

THE SOMERSET DRAGON

THE JOURNAL OF THE SOMERSET HERALDRY SOCIETY

No. 38
December 2017

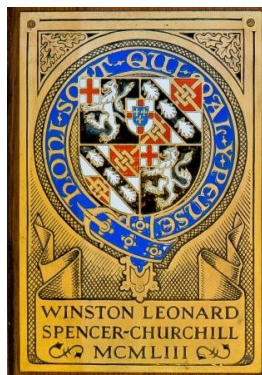


Editorial: The illustration below shows the garter stall plate of Sir Winston Churchill and it serves as a reminder of our meeting on the 1st November—see page 11.

Plans for next year include an annual lunch at the Fountain Inn, Wells, a visit to Salisbury Cathedral and a talk on the heraldry of the Sackville Dukes of Dorset. If you have any ideas for other events do come along to the AGM and make your feelings known.

TABLE OF CONTENTS

2. Some 18th Century Armorial by Stephen Tudsbery-Turner
8. Pursuivant by Eric White
9. A Royal Tapestry at the Castle of Mey
10. Notes & Queries
11. Some Garter Observations
13. Find the Lady
14. Heradic Quiz No. 9
15. The Arms of the City of Hereford
16. Officers of the Society



SOME EIGHTEENTH CENTURY ARMORIALS
BY STEPHEN TUDSBERY-TURNER



Keen readers of *The Somerset Dragon* will have noted that previous numbers have made use of heraldic illustrations from an eighteenth century journal, *The Universal Magazine*. We were rather vague about the exact date and location of these engravings but now, thanks to an invaluable check-list produced by the Bookplate Society, we are able to make good this deficiency.

The five engravings in question are as follows: Conway, Earl of Hertford (SD30), 1780, vol.67, p.261; North, Earl of Guildford (SD31), 1780, vol.67, p.369; Townshend, Earl of Leicester (SD33), 1786, vol.78, p.41; Hobart, Earl of Buckinghamshire (SD34), 1779, vol.64, p.260; Finch, Earl of Winchelsea (SD37), 1770, vol.67, p.256.

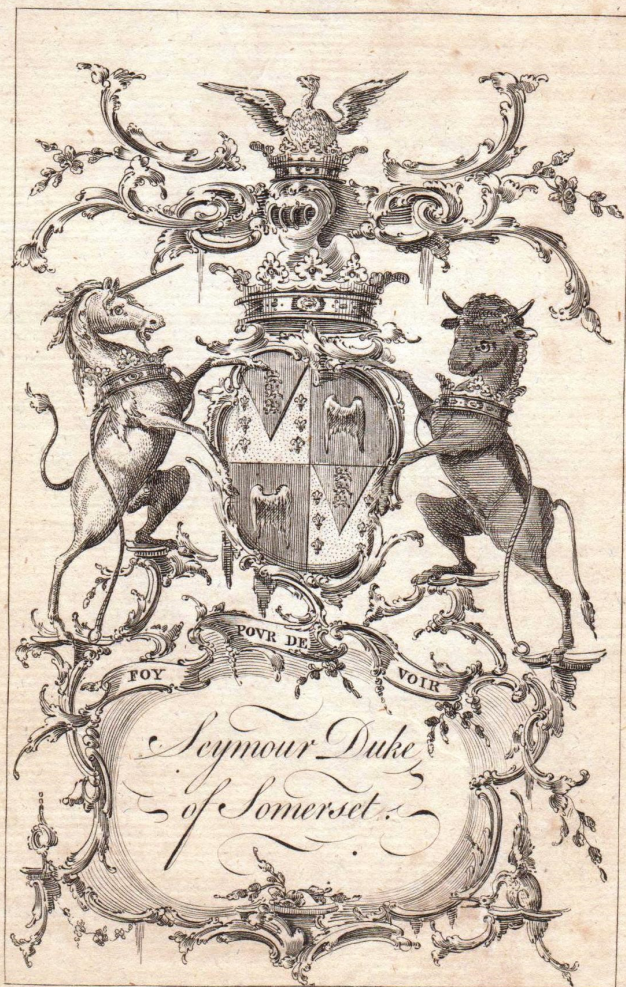
Opposite we have another example of a plate from this source, this time dating from 1775, namely Wentworth, Earl of Strafford. It is blazoned *sable a chevron between three leopards' faces or*, complete with a crest, *a griffin passant wings elevated argent*, and two splendid supporters, *dexter a griffin argent* and *sinister a lion or*.

