

ART. XXXV.—*St. Mary's Church, Egremont.* By the Rev. Canon Knowles, M.A., St. Bees.

Read at Egremont, August 30th, 1872.

ST. MARY'S Church, Egremont, is one of the most interesting buildings in Cumberland, in spite of the ill usage of the last century. It was originally a church of two equal aisles, separated by fine pillars and arches, fragments of which compose the present chancel arch. The date of its erection cannot be later than 1220; its style is very early English, with a few Normanisms. One of the two west doors now leads into the modern vestry; the other has left traces in the west front. The side windows were simple, with jamb-mouldings. The eaves-course is in parts left to us. The east end, divided equally by the central arches, had two bays of beautiful windows, four of which remain; two of these I have very imperfectly drawn in the accompanying sketch. This fine church is threatened with ruin, or what is worse, with enlargement. Its shell retains fragments from which most of its details might be learnt. The central arches were probably round.

In the churchyard stands an old stone of uncertain age, and set in the top of it is a sepulchral stone of the thirteenth century, upside down, and mutilated.

ART XXXVI.—*The Heraldry of Cumberland and Westmorland.* By Richard S. Ferguson, M.A.

Read at Penrith, August 15th, 1873.

SOME months ago the Harleian Society furnished a most valuable addition to the local history of Cumberland, by publishing, as one of their volumes for 1872, "The Visitation of the County of Cumberland in the year 1615, taken by Richard St. George, Norroy King of Arms." This Visitation was very ably edited for the Society by Mr. John Fetherston,

Fetherston, F.S.A., who tell us it was "comprised in a thin folio book written by Mr. Richard Mundy." This Visitation is not to be found either in the College of Arms, or in the Universities of Oxford or Cambridge, but there is in Harleian MS. 1374, what Mr. Fetherston says, "can scarcely be said "to be a copy, but is merely an ordinary of arms compiled "from the visitations of the four northern counties taken in "this year," *i.e.* 1615.

While this work was at press, there took place the dispersal of the fine old library collected by the Irton^s of Irton Hall, when were scattered to the winds many valuable books and MSS., relating to Cumberland and Westmorland; among others an interleaved copy of the portion of Cox's *Magna Britannia*, which relates to Cumberland; this was purchased by Mrs. Dykes of Dovenby, who (with her accustomed readiness to help antiquarian research) entrusted it to me for examination. It proved to contain many genealogical and heraldic notes, written in the handwriting of John Warburton, Somerset herald in the first half of the last century, an eminent antiquarian and topographer, and an intimate friend of many of the Cumberland squires of his day. Among these notes was a synopsis of a Visitation of Cumberland, giving the arms and crests of fifty-eight local families. It is marked as taken from MS. C. 39, in the College of Arms, and generally coincides with, though occasionally differing from, the information given by Messrs. Lysons in their history of Cumberland; by this it is easily identified as taken from Dugdale's Visitation of Cumberland, in 1664 and 1665.

But there also turned up at the Irton Hall sale, what proved to be another copy of St. George's Visitation of Cumberland in 1615. Like the copy before mentioned, as made by Mr. Richard Mundy, this copy is contained "in a thin folio "volume." It is in the same handwriting as the synopsis of Dugdale's Visitation, the handwriting of John Warburton. It is marked in another hand, "Visitation of Cumberland in "1577," a date which internal evidences shew to be clearly erroneous. It is almost verbatim the same as the copy used by Mr. Fetherston, but has a few trivial differences, and a few more coats of arms tricked, and has some notes by the Squire Irton, who founded the Irton Hall Library, and whose writ of "de. po." or "dedimus potestatem," as a magistrate is also copied into the book. This valuable MS. was, I am happy to say, retained in the County of Cumberland by the pluck of a gentleman to whom this Society is indebted for one or two
very

very valuable papers, and on whose future services it greatly relies, viz., Mr. Jackson, of Fleatham House, St. Bees, to whom I am indebted for its loan.

These two visitations, those of St. George and Dugdale, were conducted with great strictness, and proof required of the pedigrees, and of the right to particular arms: thus Dugdale's entry as to Brougham of Scale is, "no arms entered, being "resped for want of proof." This appears in the synopsis I have mentioned; similar remarks refer to other families. Dugdale had a great idea of his office. After the death of Sir Patricius Curwen, his widow put up in the place where he was buried armorial bearings, which Dugdale considered erroneous: he wrote to her from Carlisle, ordering her to take them down, and threatening himself to come over and pull them down. What was the upshot I know not; my authority is a letter of Lady Curwen to secretary Williamson, complaining of Dugdale's conduct, and preserved in the Record Office among the Williamson correspondence.

Having these materials before me, I had intended to have written a review of Mr. Fetherston's very able edition, but it affords little for review, beyond a due acknowledgment of the editor's care and learning, and I find I have drifted, perhaps wittingly, into the science of heraldry generally, as illustrated by instances drawn from local sources.

Many of the older authorities on heraldry have framed the quaintest and most mystical theories as to the origin and import of the tinctures and charges which distinguish one coat of arms from another. The most far-fetched allegorical meanings and even religious applications are attributed to the various heraldic ordinances, and to the animate or inanimate objects used as charges. Thus, to give an illustration or two, the well-known ordinary the chevron is taken to represent the roof timbers of a house, and therefore its presence in a shield is said to denote "the achieving of some bussinesse of moment, "or the finishing of some chargeable and memorable worke."—*Guillim*. The fess is said to represent the girdle of honour, or of chivalry, and similar significations are invented for all the honourable ordinaries. To the various animals that appear in heraldic combinations, it is easy to attribute, apparently, suitable qualities, such as courage, speed, and strength; but as an example, let us take the lobster, an example of local interest; listen to old *Guillim* on the lobster:—"The lobster "is subtile in acquiring his food, for hee watched the *Escallop*, "Oyster, and other like fishes that are fenced by nature with a
"stronger

“stronger and more defensible Coate than himselfe, to become
“a prey unto him, by observing when they doe open their
“shell either to receive food or ayre, and in the meantime with
“his claws he taketh a stone, and casteth it betweene the
“Shells of the *Oyster*, so as she can neither save herselfe, nor
“annoy her foes; using his wit for a supply of his strength’s
“defect, according to the proverbe, where the Lyon’s skinne
“is too scant, it must be peeced out with a Fox case.” Now
the crest of the old Cumberland family of the Dykeses is a
lobster, and Guillim would therefore, have one believe that it
was assigned to the first Dykes because he was like a lobster,
“subtil in acquiring his food.” I cannot help thinking that
this is vast nonsense, and I think I can shortly give a much
better interpretation to the lobster carried by the Dykeses.

The most sensible theory to adopt, as to heraldry and its
origin, is that of Mr. Planche; he utterly repudiates the
mystical imaginings of Mr. Guillim, and considers the heraldic
ordinaries to have been, originally, merely the metal straps or
bands used to strengthen the wooden shields of early days.
He further writes, that “all arms were originally canting or
“allusive (that is alluding to name, estate, or profession of
“bearer) except those bearing the honourable ordinaries,
“which were merely (as just mentioned) the ornamental
“strengthenings of the shields.” Now-a-days the cant or
allusion in a coat of arms has often disappeared—disappeared
long ago, in days when surnames were by no means fixed, and
a man was better known by his coat armoury than by any here-
ditary appellation. Such disappearance has been much helped
by “differences and marks of candency,” introduced into shields
for the purpose of distinguishing between several branches
of the same family; by marriages of heiresses, when the
paternal coat of the lady was often assumed by the husband, or
incorporated with his paternal coat of arms; and by honourable
augmentations, granted or assumed in commemoration of
various exploits. I will now endeavour to illustrate Mr.
Planche’s remarks by instances drawn from local sources, and
will commence with a class in which the cant or allusion is very
prominent, that of *Armes Parlantes*, in which the charges on
a coat form a pun on the name of its bearer.

