper a talk on Arms and Esquires by Ron Gadd
<b>Friday-Sunday 1st-3rd April</b>		Heraldry Conference in Sherborne: details from Stephen Friar (01963 210337) or Iain Swinnerton (01963 210630/726), this will be separately advertised by them (not our event)
<b>Sat 24th April</b>	2.30 pm	Visit to Hartland Abbey, home of the Stucley family, with some interesting heraldry, and to St Nectan's Church afterwards. Is there a pub here?
<b>Sat 14th May</b>	2.30 pm	Visit to Holcombe Rogus Church and Hall, with Bluett and associated heraldry, including the Chichester arms (in the first newsletter); perhaps lunch at Prince of Wales at 12.30 pm
<b>Sat 18th June</b>	2.30 pm	Visit to Crowcombe Church to see hatchments of the Carew family, plus probably another church; meet for lunch at the Carew Arms at 12.30 pm, if you like

### **SOMERSET HERALDRY SOCIETY**

#### **Officers**

Chairman	Ronald Gadd, RD, MBE
Hon Secy	Alex Maxwell Findlater
Hon Treasurer	Anthony Bruce
Committee Member	David Hawkings

#### **Objects**

The aims shall be to promote and encourage the study of heraldry especially in the historic county of Somerset.

#### **Annual Subscription**

for ordinary members £10 pa  
for family members £15 pa

#### **Address for correspondence**

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# ST ANDREW'S CHURCH, CURRY RIVEL

## COATS OF ARMS ABOVE THE DOOR TO THE SOUTH PORCH

Left-hand side of the door:  
Arms of King Charles II

Charles II was welcomed back as arms borne by the Stuart kings. They are depicted upon a shield doubtless not their original yourself holding the shield, the look at it) is the “dexter”, the left



king in 1660. He used the between 1603 and 1688. above the south door, position. If you imagine right-hand side (left as you or “sinister” the female side.

In this case the arms are divided into quarters. The first quarter on the dexter side is itself quartered—described as a “grand quarter”. The first and fourth quarters bear the arms of France “modern” (dating from 1405), that is three fleurs-de-lys or on a “field” azure - previous to 1405 the number of fleurs-de-lys. The inclusion of the arms of England’s monarchs rightful kings of Queen Isabella a French monarch and sister of several others. The fleurs-de-lys were not removed from the arms of English monarchs until 1801. The second and third quarters of the shield incorporate the arms of England: three leopards or “lions passant guardant”. The leopards or lions are tinctured gules on a field or. In the second quarter of the principal shield are the arms of Scotland, because James VI of Scotland became James I of England in 1603, thus joining the two realms. This time the lion gules is said to be “rampant”, appearing to rear up on its hind legs and is surrounded by what is called a “double tressure”. In the third quarter are arms representing Ireland: on an azure field a harp or stringed argent. The fourth quarter merely repeats the first.

Right hand side of the door:  
The arms of the Countess of Chatham

These are displayed on lozenges, it being heraldically appropriate to display a lady’s arms in this fashion. Hester Pitt (née Grenville), wife of the elder Pitt - secretary of state between 1756 and 1761 - was created baroness Chatham on 5 October 1761, the grant permitting her male heirs to be barons. Her husband was created Viscount Pitt of Burton Pynsent, in the county of Somerset, and earl of Chatham, in that of Kent, on 30 July 1766. There are two shields. The first contains on the dexter side the arms of William Pitt “impaling those of his wife (sinister side). This arrangement is called “baron and femme”. William’s arms are described heraldically as sable a fess chequé (alternate squares) argent and azure between three bezants (gold coins). His wife’s

arms are: vert on a cross argent five torteaux (red roundels). The “supporters” holding up the shield are a lion and a stag or hart. William’s arms are surmounted by an earl’s coronet (5 pearls with strawberry leaves between); Hester’s by a baron’s coronet (4 pearls). The second shield repeats the arms of Hester herself.

## Tailpiece

Hester was grandmother of the noted traveller Lady Hester Stanhope, who was brought up in Chevening in Kent, but who came to Burton Pynsent as mistress of the household for her unmarried uncle, the ailing second earl of Chatham (Pitt the younger). Shortly after his death in 1806 she travelled to the Levant where she died in 1839, poverty-stricken but revered as a prophetess by the local tribes.

