

THE SOMERSET DRAGON

THE JOURNAL OF THE SOMERSET HERALDRY SOCIETY

No. 50
December 2021



The Arms of Richard de Clare 5th
Earl of Hertford, 6th Earl of
Gloucester, 2nd Lord of Glamorgan,
8th Lord of Clare 1222-1262

As this is issue No, 50 we treated ourselves to an extra four pages and featured a glorious picture by Roland Symons to kick things off. We also have an anonymous piece by 'A Shropshire Lass'. Please feel free to follow her example as we are always on the look out for articles—c.750 words is ideal.



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**THE ARMS OF RICHARD PLATAGANET CAMPBELL
TEMPLE-NUGENT-BRYDGES-CHANDOS-GRENVILLE.
THIRD DUKE OF BUCKINGHAM AND CHANDOS.
THIS PICTURE BY ROLAND SYMONS IS BASED ON A
BLACK AND WHITE ILLUSTRATION IN FOSTER'S
PEERAGE OF 1881**

CRESTS

A garb vert Grenville
A Saracen's head couped at the shoulders affrontee proper
wreathed about the temples argent and sable Chandos
A man's head in profile couped at the shoulders proper habited paly
of six argent and gules semee of torteaux and plates wreathed
around the temples of the second and azure Brydges
A wyvern proper Nugent
On a ducal coronet a martlet or Temple

QUARTERINGS

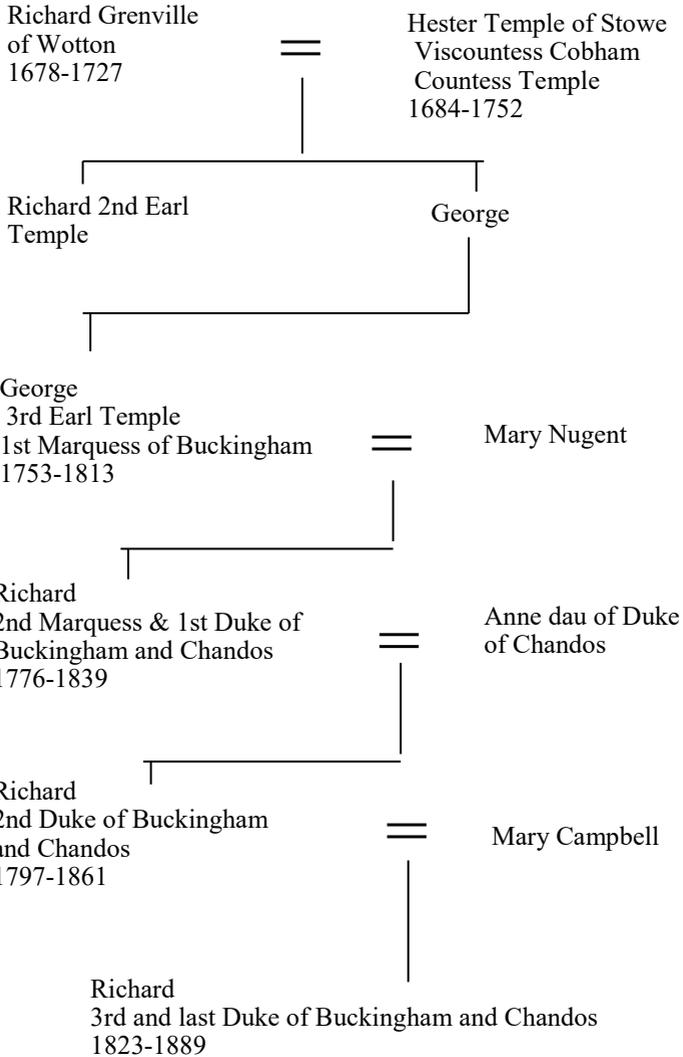
1 and 6	Grenville
2	Chandos
3	Brydges
4	Nugent
5	Leofric Temple

This picture, as far as *The Somerset Dragon* is concerned, first saw the light of day when a scaled down version appeared in issue No. 27 in 2014. It had previously been used as an illustration in a talk that year at the AGM.

For those of a genealogical frame of mind, the family tree on page 4 shows how the Grenvilles, by a series of judicious marriages, transformed themselves from relatively humble Buckinghamshire squires to the possessors of one of the most prestigious titles in the land. All came to an end when the third and last duke died in 1887. Of his many titles, the dukedom became extinct, the earldom of Temple devolved on his nephew, the viscounty of Cobham devolved on a kinsman, while the barony of Kinloss passed to his eldest daughter.