Armes Parlantes.—One of the most obvious local examples
of these pictured puns is the coat of the family of the De Lucys,
lords of Cockermouth, who bore on a red shield three silver
lucies (or pikes) haurient. The lucy, pike, or jack, is also
carried by one of the local families of Jackson. That of
Hasell

Hasell of Dalemain is equally so, for he beareth three hazel nuts; Featherstonhaugh beareth three feathers; Cowdnoll of Cumberland (tricked in St. George's Visitation) three cow's heads affrontee; Towers of Lowick three gold towers on a bend gules across a silver shield; Towry of Croglin a tower; and Troutbeck of Troutbeck three trouts entwined. Swinburne of Hughthwaite in Cumberland (now extinct in the county) bore three silver boar's (or swine's) head on a red shield, semée of silver cross-crosslets, a most noteworthy coat in other respects. The great family of Chambre, of Holm Cultram, and Wolsty Castle, which in the persons of three brothers, supplied abbots to the Abbey of Holm Cultram, Furness, and Peterborough, has for crest, a boar passant muzzled, lined, collared, and chained, pretty thoroughly chained; Chambre, *chained boar*; the pun is only fit for a modern burlesque, and the Abbot of Holm Cultram was probably dissatisfied with it, for he choose for his rebus a *chained bear*, a triflingly better pun. Barwis of Ilekirk puts three bears' heads on his shield; Sykes bears three sykes or fountains, which are indicated by three roundlets barry-wavy, argent and vert; Dalston, three daws' heads; Jackson, (tricked by St. George) three jackdaws' heads; while Oliphant displays an elephant, to denote (so says Guillim) his strength, art, and ambition. Askew, once of Holm Cultram, then of Greymains and Lacra, and now of Coniston and Glenridding, pluckily bears three asses; while Armstrong bears three strong arms, that is, three dexter arms, vambraced and proper. "Well do these arms, thus fenced, agree with the name of the "bearer," saith old Guillim. One more example; Eglesfield of Cumberland, who founded Eglesfield Abbey, and Queen's College, Oxford bore three eagles in the field. His name, by an atrocious French pun, is capable of being converted into the French for a needle and thread: in commemoration of his memory, each member of Queen's used formerly, on Founder's day, to be presented with a threaded needle, and admonished at the same time in the words, "Take this and "be thrifty."

Arms of Conceit.—Connected closely with "armes parlantes" are what have been called "arms of conceit." Thus in St. George's Visitation of Cumberland, we have tricked, the arms of the family of Bigland. Bigland beareth azure two ears of *big wheat* in fess, stalked and bladed gold. An old-fashioned herald would call it "a right merry conceit, that "Biglands should bear big wheat." The chevron in the coat
amourie

armourie of the Featherstonehaughs may, from its shape, allude to the "stone" or hill in their name, thus giving in their coat armourie of a chevron between three feathers a double allusion to the name; Cowdnoll of Cumberland (tricked by St. George) is a perfect example of this class, for he bore a chevron (or knoll) between three cows' heads affrontee. Sandis of St. Bees carries a fess dancette; this may be an allusion to the sandhills from which they took their name, or to the cliffs of St. Bees. Stanwix of Stanwix, a family that undoubtedly took their name from their residence, also displayed a dancette: is it too much to fancy that the dancette means Stanwix brow, and the high ground over Eden? Again, Chambre of Wolsty and Holm Cultram bears a chevron between three trefoils; may not this allude to the sandhills at Wolsty and Silloth, and to the little three-leaved trefoil that grows there? Allonby of Allonby, another place of sandhills, bore (see St. George) a chevron engrailed.*

To this class I think we can refer the arms of the Dykeses. The lobster of the Dykeses has been said by some writers on heraldry to be a crayfish, but there are few crayfish in Cumberland, and the Dykeses are pure Cumberland "autochthones," sprung from Dykesfield by Burgh on the Roman wall, a place where the dark marsh cinquefoil abounds, and thus they bear on a golden field, three sable cinquefoils, while their lobster, vert green or proper, *i.e.*, in his natural colours, is a genuine autochthone of the Solway, near Dykesfield, their birth-place.

A very singular conceit, of local interest, is pointed out by Mr. Planche in the arms of Vipont, barons of Westmorland. In the Glover's Roll he appears as Monsieur VI *pointe* porte d'or a VI. annulets, gules, thus symbolizing his name by VI pointes. By the way these annulets or rings are said to be rings of chain armour. In the Roll of Henry III., however, they are not blazoned as annulets, but as false or voided roundels "John de Vipount de goules a six 'faux rondlets d'or.'" The roundlets or round spots on a shield arose probably from the metal heads of the nails used to hold its component boards together. If Vipont painted his wooden shield all over red, nailheads and all, the action of the metal and wood would soon produce a discoloured ring round each nail head, forming false or voided roundlets. Thus the rings on the Lowther and Musgrave arms are probably but the traces of nail heads, used to clamp together the wooden boards of which early shields were made.

* Hewit of Burgh bore three owls: can the "too whit" of the nocturnal bird be an allusion to the name?

Arms of Office or Estate.—Let us now look for the “cant or allusion” in a different class of arms, in arms of office or estate. Of this class we have in Cumberland two very clear examples. Ponsonby bears gules a chevron or between three combs argent, and the founder of the family at Ponsonby is said, by Sir Bernard Burke, to have been barber to the king of England. I don’t suppose the first Ponsonby dealt in easy shaves for a penny, but the barber of that day was, like the barber of to-day in the East, a great and important man, and the founder of the Ponsonbys was probably chief surgeon to the King, and rewarded for his skill by a grant of lands in Cumberland. Forrester or Forster of Stanegarthsides in Cumberland beareth argent on a chevron vert (or green), between three bugles sable, stringed or, an escallop of the field. This family was, it is believed, the hereditary foresters of the great forest of Liddell Barony, now Nichol Forest. It is a most suggestive coat of arms,—the green chevron or hill, and the black bugles with their gold chords,—one can almost fancy Hob Forrester of Stanegarthsides (who lies buried in Stapleton Church) standing on a green knoll, and sounding a morte over the death of some grand antlered monarch of the forest, whom the Baron of Liddell had just hunted down.

William de Hoton, “forestarius regis de landa et custos “Haia de Plumpton,” an office made hereditary in his family, took a bugle-horn for his coat of arms (2 Burn and Nicolson, 389). The family of Hoton, or Hutton, subsequently bore in a silver shield a fess charged with three stags cabooshed, probably an allusion to the forestership. D’ Estrivers, lord of Burgh barony, and hereditary forester of Inglewood, bore three bears, and Burn and Nicolson (vol. 2, p. 383) conjecture that he assumed the bears as an allusion to his forestership.

To this class we may perhaps refer the parrot, or, to speak more heraldically, the popinjay, carried by Senhouse. The first to bear that charge may have been as good an archer “as ever drew bow in the jolly green wood,” the hero, victor, or chief official at the local wappen schaws, whereat the mark for test of archer’s skill was a popinjay, or wooden bird gaily painted to look like a parrot. Other local instances of this class of arms may perhaps be found. The fret, so commonly borne by Cumberland and Furness families, is said by some heralds to represent a net, and to denote the bearers to have been fishermen. Nearly all the local bearers of this charge come, curiously enough, from one district, and that a district
where

where sea and river fishing is valuable. Other heralds, however, say the fret is merely the interlacing of the strengthening bands on the wooden shields. Of course care should be taken not to carry conjecture too far: we must not conclude that the Porters of Wreay Hall were parish clerks, because they bear three church bells; were the bells hawks' bells, the first Porter to assume them might have been a falconer.

