

WRIGHT

Seats and Arms.

BEING AN HERALDIC AND GENEALOGICAL
ACCOUNT OF THE AMERICAN, ENGLISH,
IRISH, AND SCOTCH HOUSES OF
THE WRIGHT FAMILY.

HARRINGTON SQUARE HERALDIC OFFICE,
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Wright

AN HERALDIC AND GENEALOGICAL REVIEW OF THE AMERICAN, ENGLISH, IRISH AND SCOTCH HOUSES OF WRIGHT.

ARMORIAL BEARING OF THE AMERICAN HOUSE. as granted to Sir James Wright, December 5th, 1772. Sir James was born May 8th, 1716, in Russell Street, Bloomsbury, London, being the fourth son of Robert Wright, of Sedgfield, Durham County. As Governor of Georgia and Chief Justice of North Carolina he was chiefly distinguished and dying (Nov. 16th, 1785) was buried in the North cloister of Westminster Abbey. He left by his wife, Sarah (daughter of Captain James Maidman, of Charleston, S.C.), three sons and six daughters, was succeeded in the Baronetcy by his eldest son James (who died without issue), but the line of his house is quite generally agreed to have been continued through his second son Alexander, who settled in Jamaica, but of whose posterity no records are in existence :

ARMS: Sable, a chevron engrailed argent, between three fleurs-de-lis or, on a chief of the last as many spear-heads ppr., a bordure wavy ermine.

CREST: On a mount vert and within an annulet or. a dragon's head, couped at the neck argent, semee of annulets sable and murally gorged gules.

MOTTO: "Mens sibi sonscia recti" (A mind conscious of rectitude.)

ARMORIAL BEARINGS OF THE ENGLISH HOUSE (granted to John Wright, of Wrights Bridge, Hornschurch, Essex, June 20th, 1590.

ARMS: Azure, two bars argent, in chief three leopard's faces or.

CREST: Out of a ducal coronet or, a dragon's head ppr.

MOTTO: "Ad rem."

The founder of this branch, John Wright, resided at Kelve-don Hatch, during the early part of the seventeenth century. The family are more generally known as the "Wrights of Wrights Bridge," where John (son of the foregoing) resided with his wife, Mary (daughter of John Mole, and niece of Sir Thomas Cheke). Their issue is supposed to have been numerous. One son, Samuel, founded an extensive branch in the American Colonies during the reign of Queen Elizabeth, while another, Laurence, physician at Hornschurch, died at the family estate there in 1657.

Sir Henry Wright (son of Laurence before named): while in residence at Dagenhams, Essex (June 11th, 1660), received the honour of a Baronet, and married Anne (daughter of John, Lord Crew of Stene). With their son, Sir Henry, also of Dagenhams, the Baronetcy became extinct.

ARMORIAL BEARINGS OF THE SCOTCH-IRISH HOUSE (granted when the family was in residence at Gola, County Monaghan). This house descends immediately from James Wright, who had a charta grant of Gola in 1691. Both the pedigree and Arms are registered at Ulster's office.

ARMS: Per pale sable and azure on a chevron between three unicorns' heads couped or, as many tilting spear-heads gules.

CREST: An arm in armour embowed ppr., holding in the hand a broken tilting spear-head azure, headed or.

MOTTO: "Honor virtute premium" (Honour is the reward of virtue).

SEATS AND REFERENCE PUBLICATIONS,

Bolton Hall, Bolton-by-Bolland, Craven. Charles Booth Elmsall, Wright, J.P.

Bossingby Hall, Bridlington, Yorks. Capt. Alfred George William Wright, Lord of the Manor of Bessingby.

Blidworth Dale, Nottingham. Lady Merriel Wright.

Butterly Hall, Derby. Albert Leslie Wright, J.P.

Dublin. Hon. Mr. Justice George Wright.
 Fairmount House, York. Samuel Wright.
 The Glenfall, Cheltenham. Thos. Rowland Drake Wright.
 The Hoillies, Stoney Gate, Leicester. Lady Georgiana Eliza Wright.
 The Hayes, Alfreton. Fitzherbert Wright, J.P.
 Ivy Lodge, Hadenham, Ely. Alfred Edwin Wright, J.P.
 Longstone Hall, Bakewell. Walter Herbert Wright.
 Lower Oak, Tydlesley. Caleb Wright, J.P.
 Mount Hooton House, The Forest, Nottingham. Frederick Wright.
 Portland Place, W. Sir Almroth Edward Wright.
 The Red House, Halstead. Essex. Philip Wright, J.P.
 Shelton Hall, Newark. Francis Vere Wright.
 Saxelbye Park, Melton Mowbray. Charles Wm. Wright.
 Watcombe Park, Torquay. Charles Ichabod Wright.
 Windlestone, Ferry Hill, Durham. George Wright.
 Wootton Court, Warwick. Francis Beresford Wright, J.P.