## COATS OF ARMS IN THE EAST WINDOW

According to the Rev. Prebendary Bates Harbin (Proc. SANHS 61, 1915, pp. 48-51), there were four shields with armorial bearings, one perfect, the rest partial. He describes them as follows.

1. Beauchamp of Warwick: Gules a fesse [fess] between six cross-crosslets or.
2. Partial coat of Thomas Beckington, bishop of Bath & Wells 1443-65 [fine tomb in the cathedral]: in chief argent three Bucks heads cabossed or, the dexter part only of a fesse azure, remainder being coloured glass including a fragment “chequé sable and argent”. The bishop bore: argent, on a fesse azure a mitre with labels expanded or, between three bucks heads cabossed [cabossed: cut off and facing front] gules in chief, and in base as many [i.e. 3] pheons azure. Beckington’s complete coat is in the south choir aisle of Wells (illustrated SANHS 34 ii, 45).
3. Quarterly 1 & 4 blank [quarrels only] 2 & 3 Montague, argent three fusils [conjoined] in fesse gules.
4. Quarterly, a bend or. This possibly represented the Despenser arms, viz. Quarterly argent and gules, 2 & 3 fretty or, over all a bend sable.



## NADFAS FINDINGS (1979-80)

From the top left to right the principal lights in the east window are numbered 24-28.

24. Plain glass light with armorial shield: “argent, fess pale or and azure, between in chief three bucks heads in base pale, dexter chequy, argent and sable, sinister not possible to identify”. Shield incomplete, made up of fragments. Beckington?
25. Shield or and azure, not heraldic.
26. Gules a fess between six cross crosslets or (Beauchamp).
27. Quarterly 1 & 4 argent charged with a flower or, 2 & 3 made up of fragments of Somerset quarries. Possibly the arms of Neville or Monthermes [Monthemer].
28. 1 & 4 made up of fragments of Somerset quarries and three fusils gules, 2 & 3 argent charged with a fusil or, possibly arms of Despenser.

## CURRENT OBSERVATION (2003)

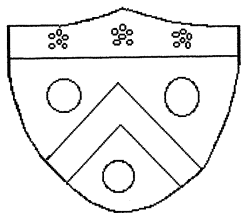
In the east window, there are five principal lights [24-28 of NADFAS] each of which has a shield. Only the middle coat (Beauchamp) is complete; it is surmounted by a crown. But for the three bucks heads in chief it would be difficult to identify the arms of Beckington in the first shield. The dexter portion of the field is certainly chequé argent and sable, the sinister possibly argent. The second shield from the left is non-heraldic. The fourth shield appears to have a bend sinister or [?] between two (non-heraldic?) pierced flowers. We are on firmer ground with the fifth shield which clearly has the arms of Montacute in the 1st & 4th (not 2nd & 3rd) quarters, the other two quarters being filled in at random, so it would seem.

## THE JENNINGS FAMILY AND THEIR ARMS

The Jennings family has a distinguished pedigree. As is well known, its most illustrious member was Sarah, the wife of John Churchill, later Duke of Marlborough and a prince of the Holy Roman Empire. Sarah had a very close relationship with Queen Anne and together with her sister Frances, “la belle Jennings”, was entitled to the honorary rank of princess with the right to bear the imperial eagle displayed behind her arms.

A branch of the family founded the Burton Pynsent estate in Curry Rivel. The most prominent feature of the north chapel of Curry Rivel church is the tomb of Marmaduke Jennings (1567-1625) and of his son Robert (1598-1630), surmounted by their two effigies.

At the Heralds’ Visitation of Somerset in 1623 the arms of Jennings are given as “Azure a chevron between three bezants, on a chief ermine as many cinquefoils gules”. These are the arms to be found in the north chapel. The Shropshire visitation gives Jennings of Wellbourne as “Quarterly 1 & 4 ermine a lion rampant within a bordure engrailed or [elsewhere gules] a canton of the second” [i.e. or, perhaps gules]. The chevron occurs on the arms of various Jenningses including those of Sir Stephen Jennings, a lord mayor of London (1508) who founded Wolverhampton Grammar School. In Fox-Davies, *Armorial Families* (1902), only R.B. Monk Lingard Monk (JP for Chester) is listed as carrying (by lawful authority) arms of Jennings, in this case at 5 (the arms are quarterly of 6) “or a chevron azure between two plummets (weights, also on the lord mayor’s arms) in chief of the last and a saltire coupé gules in base”. The restrictive views of Fox-Davies have aroused much criticism!