Loss of Cant or Allusion.—Having now, from local examples, illustrated Mr. Planche's theory of the "cant or allusion" in coats of arms, let us consider how it is that we cannot now read such "cant or allusion" in all coats of arms. That a family should have a permanent surname is a very modern invention, not at this day seventy years old in some parts of Great Britain. In early Cumberland and Westmorland history surnames were by no means fixed: the grantee of an estate became known by its name; away then went his earlier name, and away went any canting allusion in his coat armoury to that name. A change in a man's office or estate would frequently obscure the cant or allusion in his coat armoury. The Ponsonbys are no longer barber-surgeons, nor are the Forsters foresters, and tradition alone tells us the meaning of the combs and bugles borne on their respective shields. Could we unravel the early history of the Briscoes, the Whelpdales, and the Patricksons, who all bear three greyhounds, we might find them to have been the huntsmen of the great local forests: the gauntlets displayed by Vane, the steel caps by Lutwidge, and the spur rowels by Crackenthorpe, may indicate, that the early Vanes, Lutwidges, and Crackenthorpes, were squires of the body to some great steel-clad knight, or possibly, like Harry the Glover, of great repute as armourers. Fletchers may have been great smiths ere they became merchants, and thus have assumed the spear heads in their coat armoury. Warcop and Christian, both of whom bear cups on their shields, may have been cupbearers to some high baron or earl. Gaskarth of Hill Top was probably an archer, for he beareth three arrows. The wool-packs in the arms of Johnson of Castlesteads may point to wool-stapling, once England's most important trade, or to high judicial office, assuming an early Johnson to have sat on his wool-packs, instead of exporting them. Change of name and change of office, and lapse of time have deprived us too often of the keys to the riddles our local coat armoury presents to us. Other causes, too, have operated, by introducing additional charged into shields, to complicate them, and thus obliterate the "cant or allusion" they once certainly contained.

Marks

Marks of Cadency, a Cause.—One of these causes is the practice of introducing into shields differences, in order to distinguish between the various branches of the same family. Books on heraldry lay down very precise and pedantic rules as to how this is to be done, by the use of files or labels, martlets, crescents, &c., rules which no one ever observes. The earlier heralds cared little for such rules, though we do find Multon of Gilsland bearing a file or label to distinguish him from Multon of Egremont; they differenced shields in a much more artistic manner, of which Cumberland gives some fine examples. Take Swinburne of Hughthwaite in Cumberland: in the Glover's roll Adam de Swineburne beareth on a red shield three silver boars' heads. A younger Swineburne of the same family settled in Cumberland: he did not difference the family coat by sticking thereon a martlet or a crescent, but he powdered his red shield with little silver cross-crosslets to make a distinction between his coat and that of the elder branch of the family. The Windsor, who settled at Farlam in Cumberland adopted a precisely similar device to denote that he was the younger branch of his family, except that he used cross-crosslets of gold. In the south of England the De Trumpingtons did the same, and we may generally be correct in taking the cross-crosslets to denote the younger branch of a family. If, then, we look at the cross-crosslets in the arms of the Howards of Norfolk, of Naworth, and of Corby, we read, as clear as in print, that wherever the eldest branch of the Howard family is now to be found, these noble families are all but younger branches.

The De Lucys (Glover's Roll) differenced by changing their lucies from argent to or, and by powdering the field with crosslets, first of silver, and afterwards of gold. The Vauxs afford another instructive instance of how the early heralds differenced coats of arms. Vaux of Gilsland bore a shield chequered red and gold, and the red and gold chequers of the great baron of Gilsland must have been well known, and inseparably associated with the name of Vaux. From the same stock sprang other local families of Vaux, inferior in dignity and wealth to the great Baron of Gilsland. These families did not bear the red and gold chequers of the great baron, differenced by martlets and crescents. They adopted another plan. Vaux of Catterlen assumed a golden shield, and put a fess, a broad stripe, of the red and gold chequers across it, while Vaux of Tryermain, according to Lysons, displayed a red and gold chequered bend across a green shield. Vaux of Corby (tricked by St. George) bore on a silver shield
a bend

a bend of the family colours. Vaux of Catterlen, put also on his shield, just mentioned, three garbs. Vaux of Torcrossock took the same shield, but with with six garbs. No one from their respective coat armoury could take Vaux of Tryermain, of Catterlen, or of Corby for the well-known baron of Gilsland; yet no one could fail to read on their coat-armoury that they claimed to be nearly connected with him. Richmond of High-head Castle we know to have married an heiress of one of these families of Vaux, and to have thereon added the red and gold chequers to his armorial bearings. When, then, we find Leigh of Isel bearing a red and gold chequered bend over his azure and silver shield, we may be sure that, in some way, probably by marriage, he claimed connection with the Vaux. Thus we have in Cumberland a "group of arms" charged, more or less, with gold and red chequers.*

To this important subject of grouped arms we shall recur.

Cumberland affords other instances of the way in which the older heralds differenced coats of arms: thus Lowther of Cockermouth and Fletcher of Tallantire Hall placed over the arms of the respective heads of their houses a bend gules. Dykes of Wartholl (see St. George's visitation) varies his paternal coat by the addition of a fess vair gules and ermine. The two families of Denton bear the same arms, but one has three martlets in chief, and the other three cinquefoils, pointing possibly to a third and lost, but elder branch, not unlikely to be found in their neighbours the Multons of Gilsland, both Dentons and Multons displaying silver shields charged with red bars, as do the Martindales, and the Muncasters or Mulcasters, who may have a connection with the Multons of Egremont, and most certainly with one another. Each bears a bend over the red and silver Multon shield, Martindale a bend of sable, and Muncaster or Mulcaster of azure. Skelton of Armathwaite and Skelton of High House each bore three gold fleur-de-lis on a blue shield, but the first put across it a silver fess charged with a Cornish chough, while the second had its fess red, but

* St. George gives the arms of Vaulx thus. "Quarterly of four—1. Or, a fess chequy gules and of the field betwixt three garbs of the second, (Vaulx of Caterlyn). 2. Gules, a fess chequy of the field and or, betwixt six garbs of the last (Vaulx of Caterlyn). 3. Argent, a bend counter compone or and gules, (Vaulx of Tredermayne, in Comberland.) 4. Vert, a cross moline or, (Delamore of Comb'land)."

This is a very instructive composition: we see three younger branches of the great house of Vaux each selecting a different colour for their shields, gold, red, and silver, but each putting prominently across them the red and gold chequers. The bearers of the first and second quartered shields are evidently more nearly allied to one another, than to the bearer of the third.

N.B.—The second quartered shield is generally assigned to Vaulx of Torcrossock.

edged

edged with silver. Again Kirkbride of Cumberland bore on a silver shield a cross engrailed vert, while Kirkbride of Northumberland differenced by turning the cross into a saltire. A Sir Edmon de Acre or Dacre differenced the family arms, gules three escallops silver, by having the field semeé of trefoils or, (see Roll Edward II.); in the same roll Thomas de Pickering differenced the family arms, argent a lion rampant sable,* by putting them within a bordure gules bezantee. The blue and gold chequered shield of the De Cliffords, Earls of Westmorland, is found differenced by a red bend, or a red fess across it.

At Dugdale's visitation in 1665, the Senhouses of Alnebrough and of Seascales bore the same coat without difference; so did the Patricksons of Caswell and those of Stockhow. Curwens of Workington and Curwens of Camerton differenced according to modern practice by a crescent added to the arms of those of Camerton. This was, however, in comparatively modern times. The various branches of the Featherstonhaughs all bear different, but very similar arms, and the oldest branch has the simplest. This is an invariable rule; the simpler coat denotes the older branch. The Scottish heralds differenced in the same manner, as we have shown the earlier practice in Cumberland was, and the various arms bore by the branches of the Stuarts illustrate this well. Another Scottish instance may be found in my own family; the various Ferguson coat of arms, carried by different branches of the name, vary widely; but if arranged side by side, it is at once apparent they all came from some common origin.