New England Register, vol. 4, 20, 35, 37 and 40. Phillipp's Visitation of Staffordshire. Foster's Visitation of Durham, 1615. Foster's Visitation of York. Visitations of Middlesex, Derby, Suffolk. Worcester, and Essex. Howard's Visitation of Ireland. Jones' History of Georgia, 1883. vol. 2. Collections of Georgia Historical Society, 1873. Davy's Suffolk Collections. Geneology of Lt. Abel Wright, of Springfield, Mass., by Rev. Stephen Wright, 1881. Ancestral line of Stephen Mott Wright, 1899. The Genealogist, 3, 6. Wright's Essex, 2. Glover's Derbyshire. Berry's Kent Genealogies. Blomefield's Norfolk. Surtee's Society, 36. Omerod's Cheshire. Cheshire Notes. Burke's Commoners, Landed Gentry, and Colonial Gentry, Extinct Baronetcies. Morant's Essex. Harleian Society, 2, 8, 13, 14, 16, 17, 18, 20, 32, 37, 38, 42, 43. Topographer and Genealogist, 11, 79. Shirley's Monaghan, Hall's Nantwich, Antiquities of Myddle. Wm. Salt Society. Bysshe's Visitation of Essex.

PREFACE

MY purpose here is not to discuss family emblems at any great length, but rather to make a few miscellaneous observations appertaining to elementary Heraldry—a first lesson in the science—and if it be communicated to any lover of Heraldry, the labor of the investigation will be amply repaid.

It is well for the student to at once disregard cut and dried rules laid down in many modern text books, for Heraldry is fiction full to the brim, and fools are they who accept “Burke’s General Armory” with the maze of rubbish served up in defunct editions of works on the Peerage and Baronetage as being OFFICIAL.

Again and again have I unearthed fables, fictitious Coats-of-Arms, Crests, and “faked” Pedigrees. For instance, one of several score gems recorded by Burke, and as passed along by his literary mouthpieces, has resulted in a certain Coat-of-Arms BEING ALMOST UNIVERSALLY ADOPTED BY MEMBERS OF THE TRIPP FAMILY (Plate i.). It is given as the Arms of Tripp in Somersetshire, being “depicted on an ancient escutcheon still in the possession of the PRESENT REPRESENTATIVE, which has on it the following inscription :

“This achievement was given unto my Lord Howard’s fifth son, at ye siege of Bollogne, King Henry ye Fifth being there, asked how they took ye town and castle, Howard answered, ‘I tripped up ye walls,’ Saith the King, ‘TRIPP SHALL BE THY NAME, and no longer Howard,’ and HONOURED HIM WITH YE SCALING LADDER FOR HIS BEND.”

Now, the Howard family records may safely be termed **PERFECT**. For centuries they have been **PREMIER EARLS**, and at once the **MOST ILLUSTRIOUS AND REPRESENTATIVE FAMILY IN EUROPE**, yet they possessed no such character as would agree with this Tripp gymnast, whose wondrous performance reads like a cinema plot. What caps the climax however, is the fact that the College of Heralds are **IGNORANT OF THE QUESTION ENTIRELY**.

The beginning of a new era sees the antiquary abroad, building fact upon the sure foundation of fact, and adding daily to the mass of our knowledge of the past of our race. **ARCHITECT** antiquaries are telling every stone of our **ANCIENT HOUSES** and **CHURCHES**; **TOPOGRAPHER**



AS ANCIENTLY BEING



PLATE i.

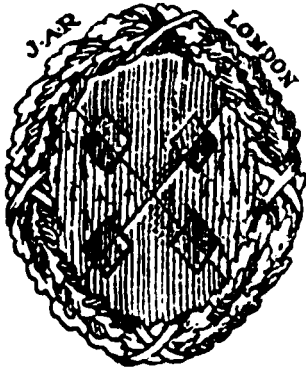


PLATE X.