The tomb slab in the north chapel of Thomas Jennings (1695), the last male survivor in the direct line bears these arms, unpainted.

Roy Martin Haines

# IN THE TIME OF QUEEN DICK

## KYNASTON OF SHROPSHIRE

“Popinjay!” barked the Yorkist commander, Richard Neville, Earl of Salisbury.

“No, my lord”, returned the squire, irrepressibly. “You’re thinking of my friend Poyner, he bears a popinjay. I’m Kynaston. I bear - ”

“You’ll bear yourself out of my sight, sir, upon the instant, or - !”

Roger Kynaston bowed low in the saddle and, still grinning, reigned his horse away from the Earl’s charger.

“Why do you bait him so, Roger?” asked his friend, trotting up beside him. “One day you’ll go too far.”

“I like him. And he’s worried. He knows the enemy is close, and he knows we’re outnumbered. His advisers tell him it’s madness to go on, and cowardice to retreat. I give his brain a rest from it, that’s all.”

“I don’t think he appreciates it. Why aren’t you like the rest of us? A comfortable anonymity is what we strive for, where great lords like Salisbury are concerned. They can be dangerous, Roger.”

“Anonymity is fine, if you don’t need - look, John, this is just an interlude for you. When this is over you’ll go home, to lands and rents that will one day be yours. You have a future. I have nothing. If I want a future, I must earn it.”

“How? By annoying our lord?”

“By ensuring he knows who I am. Then, when I cover myself in glory - ”

“And how are you going to do that?”

“Once we meet the Lancastrians, in whatever way I can.”

“Roger, you’re crazy. You can’t. We’ve never - a few skirmishes, that’s all we know! This is going to be a battle. You’ll get yourself killed.”

“Don’t worry, John. I’m in no hurry, and there’ll be other meetings.” He laughed.

“But my first battle will surely be my best chance. I shall be so bewildered I shall be unaware of danger. That will make me look very brave, and impress my lord of Salisbury tremendously!” And he laughed again at his friend’s anxious expression. In after days, my lord of Salisbury was never quite sure whether he found the Lancastrians, or whether the Lancastrians found him. But he had been right in one thing; he was outnumbered.

“Kynaston! You’re a Shropshire man. What is this place?”

“I believe, Blore Heath, my lord.”

“Then at Blore Heath, I fear, our cause will suffer its first defeat.”

“Is that certain, my lord?”

“Aye, certain, boy. We were too few, and of that few too many are already down. Only one thing could demoralize the enemy now ...”

“Tell me.”

“Their commander, Lord Audley. Were he to fall - but he is too well protected, and I have lost too many, trying to reach him. I will send no more.”

"I will try, my lord."

"Fool boy. Would you throw your life away? An unfledged squire, against - "

But he was talking to himself.

Eighteen months later, hopes realized, the victorious Edward of York mounted the throne.

Roger Kynaston, whose hopes had died with the Earl his patron, was surprised to find himself sent for.

"Do you realize how short a time it is", said the king, "since all seemed at an end at Wakefield? My father and brother killed, my uncle of Salisbury executed. And yet my father's claim has led me to the throne; and my uncle - he spoke of you once. He said that in any crowd of boys you were the one he would recognize. Was that a compliment, do you suppose?"

"I do not know, Your Grace. I hope so. He was a good man and a fearsome commander. If I may say it without disrespect, I was fond of him."

"He told my father that it was you who won us the fight at Blore Heath. Is it true?"

Kynaston smiled, remembering the old Earl, but shook his head.

"No, sir. He believed that Lord Audley, their commander, was the key, that if we could bring him down we could win. So, too inexperienced to know what I did, I charged off to become a hero. He followed, roaring at me to come back; and our people, thinking he was mounting a final charge, took heart, gathered their last strength, and followed him. The outcome Your Grace knows."