A very beautiful local instance of this method of differing coats of arms is to be found in I. Burn and Nicolson, 183. There is set out a grant by the then Clarencieux, king of arms, to Rowland and Miles Philipson, alias Therlwall, of a difference to the arms of Miles the younger brother, viz., a border of gold round the family arms: to each brother is granted the same crest, five ostrich feathers, but in Rowland's case three of the feathers are to be argent and two gules, and in the case of Miles two argent and three gules.

Marriage, a Cause.—Marriage, too, tended to obliterate the original meaning of the charges on a coat of arms. Sometimes the gentlemen took the lady's name, or the name of her estate, or a part or whole of her paternal coat of arms. Thus when Wharton of Wharton married the heiress of Hastings of Croglin in Cumberland, he took, not the lady's name, but her paternal coat of arms, viz., a maunche argent in a sable field, and (as his own coat was a saltire of lion's paw on a

* The tinctures are given differently in Lyson's.

golden

golden field) he encircled the lady's arms with a border of gold, charged with lion's paws in saltire; in fact framing the Hastings shield in his own. Such combinations as this would tend greatly to obscure the original cant or allusion in a coat of arms. We may sometimes make a bold guess, and read a coat of arms backwards: may not the Porters of Bolton in Cumberland owe their church bells to an alliance with the Bells of that place, who, probably, like the Scotch family of that name, bore the canting charge of church bells. The very singular shield borne by Browne of Tallentire, viz., argent three martlets in pale sable, between two flaunches of the second, each charged with a lion passant of the first, must point to an alliance between the Brownes and some family, who bore a silver lion or lions on a black field.*

Augmentation for Honour, another cause.—There is yet another mode in which coats of arms became complicated, and the tale they originally told obscured, that is, by augmentations granted or assumed in commemoration of some distinguished exploit. We can find local instances of this: the Howards carry, charged on a bend, the arms of Scotland as an honourable augmentation in commemoration of the services of an ancestor at Flodden Field. Among the heraldic records dispersed at Irton was the copy of a grant of an honourable augmentation made to a Cumberland man. This is now in the possession of Mr. Jackson of Fleatham House, St. Bees, who kindly lent it to me. The grant is made by William Fowler, Norroy King of Arms, tempore Queen Elizabeth, to "William Towerson, citizen and merchant, of London, as "well adventurer of the Societies of Moscovie, Spaine, Portin-
"gall, and ye East Parts a younger brother of the Towersons of
"Coupland, in the countie of Cumberland." In quaint language the deed recites Mr. Towerson's voyages to the African Coast; his fights there with the Portingalls and Negroes, near the Castle of the Mine,† and his naval engagements with the

* From Cooke's Visitation of London in 1568, I find, since I wrote the above paper, that Thomas le Taylor de Carleill, in Com. Cumb'land, who married an Aglionby, bore sable a lion passant argent. There is, then, most probably some connection between the Le Taylors, who settled in London afterwards, and the Brownes of Tallentire.

† The Castle of the Mine is now the notorious Elmina. It was a Portuguese trading port; and Towerson made two or three voyages to its neighbourhood, when the Portuguese tried to prevent his trading with the natives, but in vain. The family of Towerson still flourishes in Copeland district, and is very common in the St. Bees register, as far back as its commencement in 1538. These is in that register, the entry of the marriage of Maria Towerson to an Edmund Spencer, whom some have conjectured to be the poet himself. Towerson's voyages are fully set forth in Hakluyt. The famous navigator, John Hawkins, father of the slave trade, had granted him by Queen Elizabeth for crest, 'a negro bound with a rope all proper.'—An honourable augmentation!!!

French,

French, Portingall, and Spanish Ships, and proceeds to grant him the right to add to his own arms (which were gules a fess between three boars' heads coupé ermine) "for an apt significant declaration of his said voyages and navigations on a canton argent, a shippe sable, with all the equipage and furniture." It also gave him for a crest "a negro in proper colours prepared for the contest."

The boar carried by Gilpin is said to have been granted to the founder of that family as an honourable augmentation, because he slew a mighty beast of that kind, that was ravaging Westmorland. The grant is said to have been made by one of the barons of Kendal. 1. Burn and Nicolson, 136.

Power of a Subject to Grant Augmentations for Honour.—Leaving now my illustrations from local examples of Mr. Planche's thesis, with which I commenced, I would draw attention to a few more noteworthy points in our local heraldry. To continue the subject of honourable augmentations to a coat of arms, we find that in one important instance such were granted not by the Crown, but by a subject, by the Baron of Graystock, under the following circumstances:—Adam Blencowe served in the French wars under the baronial banner of William Baron of Graystock, and Lord of Morpeth; he carried that banner at Cressy and Poitiers, and was rewarded by the following grant—"To all to whom these presents shall come to be seen, or heard, William Baron of Graystock, Lord of Morpeth wisheth health in the Lord. Know ye, that I have given and granted to Adam de Blencowe an escutcheon sable with a bend clossetted or barred argent and azure with three chaplets gules and with a crest clossetted argent and azure of arms to have and to hold to the said Adam and his heirs for ever. And I and my heirs will warrant to the said Adam and his heirs the arms aforesaid. In witness whereof I have to these letters patent set my seal. Written at the Castle of Morpeth, the 26th day of February in the 30th year of the reign of King Edward the Third after the conquest." The Baron of Graystock's arms were three chaplets of red roses on a silver and blue field, and he granted to Adam de Blencowe the right to bear on a sable shield a bend of silver and blue charged with three chaplets of red roses; Blencowe's arms might be blazoned as sable a bend of Graystock.* Mr.

* Over the door at Blencowe Hall are some shields of arms; the lower one is the old arms of the Blencowes: above it are two shields, probably of families with whom the Blencowes intermarried, and above all is a shield defaced, apparently purposely defaced. It has been suggested, and with great reason, by the Rev. T. Lec- of Wreay

West

West, in his *Antiquities of Furness*, writes of the grant :—
“ This helps to explain the analogy that appears in the arms
“ of many ancient families. Some probably borrowed their
“ court-armourie from the lords of whom they held their lands
“ in fee : others assumed the arms of those families with whom
“ they were connected in blood or allied by marriage ; and
“ many received arms from those to whom they were most
“ devoted.” Mr. West is also the originator of the phrase, I
have so often employed, of “ Grouped Arms.”

Let us now see how many groups we can find in Cumberland
and Westmorland.

1. The Vaux or barony of Gilsland group ; several families
of the name of Vaux, the Richmonds, and the Leighs all carry
the red and gold chequered of Vaux.

2. The Multon group, comprising Multons of Gilsland and
of Egremont, two families of Denton, Martindale, Mulcaster,
or Muncaster, Derwentwater, and Awsthwaite, all of whom
had red and silver barred shields

3. A barony of Graystock group: the first baron bore
three cushions on his shield, Redman bore gules three cushions
ermine, and Hutton gules three cushions argent.

4. A second barony of Graystock group,—the Graystock
Blencowe group already discussed.

5. A third barony of Graystock group,—I find Dacre,
baron of Graystock, bearing gules three escallops argent.
Layton of Dalemain, his neighbour, bears sable a bend of
Dacre counterchanged. Layton could not add to his sable
shield a bend of Dacre without counterchanging the colours,
or else he would get colour charged on colour, false heraldry.
Now the Laytons held the manor of Dalemain of the great
barony of Graystock, and thus no doubt assumed, or had
granted them, the Dacre bend. Bouche of Cockermonth
bore also silver escallops, five on a sable shield: St. George
tricks Genton as bearing three and a silver chevron on a red
field; and Fallowfield has three of gold on a black shield.
Strickland of Westmorland bore on a black shield three silver
escallops within a bordure.

that it was defaced by some heraldic authority, possibly by Dugdale during his *Visitation*. Dugdale would have little reverence for a coat of arms which was not granted by the Crown. In the synopsis I have before mentioned the arms of Blencowe are given as gules a bend argent, probably a clerical error for a canton argent, (the list being written in technical contractions) the old arms of Blencowe. It is thus evident that Dugdale had investigated the arms of Blencowe, and that he had ignored those granted by the baron of Graystock. This adds to the probability of his defacing them at Blencowe Hall, at which he would doubtless call during his *Visitation*.