COUPED, relates to anything cut off straight; **ERASED** being its opposite and showing a jagged edge as though hacked apart by an axe. This latter is illustrated by the seals of Buck of Hartland Abbey (Plate ix.) and Hoghton of Lancaster (Plate iii.)

I submit the foregoing with the truest diffidence, having but touched the highest spots of Heraldry in my race through the subject, and in the hope that it may offer an inducement to others for further study.

antiquaries are writing the HISTORY OF THE LAND to the eighth inch scale; GENEALOGICAL antiquaries are crossing to the main line, the flag is out, and they HEW WITH CRITICAL AXES AMONGST THE STATELY FAMILY TREES UNDER WHOSE SHADE THEIR PREDECESSORS WERE CONTENT TO WALK REVERENTLY.

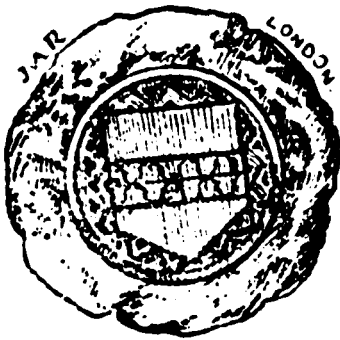


PLATE II.

Heraldry is an INTERESTING STUDY inseperable from both world and family history, for it revives to us the memory of men and things long since buried in the dust of ages and hidden in the almost impenetrable gloom that ever hovers over the path taken by retreating time. It owes its origin rather to stipendiary bands of German soldiers and those Saxons who, after their invasion of Britain, assigned to each principality its own peculiar BADGE. With the intelligence and art of the Normans a new era was opened, and which same gave rise to the CRUSADES, TOURNAMENT, and eventually the regular institution of a COLLEGE OF HERALDS by that princely White Rose champion Richard the Third.



PLATE III.

The first heraldic figure is the SHIELD, and (with the exception of the lozenge used by ladies) it may be shaped in a thousand modes. The charges depicted on it are authentic if they but conform to the description of a grant. Hence "Vert, three flint stones argent," as anciently granted by Clifford to the Flint family, might be designed in such a manner that the stones rather more resembled cut diamonds than the crude flint originally intended, and yet be a good coat.

Likewise, the MANTLING is intended to represent SILK

STUFFS OR DRAPERY flowing about a shield, and it may be placed after that fashion which most pleases the wearer.

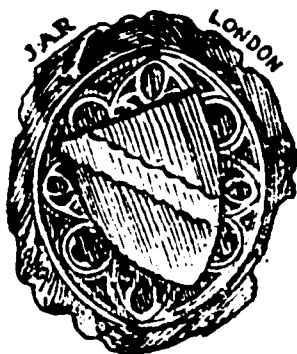


PLATE IV.

MOTTOES seldom form a part of armorial grants, hence, where none appears, THE WEARER MAY TAKE THAT WHICH HE FANCIES.

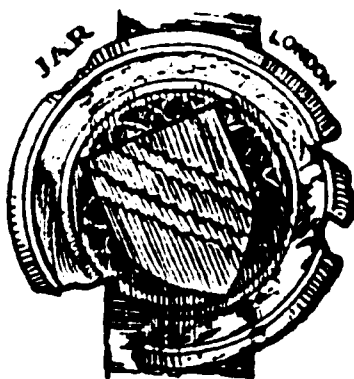


PLATE V.

As to HERALDIC COLORS: Following the beaten path I shall denote them as TWO METALS, and a half dozen or more COLORS, some of which I have not met with in years and leave un-noticed. By "metals" is intended "*or*" (gold); and "*argent*" (silver). "Colors" for red "*gules*"; black "*sable*"; green "*vert*" (termed *SINOPE* in France); blue "*azure*"; and purple "*purp.*"

To these may be added eight furs, namely:

ERMINE: White with black spots (Plate x.)

ERMINOIS: Gold with black spots.

ERMINES: Black with white spots.

VAIR: Colors divided in bell or cup shapes of blue and white, except when other colors are specified for it. A fine example is given in the seal of the Leicester Herricks (Plate ii.)

PEAN: Gold spots on black, and rare as are "*Potent*" (of "T" shaped form); "*COUNTER POTENT*" and "*COUNTER VAIR*" bear their forms and colors opposed to each other, and form with "*Erminites*" a subject for deeper consideration.