The descent of the 3rd Duke of Buckingham and Chandos From Richard Grenville of Wotton



Pillar Monuments by Richard Jones



Arms of Richard Draper
Died 1756

This a rare type of 17th and 18th century monument found inside a church. The type can be described as a round pillar, fixed to the wall or floor, often with an architectural capital. The pillars I have seen, all appear to be made of a black marble.

Examples I have found so far are:

The earliest is at Barton on Humber to the Shipsea family. Jane Shipsea died 1626;

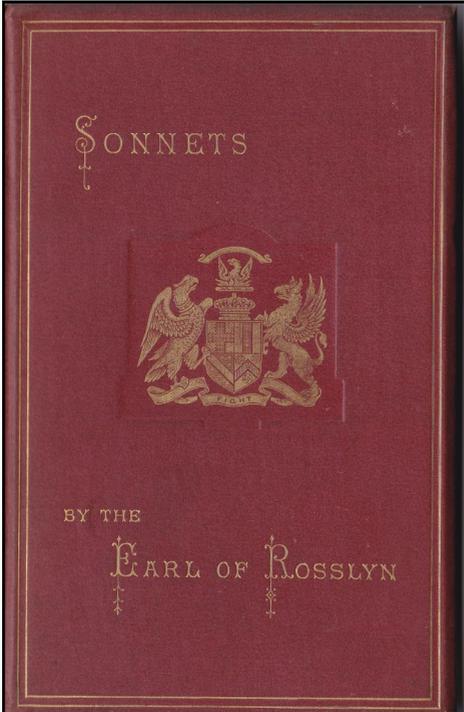
The largest one I have located is of 1631 to Lady Mary Diggs at Chilham, Kent, it is 11 feet high by Nicholas Stone;

As far as I know Dorset has only one pillar monument and that is found at Winterborne Stickland to Rachel Sutton who died 1653;

Finally, a monument in St Pancras Old Church to Richard Draper who died in 1756.

If anyone knows of other examples, I would be very interested to hear about them.

LORD ROSSLYN AND HIS FAMILY by Stephen Tudsbury Turner



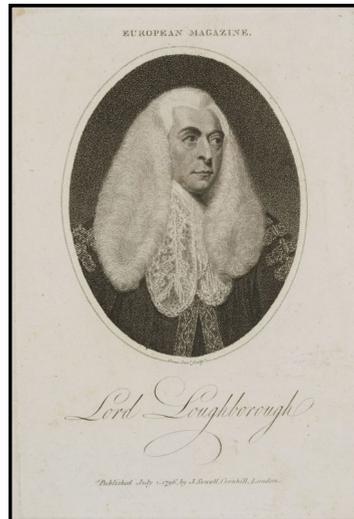
The other day I made a significant addition to my collection of heraldic curiosities. It was an ebay transaction, it set me back the princely sum of £5 and it was a slim volume of his verse published by the fourth Earl of Rosslyn in 1883. The Earl of Rosslyn was certainly a minor poet but the reason for my purchase was not his sonnets but rather the magnificent bookstamp that decorated the front cover of his book.

It depicts the earl's complete achievement and is blazoned: **Arms:** quarterly, 1st argent, a cross engrailed sable (*St Clair*); 2nd argent, a pale sable (*Erskine*); 3rd azure, a bend between six crosses-crosslet fitchée or (*Mar*); 4th argent, on a chevron between three roses gules, a fleur-de-lys of the field for difference (*Wedderburn*). **Crests:** 1st, argent, a demi-phoenix in flames proper (*St Clair*); 2nd, an eagle's head erased proper (*Wedderburn*). **Supporters:** Dexter: an eagle wings inverted proper, gorged with a collar argent, thereon a rose gules. Sinister: a griffin wings elevated proper. (Only one of the earl's crests actually appears on the bookstamp.)



The earldom was created in 1801 and the first holder of the title was Alexander Wedderburn, first Baron Loughborough, Lord Chancellor from 1793 to 1801, with special remainder to his nephew Sir James St Clair-Erskine, as Wedderburn had no surviving issue of his own.