The Universal Magazine of Knowledge and Pleasure ran from 1747 to 1803. Published by John Hinton at the King's Arms in Paternoster Row near Warwick Lane, London, it was a monthly journal that set out to be 'instructive and entertaining to gentry, merchants, farmers and tradesmen', and cost the princely sum of sixpence. The magazine commenced its foray into aristocratic heraldry with volume 36 in 1765 when it displayed the arms of the Dukes of Norfolk and Somerset, and for the next four years displayed the arms of a total of twenty-six dukes. Next came the armorial bearings of one marquess, Wentworth, Marquis of Rockingham, and then those of over ninety earls. The sequence ended in 1787 with Murray, Earl Strange in volume 81, but two years later the magazine produced fourteen explanatory heraldic plates in volumes 84 and 85.



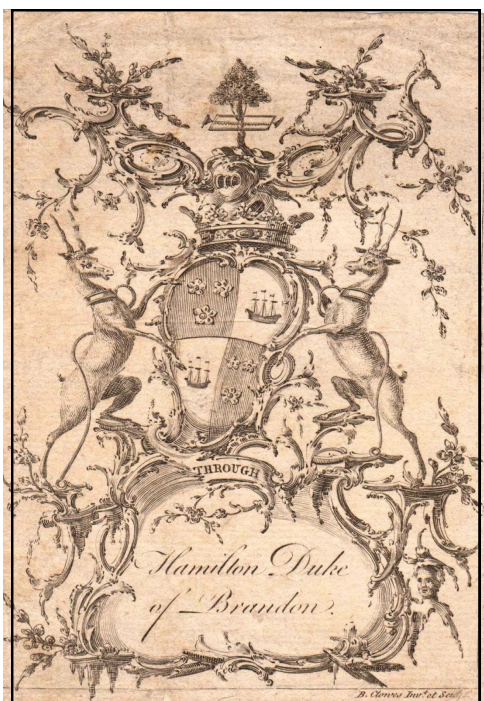
Armorial from *The Universal Magazine*, points out Anthony Pincott of The Bookplate Society, can be readily identified by their use of large, open swirls of mantling. Judging by the examples we have seen to date, they do not appear to contain the details of either the artist or the engraver, nor are they contained within a border. The achievement of the Duke of Bolton from 1766 is another example from this source

A similar monthly journal was *The British Magazine*, which appears to have run from January 1760 to December 1767. Once again the heraldic sequence commences with the Dukes of Norfolk and Somerset, although Somerset (see opposite) appeared first in February 1760 followed by Norfolk in April. Until March 1762 the engravings bear the legend 'B. Clowes Inv et Sculp' except in the case of the Duke of Dover when it is simply 'Sculp'. Engravings from *The British Magazine*, or at least the ones we have seen so far, are contained within a border and some, although not all, are numbered. As far as style goes, these armorials, both before and after March 1762, are far more rococo in flavour than those from *The Universal Magazine*.



D. Clowes Inv. et Sculp

Butler Clowes was a mezzotint engraver and print seller based in the gloriously named Gutter Lane, Cheapside. He lived on until 1782 - some authorities say even later - so it is strange that his name does not appear on prints after the spring of 1762. He engraved his own work for the most part but also worked for other artists including no less a painter than George Stubbs.



We end our survey with two of a kind that make the differences in style vvery clear. The arms of the Duke of Brandon on this page come from *The British Magazine* of 1761 while the achievement opposite is from *The Universal Magazine* and dates from 1767. The quartered arms from *The British Magazine* appear in the grand quarters of *The Universal Magazine*, which contains the Douglas arms in the second and third quarters.