PP

6. A barony

6. A barony of Cockermouth group; Brougham bears the same arms as Lucy baron of Cockermouth, but with the addition of a chevron; so does Binham, as tricked in St. George's Visitation of Cumberland.

5. A Millom barony group: Huddlestons, baronial lords of Millom, bore gules, a fret of six pieces, argent. The following Cumberland or Furness families bore a fret of six pieces: Le Fleming of Rydal, gules, a fret argent; Audley, gules, a fret or; Blunston, argent, a fret gules; Harrington, sable, a fret argent; Maltravers, sable, a fret or; Salkeld, vert, a fret argent; Vernon, argent, a fret sable. Of the following the coats are fretty, Bella, Cansfield, Curwen, Craunford, Hamelden, Ireby, Lewthwaite, Thornborough, Thwaites, Tunstell, and Willoughby. Nearly all these families came from the neighbourhood of Millom, either from Furness or West Cumberland.

8. A barony of Burgh group: the Engaynes barons of Burgh, bore a dancette, I believe, though I cannot just now find the authority; so did Stanwix, Sandis, and Southaik.*

9. A Kendal group: The Lancasters, the ancient barons of Kendal gave argent two bars gules, on a canton of the second a lion passant guardant or. The following list comes from West's Furness:—Broughton of Broughton, the same arms but the canton charged with a cross or. Bardsey of Bardsey the same, but the canton charge with a maunch argent. Preston of Preston Patrick the same, on the canton a cinquefoil or. Kirkby of Kirkby the same, on the canton a cross moline or. Lovick of Lovick the same, but, instead of the canton, on a chief argent three mullets gules. Mr. West writes, "these were the ancient and honourable Furness families, who by their arms claimed connection and alliance with the barons of Kendal. Martindale and Mulcaster may belong to this group rather than No. 2. Copeland also bore argent two bars and a canton gules, over all a garter sable; see I. Burn and and Nicolson p. 121, but S. George, instead of the garter, gives a bend sable.

10. A De Meschines or Earl of Cumberland group: De Meschines, Earl of Carlisle or Cumberland, bore a lion rampant; so did the local families of Warwick, Halton, Orton, Bird, Fairfax, Dudley, Pickering, and Leyburn.

11. A second Earl of Carlisle or Cumberland group: Harcla, Earl of Carlisle bore a cross; so did Fletcher, Moresby,

* The Beaumonts (see English Baronetage 1741, vol. 5, p. 399) among their 42 quarterings quarter Engayne, a fess indented between six cross-crosslets.

Orfeur, Kirkbride, Bouche, Ellis of Bothel (tricked by St. George) and Thwaites.*

12. A third Earl of Carlisle group: Hay, Earl of Carlisle, bore three escutcheons; so did Hodgson, as tricked by St. George.

13. An Earl of Westmorland group: Vipont bore or six annulets gules; Lowther or six annulets sable; Musgrave azure, six annulets or; Hellebeck of Westmorland gules six annulets or, with a bordure engrailed argent.

In Jefferson's Leath Ward is the following note, p. 112:—

“A seal of one member of this family (Vetriponde) bore 13 annulets, 4, 4, 3, and 2, and another 9 annulets, 3, 3, 2, and 1. The seal of John de Veteriponte, who died about 1241, bore on a knight's shield and on the trappings of his horse annulets; hence says the Countess of Pembroke's MS. the gentry in Westmorland who held under this family generally also bore annulets, differing in number and colour.”

14. Carlisle of Carlisle, Lamplugh, and Delamore of Cumberland, and Upton of Westmorland, all bore a cross moline. This group may be merely a variety of No. 11.†

15. Brisco, Whelpdale, Patrickson, Machel, and Matholl, (see St. George) all bore greyhounds: this class is, however, probably, a class of arms of office.

Thus then we find our local coat armourie dividing into several groups, some of which may be merely my guess work, though others cannot be doubted, and are supported by historical evidence. It is curious, though but what might have been expected, that (with the exception of the last two groups) the head of each is a baron or earl. That these groups are not mere chance similarities is shown by the fact that they do not include the families that have only been in Cumberland or Westmorland since Queen Elizabeth's time. The arms of the Howards, Wyndhams, Lawsons, Hasells, and Fetherstonehaughs find no place for them in these groups; they are composed solely of families of much older local date. Lysons gives a list of 40 families extinct in Cumberland before 1500; their coat armouries are not known, but were they, they would probably sort into their places in the groups we have just enumerated, or even form new ones, for we do not know the arms of many of the early local barons.

* Thwaites and Bouche figure also in other groups: that is to be expected; a man might well be connected with one baron, and serve another, and wished to mark both these circumstances on his coat armoury.

† The old seal of the Corporation of Carlisle bore on its reverse a cross, apparently moline, between four roses. Can this be referred to the same origin, and be connected with the authority of the Harclas in Carlisle in early days? More than one Harcla was governor of Carlisle.

This result is a very curious and suggestive one, especially if we couple it with the fact that other local families of coeval local date with the grouped ones may be shown, like the Swinburnes and Windsors, to be younger branches of families from a distance, having their own coats, or like the Ponsonbys and Forresters, to be bearers of arms of office.

Mr. Boutell in his *Heraldry Historical and Popular*, observes that the garbs, borne in the arms of the earls of Chester, are apparent in the greater number of the shields of the nobility and gentry of the County Palatine of Chester. This observation supports what this paper endeavours to prove. I should like to see an investigation, similiar to what I have attempted for Cumberland and Westmorland, carried out for other counties.

ILLUSTRATIONS.

These Illustrations are merely rude attempts to show the groups more clearly than can be done by a description alone.

PLATE I.

1, Old Wharton; 3, Hastings; 2, New Wharton after marriage with Hastings; the remaining shields on this plate and on plate 1. (bis) show local examples of differencing, 4, Lowther; 5, Lowther of Cockermouth; 6, Kirkbride of Cumberland; 9, Kirkbride of Northumberland; 7, Fletcher; 8, Fletcher of Talantire; 10, Dykes; 11, Dykes of Wartholl; [12, is Sykes but the chevron is omitted]; on plate 1. (bis) 1, is Swinburne; 4, Swinburne of Hughwaite; 2, Dacre; 5, Sir Edmon de Acre; 3, Windsor; 6, Windsor of Farlam; 7, 8, 10, and 11, shew successive stages of the Howard coat of arms; 9, is Skelton of Armathwaite; and 12, Skelton of High House.

PLATE 2.

Group I.—1, Vaux of Gilsland; 2, Vaux of Tryermain; 3, Vaux of Catterlen; 4, Vaux of Torcrossock; 5, Vaux of Corby; 6, Leigh; 7, Richmond.