"And Audley?"

"Sir?"

"Who killed Audley?"

"I did, Your Grace. The Lancastrians had thought we were already beaten; they were taken by surprise, and in the confusion I managed to reach him. I called on him to fight, but he was far more worried about what was happening at my back, where my lord was charging and bellowing, our people were advancing, and his were falling back. He thought to dismiss a foolish boy, but even a boy can break through a careless guard. It was he who was foolish, and he paid for it with his life."

Edward laughed.

"We are much of an age, you and I, and I too have killed men who thought me only a boy. But hear now why I have summoned you. Right or wrong, my uncle gave you the credit for that day's work, and desired my father to knight you; his obligations fall upon me. Kneel! And rise, Sir Roger Kynaston. This paper - take it! - authorizes you to assume the arms of Audley, whom you slew, and contains a grant of land once part of the Audley estates. No, if you wish to thank me, remain loyal to the House of York; though, as I hope for peace, I hope never to call upon you more."

Edward's hopes were vain; but, wherever he was needed, Sir Roger Kynaston bore his king's gift of ermine, a chevron gules, as do his descendants to this very day.

Many thanks to Cynthi for permission to publish. © C. M. E. Lydiard Cannings 2004





## SURVEY OF ACTIVITIES

This autumn has seen three meetings and each was memorable in its own way. Lyte's Cary started at the Red Lion in Babcary for an excellent lunch which rather ran on, but our host at Lytes Cary was quite unphased by our late arrival and gave us a wonderful tour of the house. We spent much time in the chapel, where with the help of a chart of the family from the book by Sir Henry Maxwell-Lyte, we were able to see how the Lytes had managed to include all their best relatives for the frieze, part of which is reproduced at the top of this page.

In October we welcomed Stephen Slater as guest of honour at the Annual Dinner; he talked to us about heraldry in Central Europe. We were lucky



that the Bishop's Palace in Wells was free and they certainly put on a tremendous show, as you can see from the photographs at the foot of the page.

The final event was a talk by Robin Bush, Chairman of the County Council, about the grant of supporters and crest to the County Council. He laced this liberally with anecdotes about various foreigners of Somersetshire extraction, who had slightly inflated ideas of their families' original stations in life.

Centre picture Memorial to Sir Walter Jenner, who restored Lytes Cary in the last century. The Jenner arms impale those of his wife, a Stewart. Thanks to Anthony Bruce for all the photographs.



A wonderful bright fire awaited us in the entrance hall, where we had our pre-dinner (and pre-talk) drinks. A splendid representation of the arms of the diocese is on the fireplace.



It is difficult to know whether Anthony Bruce took this photo for the two shields of the bishop's arms, or for the cheerful and expectant looks of Jill and Ruth, fortified by preliminary drinks.



Ron Gadd, our Chairman, addresses the assembled diners in the Dining Room at the Bishop's Palace in Wells. Observed as we were by many episcopal images, we had to behave.



## DODINGTON HATCHMENT TO BE RESTORED

The hatchment of George Dodington of Horsington (ca 1680 - 1757) is to be restored through the generosity of the current head of the Marriott-Dodington family, although as he lives in South Africa the arrangements are being made by his sister Mrs John Erskine of Kingsbridge, Devon.

I was lucky enough to be shown the hatchment and the other memorials in the church by Mrs Thring, who is a cousin and lives locally. There are quite a few armorials in the church, not only to the Dodington family, which make it well worth a visit.



### **DIRECTIONS: THE GRAMMAR HOUSE, THE HILL, LANGPORT**

Coming from Taunton: after the town square, when the road does a sharp left turn, go straight ahead up the Hill.

Coming from the East or the North: come into Langport and after Tesco, LOOK OUT. At a sharp right-hand corner, turn left round the Post Office, up the Hill;

Both: Park; walk back down until you come to the first house on the left (coming down) on the incline of the hill. Go down the alley next to the house and knock!