Wedderburn had already been created Baron Loughborough, of Loughborough in the County of Leicester, in the Peerage of Great Britain in 1780, with normal remainder to the heirs male of his body, and Baron Loughborough, of Loughborough in the County of Surrey, in the Peerage of Great Britain in 1795, with the same remainder as the earldom. The 1780 barony became extinct upon his death, but the 1795 barony and the earldom passed, by the special remainder, to his nephew, who thus became the second Earl of Rosslyn.

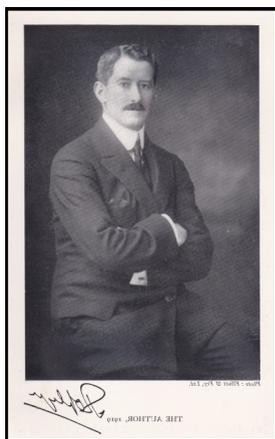


Lord Rosslyn succeeded his father, the third earl, in 1866, the same year that he married Lady Blanche Fitzroy, great-grand-daughter of the third Duke of Grafton and thus a direct descendant of King Charles II by his mistress Nell Gwyn. The Countess of Rosslyn was the mother of five of the most beautiful ladies to grace the late Victorian social scene. Frances, or Daisy as she was known (later Countess of Warwick and mistress of the Prince of Wales) and Blanche (later Lady Algernon Gordon-Lennox) were by her first husband Charles Maynard, who died in 1865, and Millicent (later Duchess of Sutherland), Sybil (later Countess of Westmorland) and Angela (later Lady Angela Forbes) were by Lord Rosslyn. Her sons by her second marriage, Harry fifth Earl of Rosslyn, and his brother Fitzroy, who died in 1914, were also renowned for their good looks. The genes of Nell Gwyn were obviously still at work nearly two hundred years after that lady herself had been laid to rest.



The fourth earl, a pious, well-meaning yet autocratic figure, was a friend and colleague of Benjamin Disraeli, in whose memory he dedicated his book of verse. He was granted a court appointment by the Marquis of Salisbury, Disraeli's successor as Conservative Prime Minister, as Captain of the Honourable Gentlemen at Arms. He was created Lord High Commissioner of the Church of Scotland by Disraeli, and was also a leading Freemason.

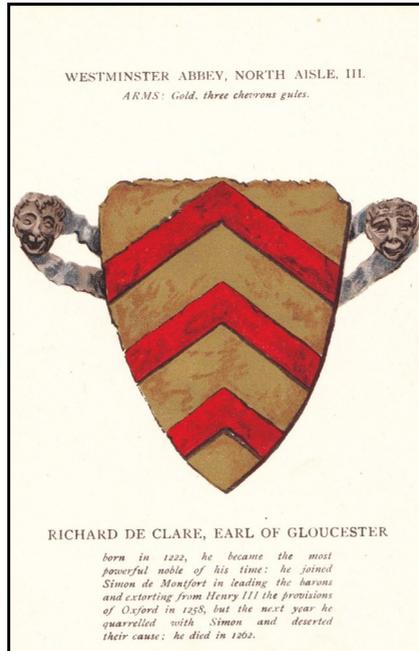
His son, who succeeded him in 1890, was very different. He inherited the family seat, Dysart House in Midlothian, the ruined Rosslyn Castle, the legendary Rosslyn Chapel, collieries at Dysart, a luxury steam yacht, and assets of £50,000. The earl unfortunately led a rather dissolute and care-free life-style, which by the outbreak of war in 1914 included three marriages, mixed fortunes on the turf and a spell on the stage. He was a notorious gambler, betting £15,000 on Buccaneer to win the Manchester Cup in 1893. He stood to win £60,000, which would have gone some way to recoup his losses, but the horse failed to deliver. He played the roulette tables at Cannes and Monte Carlo, which he wrote about in his autobiography *My Gamble With Life* (1928). By 1896, he had lost everything and was declared bankrupt. This resulted in the sale of Dysart House, and family silver and other treasures being disposed of at a three-day auction in Edinburgh.