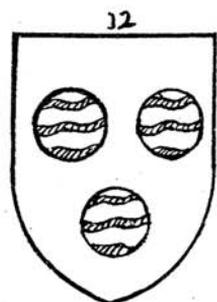
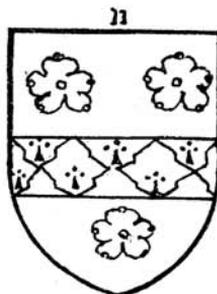
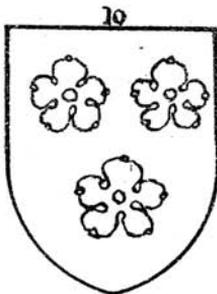
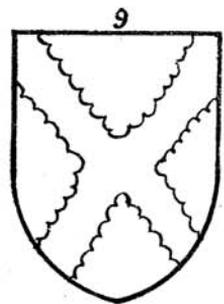
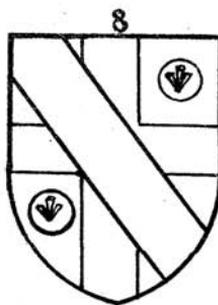
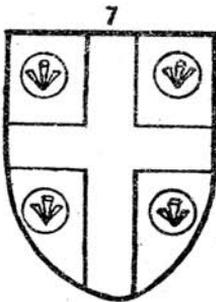
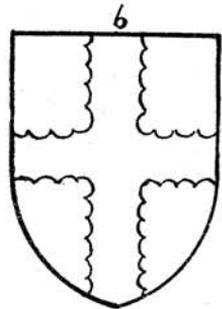
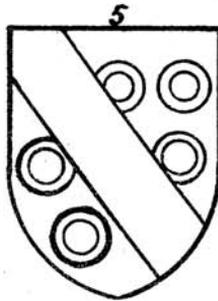
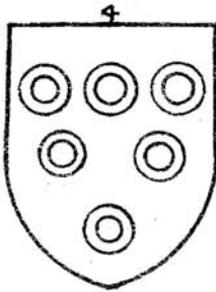
Group III.—1, First baron of Graystock; 2, Redman; 3, Hutton.

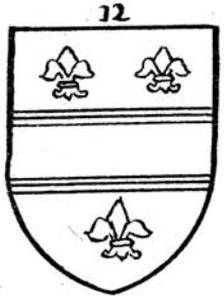
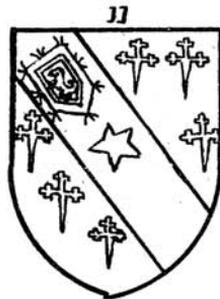
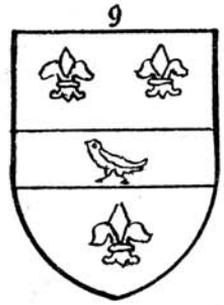
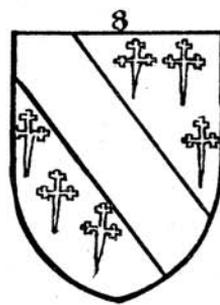
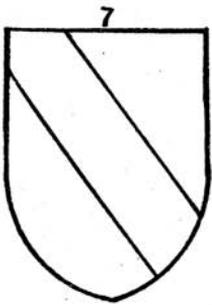
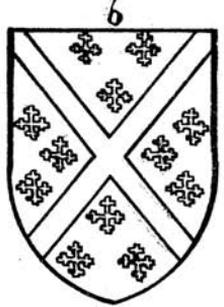
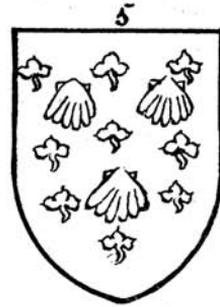
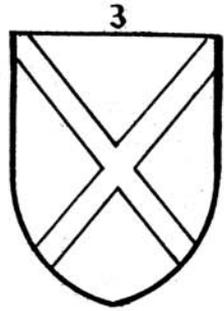
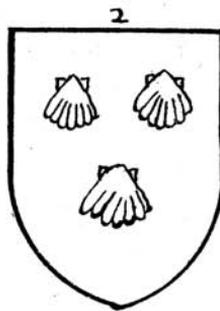
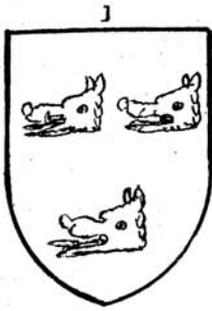
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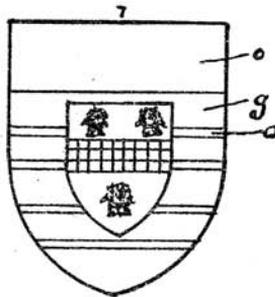
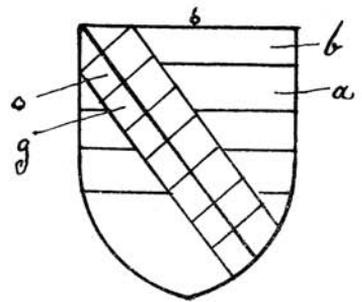
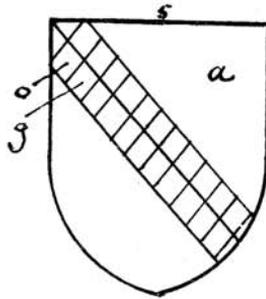
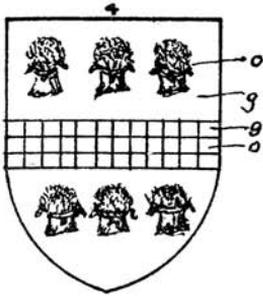
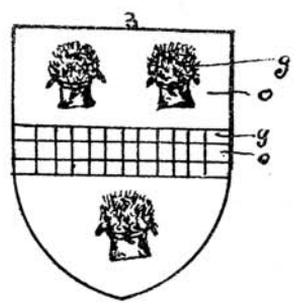
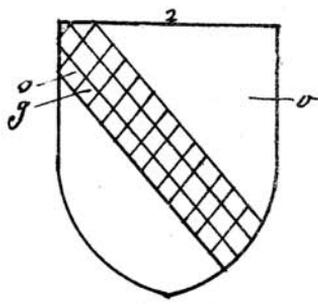
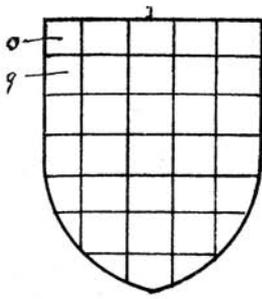
Group II.—1, Multon of Gilsland; 2, Multon of Egremont; 3, Denton of Denton; 4, Martindale; 5, Mulcaster; 6, Awsthwaite; No. 7, Derwentwater; 8, Denton of Cardew.

Group IV.—1, Graystock; 2, Blencowe.

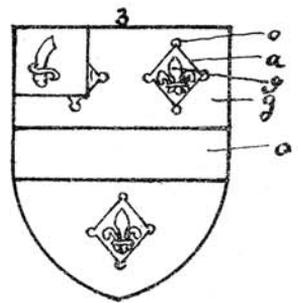
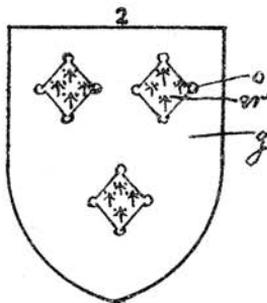
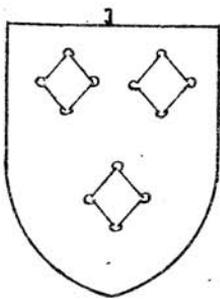
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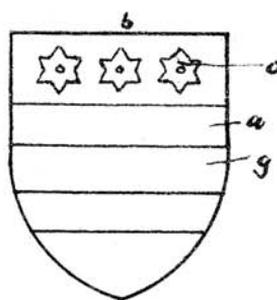
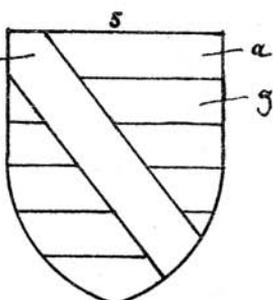
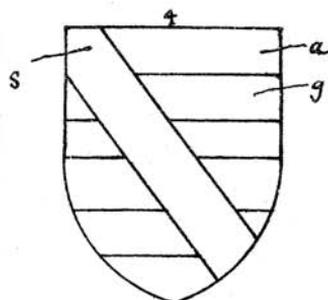
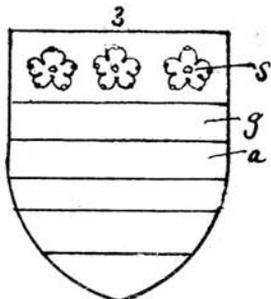
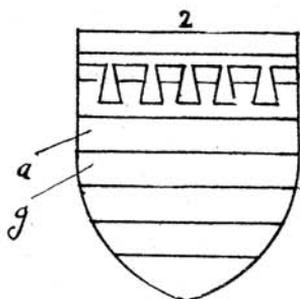
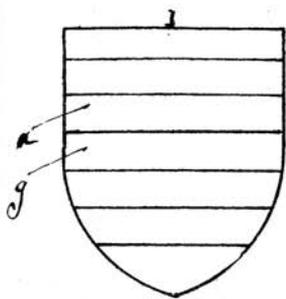