## THE CREST CORONET AND CHAPEAU

The history of the chapeau or cap of maintenance or cap of state is not clear. In England the chapeau is used sometimes instead of the wreath, while in Scotland it is more generally used in the same way as the coronet of a peer. There are very few discussions of it in the heraldic literature. However, Nisbet treats of it in Part IV of his *System of Heraldry*, where he heads up the section “Of the Cap of State”, which strongly suggests that at that time no distinction was made between the different names. Fox Davies has the most enlightening section, both in his *Complete Guide to Heraldry* and in his *Art of Heraldry* and Stephen Friar also gives it a page in his *Heraldry for the Local Historian and Genealogist*. Friar treats of the caps and coronets of peers in the section headed *Chapeaux and Coronets*, which suggests that he sees little difference.

The probable clue is given by Fox Davies. He says that, “There can be very little doubt that the heraldic chapeau combines two distinct origins or earlier prototypes. The one is the real cap of dignity, and the other is the hat or ‘capelot’ which covered the top of the helm before the mantling was introduced, but from which the lambrequin developed.” He then goes on to describe how this capelot developed a distinct style as a high conical hat in German arms.

Looking at the seals attached to the English Barons’ letter to the Pope dated 12th February 1300/1, on none of the seals is there shown anything between the crest and the helmet, if there is one, in many the crest is not shown at all. The seals are generally quite small and simple, not unlike the seals of the Scots of the same period.

Looking at seals from the next century, we find that of Cecily Nevill, wife of Richard Duke of York, in 1461 shows a shield of the royal arms impaling Nevill, with supporters and above the shield a griffin guardant with wings displayed inverted gorged with a coronet of four leaves, ie showing one and two halves. The seal of



Seal of Cicely Neville Duchess of York,  
mother of Edward IV 1461



Seal of Humphrey Stafford Earl of  
Buckingham 1442



Seal of John Tiptoft Earl of Winchester  
1449



From tomb of Richard Beauchamp Earl  
of Warwick, d 1439



Seal of Walter Lord Hungerford 1420

Humphrey Stafford Earl of Buckingham in 1442 has supporters but also a helm, on which is a crest coronet as before out of which rises a demi-swan guardant wings displayed. John Tiptoft Earl of Worcester in 1449 has a seal with supporters and a helm above which is a crest coronet from which rises a demi-griffin guardant wings displayed. On the tomb of Richard Beauchamp Earl of Warwick is his crest, a swan's neck and head affronté gorged with a ring and with an earl's coronet just where the feathers of the lower neck splay out around the top of the helm. There are eight pearls showing, on long stalks, so the coronet would be of fourteen pearls in all. The seal of Walter Lord Hungerford of ca 1420 has no supporters, but rather two banners of arms. The crest is a garb arising from a coronet of four large and four small leaves. On Sir Hugh Courtenay's Garter stall plate ca 1422 his crest of three tiers of feathers issues from a coronet of four large and four small leaves (not shown).

The seal of Edmund Beaufort Duke of Somerset of ca 1445 is the first illustrated to show a chapeau, which is between the helm and the leopard crest. This is a standard heraldic chapeau with long tails to sinister. It can be contrasted with the hat on the top of the helm on the tomb of the Black Prince, died 1376. On the rim of the hat stands a lion affronté, although the whole is turned to dexter.

It would seem from this rather exhausting survey, that it was normal in the 15th century for a peer to show his rank by supporters and a coronet around the base of the crest, and that the standard coronet was of four large and four small leaves. The chapeau appears on the arms of members of the royal family, while peers use a crest coronet. However, of the early garter stall plates, the chapeau is shown on twenty of the eighty-six shown in St John Hope's book, but of these twenty, twelve belong to members



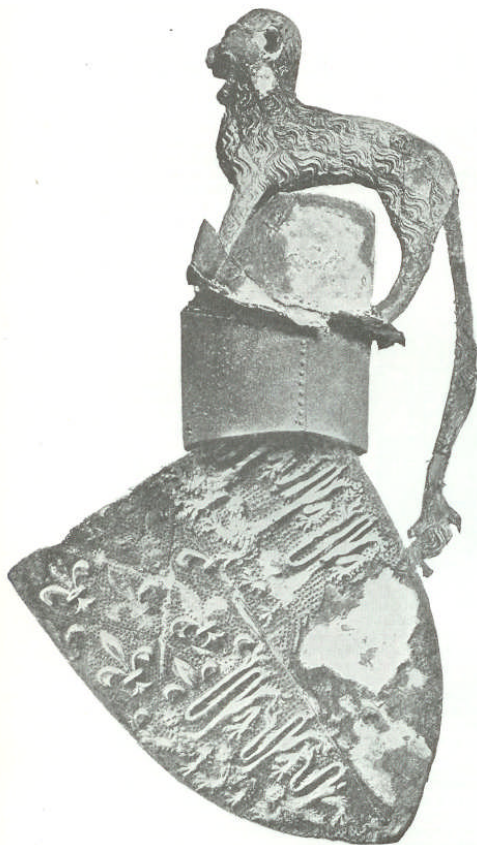
Seal of Edmund Beaufort Duke of Somerset ca 1445