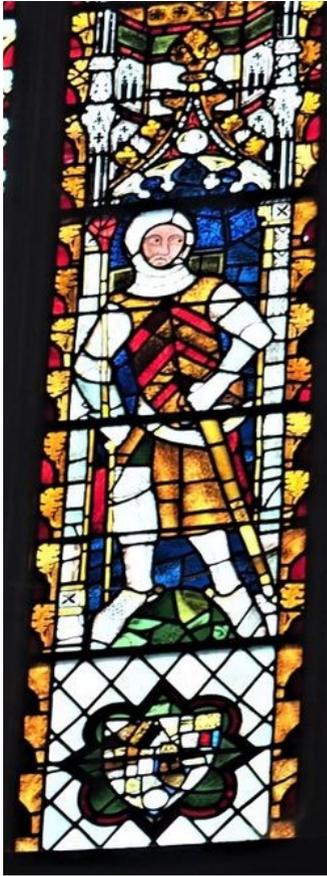
The fourth earl included a sonnet to his son in his book and another to his step-daughter Daisy, and it is an ironic quirk of fate that the two children singled out for such treatment are the two who are best known today for all the wrong reasons! The poem entitled 'Harry' was written in January 1881 when the then Lord Loughborough was eleven. 'The well-trained sapling makes the fairest tree,' wrote the earl to his son.

The sonnet appears to be explaining to the young man why his father's treatment could be seen as severe but assuring his son that it was all done for the best. The best, as events turned out, was not quite good enough.

ANCIENT SHIELDS IN WESTMINSTER ABBEY



The Westminster Abbey arms for this month's issue are those of Richard de Clare, Earl of Gloucester. They are blazoned *Or three chevrons gules*. The earl was born in 1222 and became the most powerful noble of his time. According to the legend printed on the card he joined Simon de Montfort in leading the barons and extorting from King Henry III the Provisions of Oxford in 1258, but the next year he quarrelled with de Montfort and deserted their cause. He died in 1262.



The circumstances of his death make interesting reading. Richard died at the Manor of Asbenfield in Waltham, near Canterbury, on the 14th July 1262 at the age of 39; it was rumoured that he had been poisoned at the table of Piers of Savoy, the uncle of Queen Eleanor. On the following Monday he was carried to Canterbury where a requiem mass was sung; his body was then transported about forty-five miles to the canons' church at Tonbridge and interred in the choir. From there it was taken to Tewkesbury Abbey and buried on the 28th July, with great solemnity in the presence of two bishops and eight abbots in the presbytery at his father's right hand.

The earl is commemorated by an image in one of seven glorious fourteenth century windows in the choir of Tewkesbury Abbey. The central window depicts a Last Judgement flanked by windows that relate to the lineage of Christ. The outer two show the ancestry of the donor, believed to be Eleanor Despencer, (nee de Clare). The outermost windows show eight images of the founder of Tewkesbury Abbey and his descendents along with the de Clare ancestors. These knights provide a lineage for the donor Eleanor, just as the other kings and prophets provide a lineage for Christ.

A POST LOCK-DOWN LETTER FROM SHROPSHIRE
by A Shropshire Lass

Dear Editor,

When I told you that we were going on a celebratory post lock-down trip to Shropshire you asked me to send you some heraldic images for use in your magazine. I am attaching half a dozen plus suitable commentary in the hope that one or two might be suitable. [We have used three! Ed.]



My favourite is this picture of a fireplace from Condover Hall, according to Pevsner 'the grandest Elizabethan house in Shropshire'. It was built by Thomas Owen, Justice of Common Pleas and an MP for Shrewsbury, who died in 1598 before the house was actually finished, and it was left to his son Sir Roger to complete the work.



Our original stone fireplace is located in a room to the right of the entrance porch. It has coupled Ionic columns below with pillars above. Three round-headed arches above the overmantel feature two standing figures in the outer arches flanking the coat-of-arms of Roger Owen in the centre.



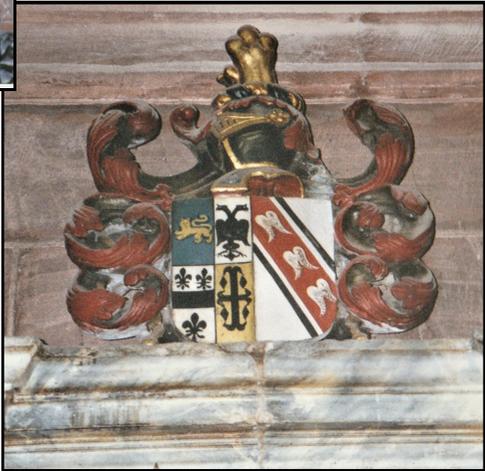
And now for something completely different. The Lord Combermere is a pub not far from Combermere Abbey, near Audlem in Cheshire. The house was built in 1563 (Pevsner again) but greatly altered by the Cotton family over the years. Stapleton Cotton, the first Viscount Combermere, achieved fame and fortune as the Duke of Wellington's cavalry commander during the Peninsular War and it was Lord Combermere who Gothi-cised the house in the period 1814-21.