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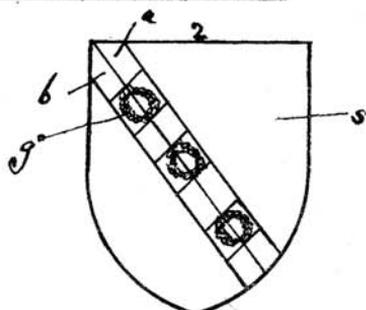
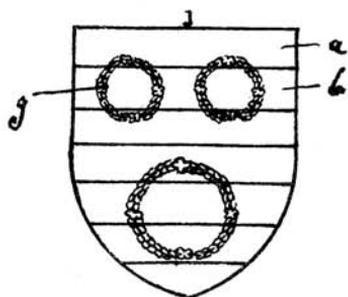
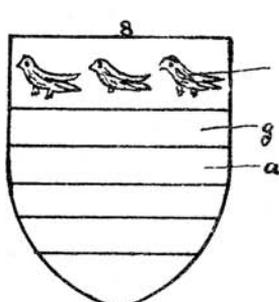
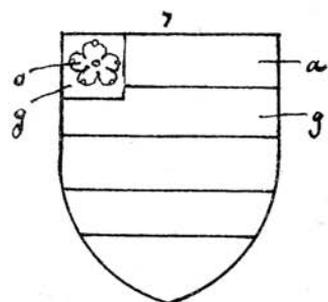


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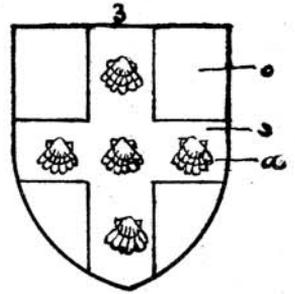
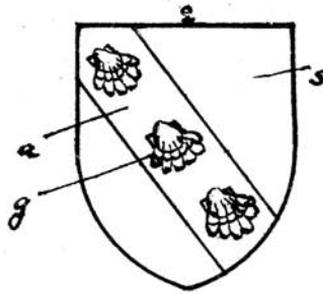
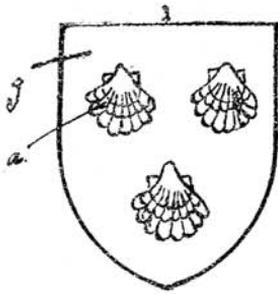
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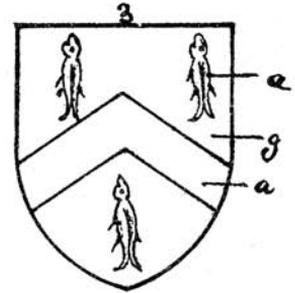
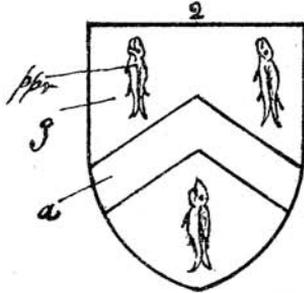
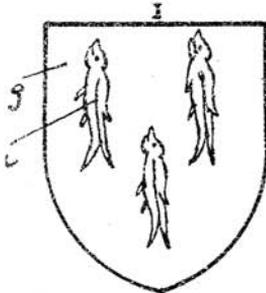
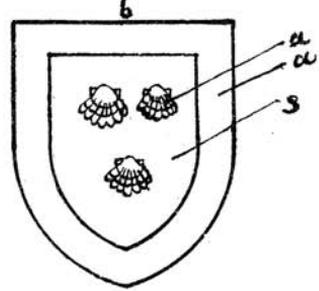
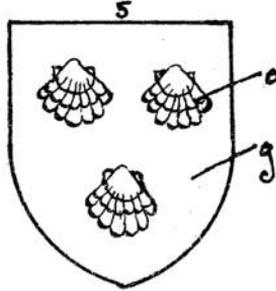
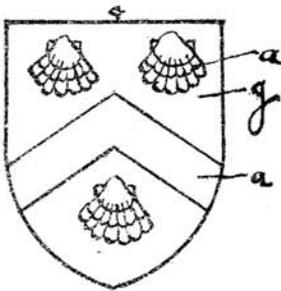
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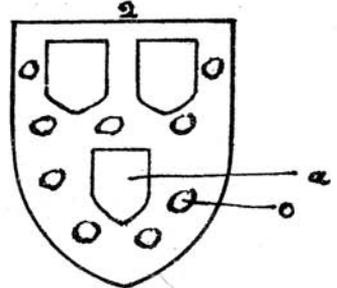
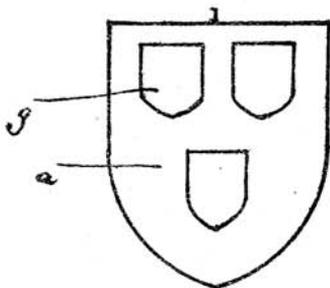
GROUP IV - PLATE III



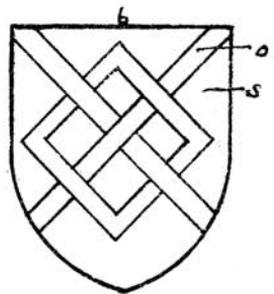
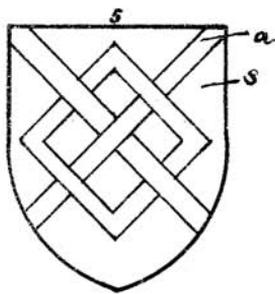
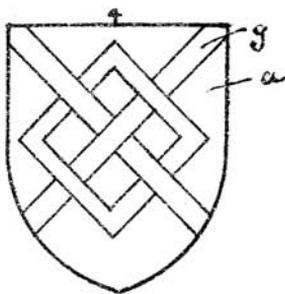
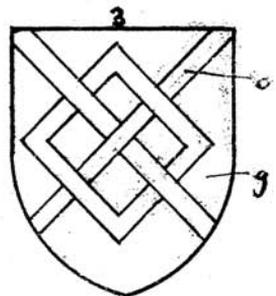
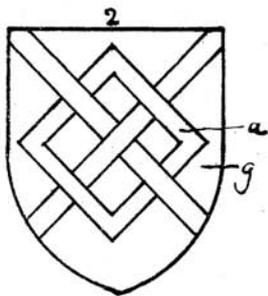
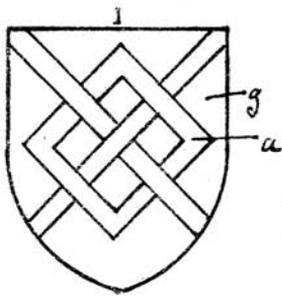
GROUP V