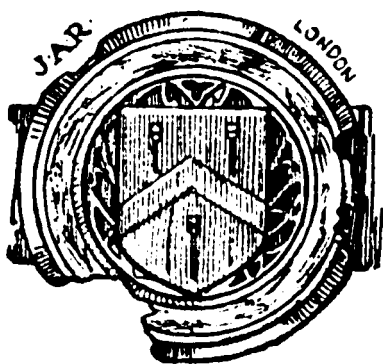


PLATE VI.

In choosing **SERVANTS LIVERIES** the master of a household will adopt the **CHIEF COLOR OF HIS ESCUTCHEON** for the cloth and the **PRINCIPAL METAL** for the trimmings, with the following exceptions: Ermine, Erminites, Ermines and Pean give white liveries, gold is used when erminois is the color, and blue and white for both vair and potent. Hence the term "livery colors."

Bands which cross a shield are of next importance: That on the Hatten Arms (Plate i.) would be termed a "**BEND**" and the illegitimate ladder anciently claimed by Tripp becomes **IN BEND** (Plate i.).

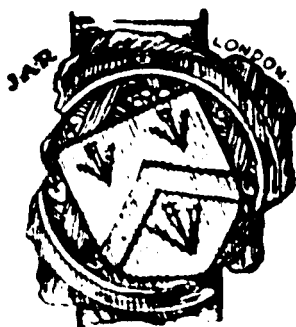


PLATE VII.

The seal of Arthur Hoghton of Kirkham, Lancashire, who died 1596 (Plate iii.) illustrates a fair specimen of **THREE BARS**, whereas if the bars were **NARROWER** we should style them **BARRULETS**. Placed horizontally the band becomes a **FESSE** (Plate ii.); if perpendicular it is a **PALE**. Both "**PER**" and "**IN**" signify *after the style of*, hence an old Rollins seal gives "**THREE SWORDS IN PALE**" (Plate viii.)

And now we come to the **SHAPE** of these bands: If like the teeth of a saw they are "**INDENTED**" and "**DANCETTE**"—the former applying where the points are more numerous. The seal of Sir William de Radclyffe, "The Great William," splendidly illustrates a bend **ENGRAILED** (Plate iv.)—that of his brother Sir John de Radclyffe being differentiated by **TWO BENDS ENGRAILED** (Plate v.)

Whitley bears a **CHEVRON**, a figure very commonly met with (Plate i.) The seal of The Right Honorable

Edward Harvey Hawke (Plate vi.) illustrated it; as did that of Rev. Peter Smart in the 16th century seal given as Plate vii.



PLATE viii.

Judson of Lancaster gives the LOZENGE (Plate x.) a figure of considerable importance in that LADIES ARE SOLELY ENTITLED TO USE A SHIELD WHICH APPROACHES ITS SHAPE. They never regularly graced the splendours of tournament and display instituted by Henry the Eighth and his successors—hence possess absolutely NO RIGHT TO USE A CREST ON THEIR STATIONERY and take solely for that purpose the CHARGE IN THEIR PATERNAL ARMS WITHIN A SHIELD OF THE LOZENGE SHAPE. In the Scholes Arms we get LOZENGY. It also illustrates the CANTON or square (oddly postured in this particular coat on the SINISTER or RIGHT HAND SIDE as we look at the picture (Plate i.) The ANNULET is also shown here and represents a plain ring, whereas if it were a circular DISC of ONE SOLID COLOR it would be variously termed :

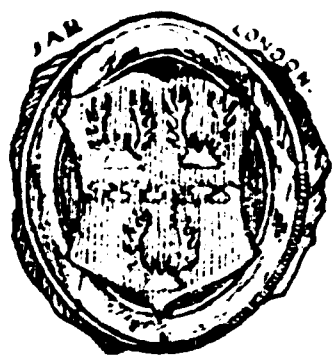


PLATE ix.

A PLATE, when of the silver color.

BEZANT, when gold.

TORTEAU, if red.

HURT, for blue.

PELLET or OGRESS, when black.

POMME, if green, and

GOLPE, if purple, etc.

The Scholes emblem gives us also a good example of the CROSS CROSSLET, in that it has that figure for its CREST, and which only slightly differs from the CROSS CROSSLET FITCHER of the WHITLEY FAMILY, (Crosses runs through the whole gamit of Heraldry and are a most interesting study).