The Cotton arms are blazoned *1 and 4 Azure a chevron between three hanks of cotton argent in chief pendent from a ribbon gules a representation of the medal presented to his lordship after the battle of Salamanca (Cotton). 2 and 3 Argent a lion rampant sable (Stapleton)*. The Cottons were baronets but there is no red hand of Ulster on the pub sign.



Our Shropshire break was inspired by a hunt for the tomb of the Earl of Worcester, Harry Hotspur's uncle, who was beheaded after Hotspur's defeat at the battle of Shrewsbury in 1403. He was buried in Shrewsbury Abbey although his head was initially displayed on London Bridge - it was later reunited with the rest of him in the abbey. No luck with the tomb but I did find this rather nice memorial between the tower and the north porch. It commemorates Alderman J. Lloyd, who died in 1647. The quartered arms of Lloyd impale those of Wingfield



Heraldic Tea Party

The first get-together for members of the society took place on Wednesday 22nd September at the home of Carol Haines, our treasurer. The weather was perfect and members and guests were treated to a delightful tea and were able to exchange news as well as to admire and in some cases identify items of heraldic interest brought along for the occasion. There was also a selection of books from Cathie Courtenay's library that were available to take-away as a remembrance of a lady who will be sadly missed by all of us.

As most of those present were members of both The Somerset Heraldry Society and the Bath Heraldic Society we were able to take a look at the position of both societies at the present moment. It was generally felt that with Bath providing regular Saturday meetings plus speakers and Somerset supplying *The Somerset Dragon* as well as the occasional outing, Covid permitting, between the two of us we were doing reasonably well, all things considered.

All in all it was generally agreed that we were very fortunate to have an interest that has kept us going through a particularly difficult year—so, many thanks to Carol and her grand-daughter Cecily for making us so welcome in such lovely surroundings. It was a delightful occasion.



Help! Can anyone identify the possessor of the arms displayed on this livery button? Ideas would be gratefully received.

IN SEARCH OF THE WILLOUGHBYS
PART I THE BERWICK QUARTERINGS

By Stephen Slater



High upon the Wiltshire downs, near its border with Somerset and Dorset, lies the church at Berwick St. John. The church has an intriguing selection of heraldry including some tantalising survivals of what must once have been an early and splendid heraldic scheme that decorated the panels of the roof in the east end of the church. Several little wooden painted rudders, the crest of the Hungerfords (garb and sickles) and a splendidly complex quartered shield (Fig. 1) are all that survive. Those little wooden rudders are the clue to the originator of the scheme, the rudder being the heraldic badge of the Barons Willoughby de Broke.



The quartered shield, which has no less than eight families represented on it, two from the far east of England, six from the West Country, should also remind us heraldically of the Willoughbys. Their arms, *Or fretty azure*, however, do not appear, an omission which lies in the time when the armorial scheme at Berwick was created and the history of this great and ancient family which is still with us in no less than three baronies.



We will probably never know when the Willoughbys first used the fretty coat, but it is even featured in that epic heraldic poem commemorating the siege in 1300 of Caerlaverock Castle, the poet, probably an English herald there at the siege, mentions "Robert Willoughby, I saw there, bearing gold and fretty blue".



It is likely that the heraldic scheme was started c.1500 when the priest in charge at Berwick was Sir Edward Willoughby, younger brother of Robert, first Baron Willoughby de Broke who took his title from Broke House, on the edge of Salisbury Plain, some twenty miles north of Berwick. Edward's shield appropriately enough contains a crescent for difference. The brothers were also involved in the rebuilding of Bath Abbey, and their arms together with the rudder badge are to be seen there to this day. My thanks go to our Roland Symons for bringing this to my attention.

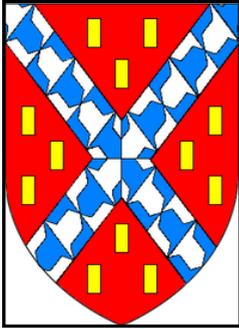
The Willoughbys originated in the village of Willoughby in the Marsh near Skegness, in Lincolnshire, which gave them their name. As early as the thirteenth century they started to make advantageous marriages, firstly to the heiress of Beke (Bec), lords of the nearby manor of Eresby, and then with an heiress of the great family of Ufford, Earls of Suffolk. Both marriages brought to the Willoughbys estates and wealth, so much so that they often tended to discard their old (and beautiful) fretty coat of arms for those of those two important houses.