During the lead up to the [Act of Union 1707](#), the fourth Duke of Hamilton was the leader of the anti-union party. He was created Duke of Brandon, in the [County of Suffolk](#) in the [Peerage of Great Britain](#) on the 10th September 1711, but was wrongfully refused a summons to parliament under that title (although he continued to sit as a representative peer). He was killed in a duel in Hyde Park on the 15th November 1712

c1750



PURSUIVANT by ERIC WHITE
(WITH APOLOGIES TO W. S. GILBERT)

I aspire to be a Herald and to make some small Pretence
Of finding in a Blazon a modicum of sense,
I know the sub-divisions such as Fess-wise, Bendy, Paly,
And by concentrated reading I increase my knowledge daily.
The meaning of a Bordure, Canton, Pile or Double Tressure
I absorb into my mind with no unduly forceful pressure,
And Flory Counter Flory or a Chevronel Engrailed
Is just as easily followed as the purport of Impaled.
You'll agree that Counter-Gobony, Invested and Embattled
Would get a lesser mind than mine considerably rattled.
I know what's meant by Azure, Gules, Old Vair or simple Ermine,
I can make Heraldic drawings of a Mole or other vermin.
And questions as to Couped or Gorged or Bars Gemelle Humetty
I'm quite prepared to answer though they're Cloue Or on Fretty.
A Lambrequin or Mantling comes as easy as a Bassinet,
And I can paint correctly all the nuts and bolts that fasten it;
And so when I can tell at sight a Lozenge from a Hatchment
With the Difference of a Label and its method of attachment,
When I know what is meant by Panache, Purfled, Pean and Pall,
When I've more decided views about Ten Bezants in an Orle;
In short when I can claim that I have more than just a smatter -
ing of fundamental learning with the jargon and the patter,
Then I'll feel that I'm entitled to one of Victory's Palms
And I'll make an application for a post of King at Arms.

This delightful piece by Eric White first appeared in *The Coat of Arms* in January 1960 and is reproduced by permission of The Heraldry Society.



The Castle of Mey, the late Queen Mother's home in Caithness, is not rich in heraldry, but it does boast this magnificent tapestry of her coat of arms. It was designed by Stephen Gooden RA and woven by R. Cruickshank, R. B. Gordon and J. Louttit at the Dovecote Studios in Edinburgh in 1950. The castle is regularly open to the public and is well worth a visit.

NOTES & QUERIES

THE ARMS OF THE KENN FAMILY

Can anyone help?

I found your excellent website via an internet search.

I am currently researching the the family of John Kenn of Kenn (died ca 1549) and his descendants.

Harold Coward's informative book "The Story of Hutton" suggests John's son and heir Christopher Kenn was granted a coat of arms ca 1560. I have found a number of text descriptions, including that in the Visitation of Somerset of 1623 - "Ermine, three crescents, gules".

However, despite extensive searching, I have been unable to find an authoritative graphic representation.

I would be most grateful if you could suggest any sources to which I could refer for the same

Thank you in anticipation

Regards

David Yaw

SW London

email: djyaw@aol.com

HERALDRY BOOKS ON SALE

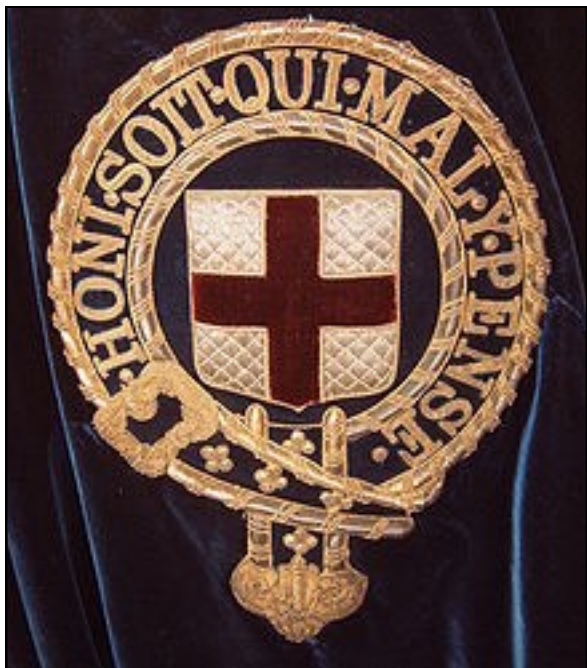
What a treat! To find an antiquarian bookshop these days that actually has a well stocked heraldry section. Any member venturing oer the border into Devon would be well advised to Look into the shop in question—details below. It would certainly be worth the effort.