of the royal family, and of the remaining eight, seven to peers and one to the heir of a peer, Sir John Grey. It would seem from this that the chapeau was a signal honour until the end of the fifteenth century, only eight of the sixty-six non-royal garter knights bearing it. Until the end of Henry VIII's reign the King always bore his crest on a chapeau.

The introduction of coronets of rank as we now understand them was gradual, only in 1444 were they allowed to earls; viscounts were allowed them by James I and barons by Charles II in 1661. These coronets have a

“cap of honour” within them, but it is not in the form of a chapeau, but rather circular, with the lining of ermine turned up equally all round, and with a golden tassell. Despite this difference, it might be easily understood by a hatter that the item can have its rim turned up at many different angles, an extreme one giving the hat of the Black Prince, a more modest angle the standard heraldic chapeau and no angle at all the cap of honour within the peer's coronet.

It seems that the chapeau came to be granted in the time of Queen Elizabeth by Robert Cooke, Clarenceux, to mere gentlemen, presumably for an additional fee, and subsequently fairly freely, though still not generally, in the Stuart period. In the middle of the nineteenth century the Earl Marshal forbade that a crest coronet or a chapeau should be granted to any but a peer, but in the twentieth century it would seem that this rule has been relaxed for crest coronets, at any rate.

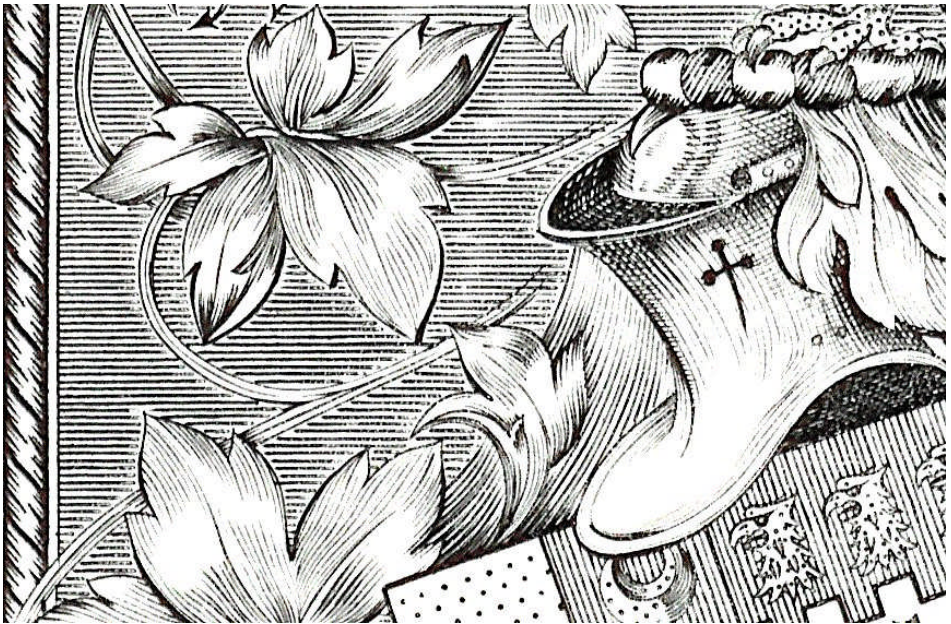


Achievement on his tomb of Edward the Black Prince, died 1376



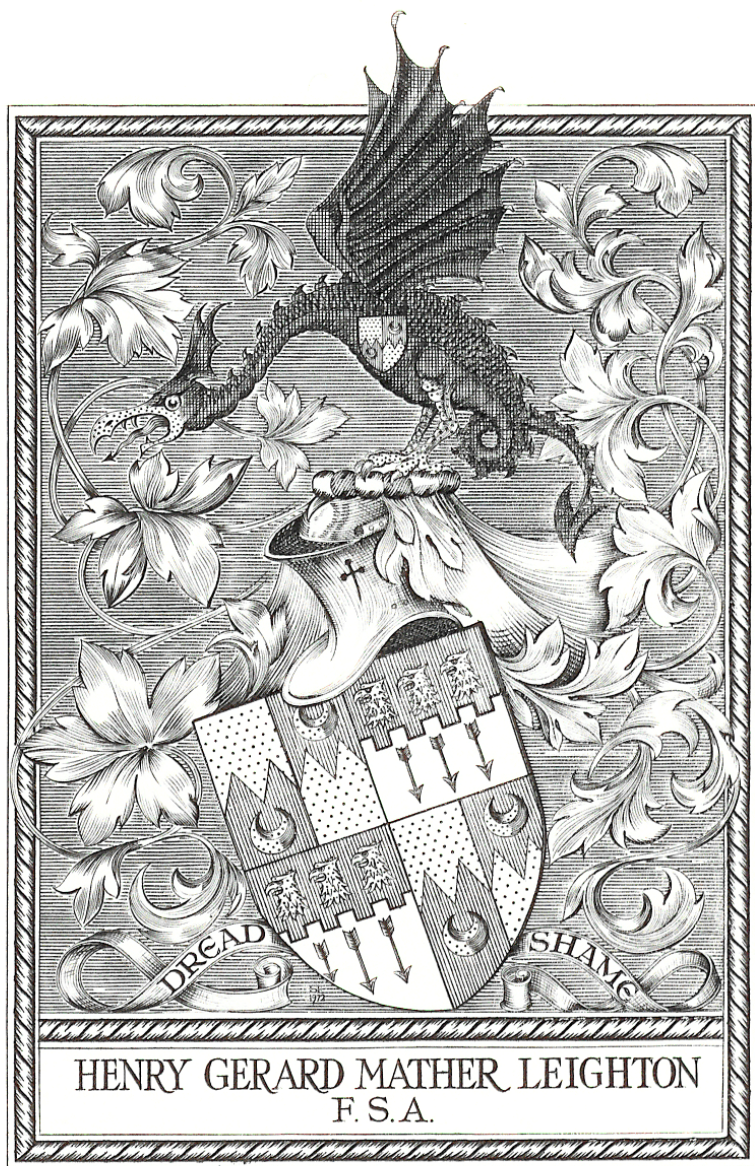