The Uffords bore *Sable a cross engrailed Or* and the Bekes, *Gules a cross moline argent*, hence the first grand quarter on the shield at Berwick. In the fourteenth century another Willoughby married the heiress to the barony of Latimer, hence the second grand quarter, *Gules a cross flory or*.

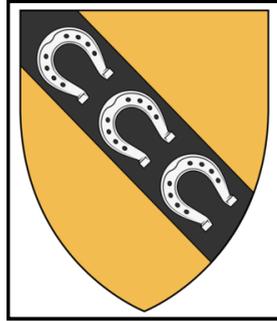
Then in 1313 Robert Willoughby through writ of summons gained the title of Lord Willoughby de Eresby, a title held today by Jane, twenty-eighth Baroness Willoughby de Eresby.

In the second half of the fifteenth century Sir John Willoughby, of the line of Eresby, married the heiress of Cheney of Broke House, near Westbury, Wilts. Through this the Willoughbys of Broke quartered the arms of Cheney. *Gules 4/5 lozenges conjoined in fess argent each charged with an escallop sable*, and Stafford of Southwick, *Or a chevron gules within a bordure engrailed sable*. These quarters appear as the fourth and final grand quarter on the Berwick shield.

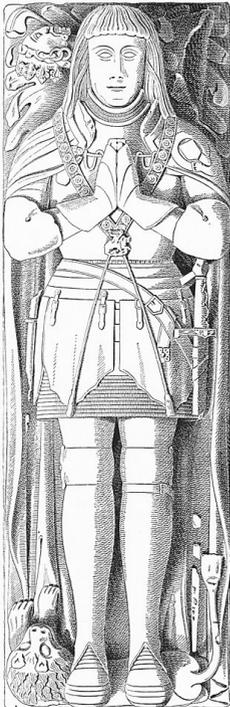
The arrangements of the quarterings on the Berwick shield seems at first sight rather strange as this more ancient marriage appears last on the shield, whereas, the third (and usually earlier) quarter is for a set of marriages coming later to the Willoughbys. But given the times when the Berwick shield was made (c.1500) it was not uncommon for a family to accentuate important marriages/ estates at the expense of their own arms- certainly Richard Neville (the Kingmaker) did this in his own heraldry.



Champernowne



Ferrers

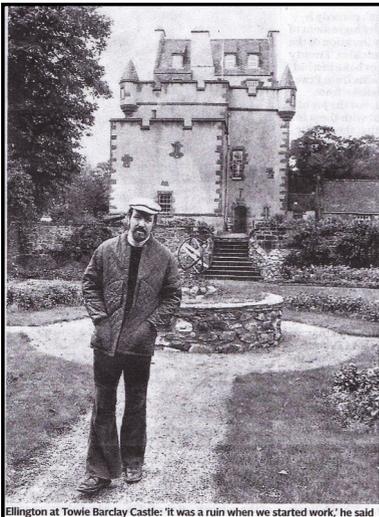


That third quarter on the Berwick shield shows the arms by which the Willoughbys inherited important estates in the far West Country, via the Champernownes, Ferrers and Bigbury (Azure an eagle displayed or). It was Sir Robert Willoughby, son of Sir John and Anne Cheney of Broke, who married the Champernowne heiress (3rd Qr). Robert, an accomplished warrior during the Wars of the Roses was also a trusted confidant and friend to the first Tudor monarch, Henry VII. In 1491, Robert was summoned to Parliament as Lord Willoughby de Broke. The present holder of this barony being the twenty-first baron.

Sir Robert Willoughby KG
1st Baron Willoughby de Broke
1452-1502

Towie Barclay Castle and the Barclay Twins

In my article in Issue 49 of *The Somerset Dragon* on the Barclay brothers and their arms I speculated that when their arms were being prepared, they may have drawn inspiration from those of the Lowland Clan Barclay of Aberdeenshire. The former seat of the Clan Barclay was Towie Barclay Castle, also in Aberdeenshire.