From **HEARTLAND OLD BOOKS**

12-14 Newport St, Tiverton. Devon EX16 6NL Tel: 01884 254488

email: jeremy@whitehorn.fsworld.co.uk

THE ORDER OF THE GARTER



Some twelve members and guests were present at the society's new meeting place, The Old Threshing Mill near Shepton Mallet, to hear Dr Andrew Gray hold forth on the *Armorial of the Order of the Garter*, based on published and unpublished sources from the fifteenth to the twenty first centuries. It was a thought provoking, amusing and beautifully illustrated talk and was greatly appreciated by the audience. Our speaker touched on other European orders of knighthood, explained how the various orders were linked to papal crusading zeal and exploded one or two long held myths.



Henry of Grosmont, Earl of Lancaster (d.1361) (later Duke of Lancaster), the second appointee of the Order, shown wearing a tabard displaying the royal arms of England over which is his blue mantle or garter robe. Illuminated miniature from the *Bruges Garter Book* made c.1430 by William Bruges (1375–1450), first Garter King of Arms

The secretary was broken-hearted to learn that the old story of the origins of the order involving King Edward III and a noble lady, Margaret, Countess of Salisbury, who accidentally dropped her garter but was saved from embarrassment by the gallant monarch, was as likely to have happened in real life as the plucking of the roses in the Temple Gardens at the outset of the Wars of the Roses - another cause of secretarial grief.

According to another and more likely legend, King Richard I was inspired in the twelfth century by St George the Martyr while fighting in the Crusades to tie garters around the legs of his knights, who subsequently won the battle. King Edward perhaps recalled the event in 1348 when he founded the Order. Our speaker pointed out that the motto of the order, traditionally supposed to relate to the Margaret of Salisbury legend, *Honi soit qui mal y pense* (Shame on him who thinks ill of it), a reprimand to courtiers sniggering at a lady's discomfort, probably refers to Edward's claim to the French throne, and the Order of the Garter was created to help pursue this claim.

Far from its association with an item of ladies' lingerie, the use of the garter as an emblem may have derived from straps used to fasten armour. Bang went another myth!

All in all a most stimulating and delightful talk and we look forward to welcoming Andrew back to another meeting in the not too distant future.

Banners of the members of the order in St. George's Chapel



FIND THE LADY

The answer to Quiz No.8 was Sir William Gascoigne, Henry IV's Lord Chief Justice who was flanked on his right by his second wife, Joan (Jane?) Pickering. But who is the lady on his left? Note: the Gascoigne arms are on the sinister side of her robe. Does anyone have any thoughts?



EX LIBRIS & HERALDIC QUIZ NO.9



Does anyone fancy putting names to the twenty quarterings seen here on this rather splendid nineteenth century bookplate? The owner has worked them all out and they will be listed in our next issue. The enlargement below should make things easier!



The story behind the arms of the city of Hereford is an intriguing one. Scott-Giles tells us that Hereford bore on an early seal the Royal Arms of Richard I, from whom it received its first charter. It appears to have tintured the three lions silver for the purpose of creating a distinctive although unauthorised coat of arms. In 1645, as a Royalist centre, it was besieged by the Scots under the Earl of Leven, and as a reward for



Its loyalty the city received a grant of arms which not only recognised the arms which it had been using, but added emblems commemorative of the siege. The lions surrounded by saltires, or St Andrew's Crosses, represent the Royalist forces hemmed in by the insurgent Scots, and the buckles on the collars of the supporting lions are from the arms of the Earl of Leven.

The Ja-Ja Heraldic Series of postcards were produced by the Halifax firm of Stoddart & Co., and this particular card was posted in September 1905.

THE SOMERSET HERALDRY SOCIETY

OFFICERS

President	Alex Maxwell Findlater
Chairman	Mary Rose Rogers, MBE
Secretary	Stephen Tudsbery-Turner
Treasurer	David Hawkings
	Dr. Philip Hickman
	Stephen Slater

THE SOMERSET DRAGON

Editor Stephen Tudsbery-Turner

Address for correspondence

The Malt House,

The Old Threshing Mill,

Hedge Lane,

Pylle,

Somerset,

BA4 6SP

Tel: 01749 830538

Email: tudsberyturner@tiscali.co.uk

Contributions welcome

Objects

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

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

Wed. 7th February 2018. AGM. Location: The Old Threshing Mill, Pylle, (see above for full address and postcode).

12.00 noon Doors open

1.00pm Shepherd's Pie lunch

2.00pm Meeting

2.30pm Talk

3.30pm Carriages