## BOOKPLATES OF GERARD LEIGHTON

During a SANHS Historic Buildings visit in April 2004, we went to Hassage Manor, where Gerard Leighton allowed us to look at the house, but also put out some things for us to look at. One of these was the manuscript of Boutell's Heraldry, written in 1867, a work which has now become a standard text. I discussed this with Mr Leighton and this led on to more heraldic talk. Later he very kindly sent me two bookplates of the Leighton arms. These are both illustrated here. That with gothic lettering, on page 16, was engraved for his great-uncle, the other was done for him, from a drawing by Mrs Drummond-Murray of Mastrick, whose son Peter is a noted heraldist and the editor of the Double Tressure, the annual transactions of the Heraldry Society of Scotland.



The Leighton arms are first recorded in a sixteenth century roll of arms, and derive from those of Fitzwarren. The quarterings shown in the gothic version are 1 Leighton, 2 Bates, 3 Thompson, 4 Ewbanke, 5 Hindmarsh and 6 Bromley. The Bromley coat is almost a reverse of the Leighton and the crescent on it is a difference, as are the two on the Leighton quartering. In the bookplate done for Gerard Leighton, the second and third quarters contain the arms of Mather, his mother's family.

I have shown a section of the second bookplate enlarged, to show the very great detail, with which the work has been carried out. The earlier bookplate is a wonderful example of the last flowering of the high gothic style, the proportions extended and further emphasised by the flamboyant flourish of the wings.





Ex

Libris.



H. G. M. Leighton