Ellington at Towie Barclay Castle: 'it was a ruin when we started work,' he said

By chance this picture of Towie Barclay Castle appeared in an obituary in *The Daily Telegraph* on 9th March. The gentleman in the photograph is not connected with the family - he was Mark Ellington, an American folk singer, who bought the castle as a ruin and restored it. He settled there and became Deputy Lieutenant of the county. He died on 17th February, 2021 aged 75. We can all be grateful to him for this.

David Vaudrey

Exercise for a Winter Evening!

For those interested in honing their artistic skills, why not try emblazoning the arms of the Rev. Sir Edward Repps Jodrell Bt. (died 1882). The blazons are to be found on the opposite page. A picture of the achievement will appear in our next issue. No.9, by the way, is Fountaine.

The Armorial Bearings of the Rev. Sir Edward Repps Jodrell Bt.

JODRELL (Quarterly of Twelve) **IMPALING GARDEN**

A. JODRELL

1. Ermines three round buckles the tongues downwards argent in fesse point a trefoil slipped or (**Jodrell**)
2. Or on a fesse dancetty between three billets azure each charged with a lion rampant of the field as many bezants (**Rolles**)
3. Argent on a chevron gules three sheldrakes of the first on a canton of the second a rose of the field seeded and barbed vert (**Sheldon**)
4. Grand quarterly 1 & 4 quarterly 1 & 4 per bend indented sable and argent 2 & 3 azure a fleur de lys or 2 & 3 vert a cross engrailed argent (**Warner**)
5. Ermine three chevrons sable (**Repps**)
6. Or a bend between three trefoils slipped azure (**Smythe**)
7. Per chevron or and sable in chief two triple towers of the second in base a ship in full sail of the first (**Howlett**)
8. Azure a chevron between three crosses patty or (**Barclay**)
9. Azure a fesse gules (?) between three elephants' heads erased argent (?)
10. Gules three barrulets or on a canton of the second (?)
11. Azure on a bend cotised three fusils in bend of the first (?)
12. Azure two combs in fesse between a broken lance or one piece in chief the head respecting the dexter side the other half towards the dexter base point (**Combe**)

GARDEN

Argent a boar's head erased sable between three cross crosslets fitchee gules within a bordure (counter) company sable and argent.

Sutton, Sharpe & Co., Order of the Garter Series

Every editor likes a series and the editor of *The Somerset Dragon* is no exception. Moreover, when his collection of Edwardian heraldic picture postcards can be utilised, then the sun is certainly shining.

The series entitled *The Order of the Garter* was produced by the firm of Sutton, Sharpe & Co., based in Queen Victoria Street, London, printers of fine art posters, show-cards and occasionally post-cards. The set consisted of thirty cards in colour, each postcard being vertical with a large heraldic banner on a plain white ground. Beneath the banner in bold black letters is the name of the Garter Knight in question followed by his title. The set was produced before 1908, for the eighth Duke of Devonshire died in the March of that year and the sixteenth Earl of Derby in the following June, and the arms of both men feature in the series. The earliest cards in the writer's collection date from 1907, possibly the year the set was produced.

The four cards that launch this series feature the king himself, the Duke of Norfolk, who succeeded to his title in 1860 at the age of twelve, the Marquess of Ripon, a title created in 1873, and the Duke of Marlborough, who succeeded in 1892. The quartered arms on the Duke of Marlborough's shield are those of Churchill in the first and fourth quarters and Spencer in the second and third. Overall in the centre chief point, on an inescutcheon argent, is the Cross of St George surmounted by another escutcheon azure, charged with three fleurs-de-lys, two and one or. This last was an augmentation of honour commemorating the first duke's victories against the French during the reign of Queen Anne.



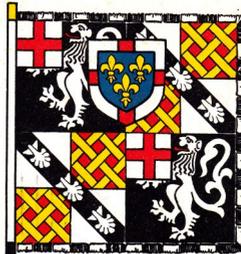
His Majesty
King Edward
VII.,
Sovereign
of the Order
of the Garter.



Sir Henry
Fitzalan-Howard
K.G.,
15th Duke
of
Norfolk.



Sir George
Frederick Samuel
Robinson,
K.G.,
1st Marquess of
Ripon.



Sir Charles
Richard John
Spencer-Churchill,
K.G.,
9th Duke of
Marlborough.

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THE SOMERSET DRAGON

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Contributions welcome

Objects

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

No dates for your diary at present—instead a rather splendid old cigarette card showing the two crests and seat of the Duke of Roxburghe. The card dates from 1909/10.