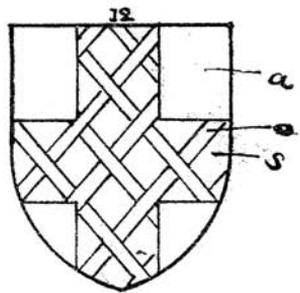
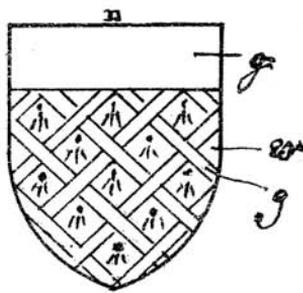
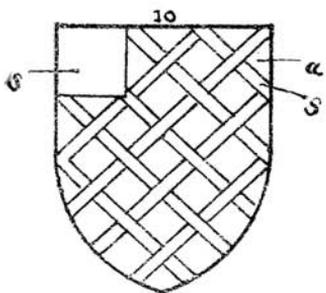
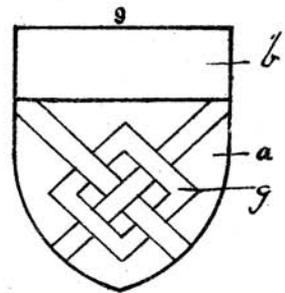
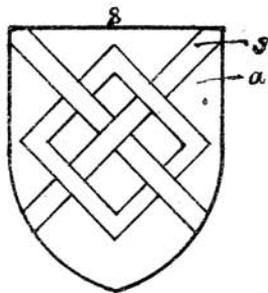
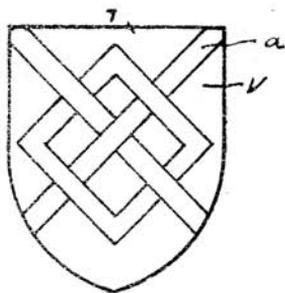
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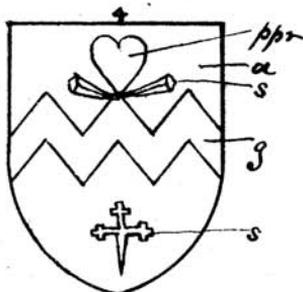
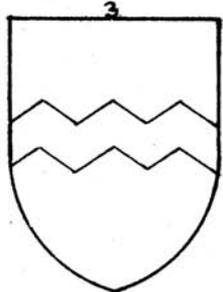
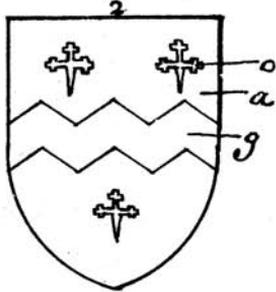
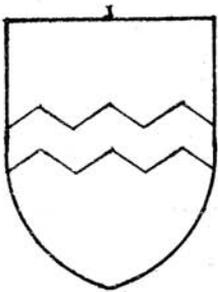


GROUP XII - PLATE IV

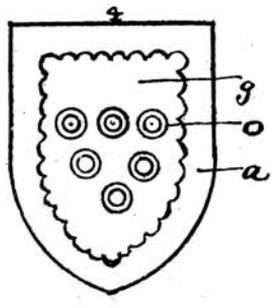
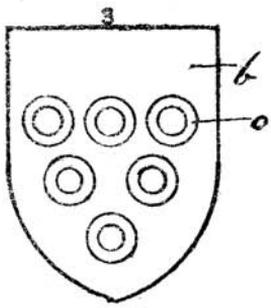
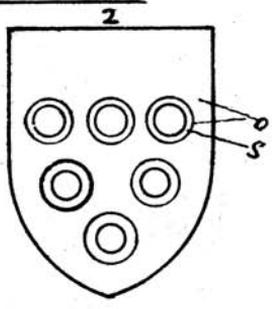
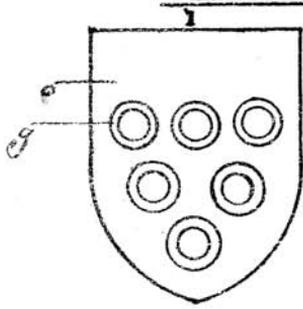


GROUP VII

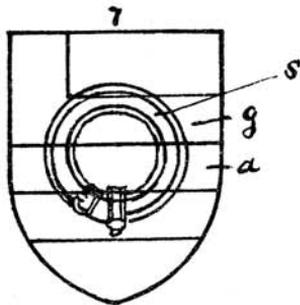
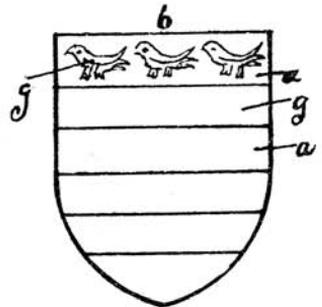
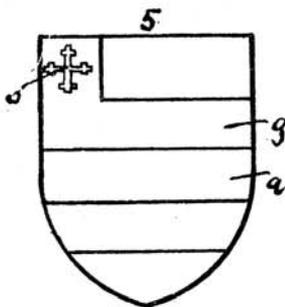
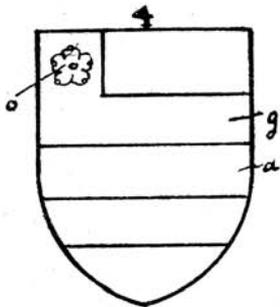
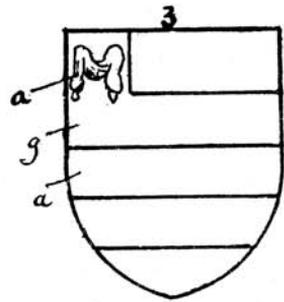
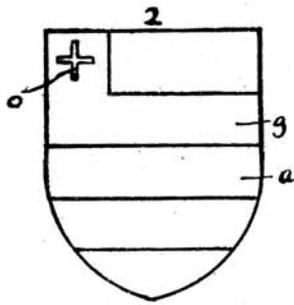
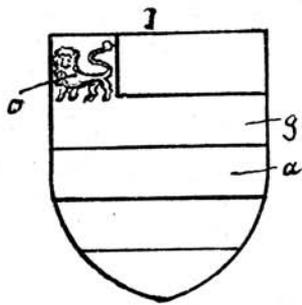




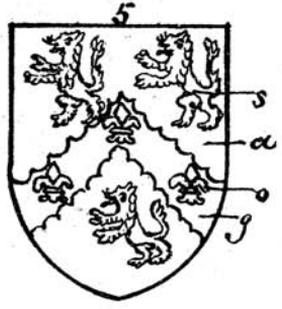
GROUP VIII



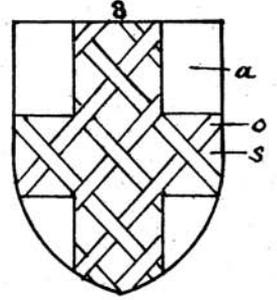
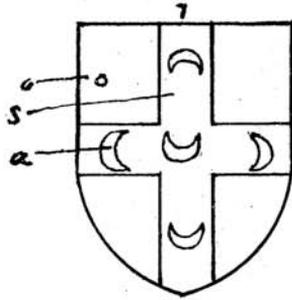
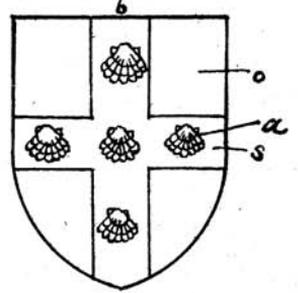
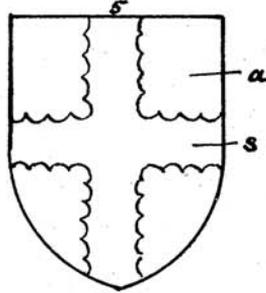
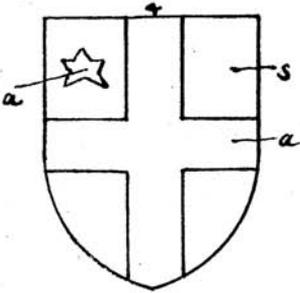
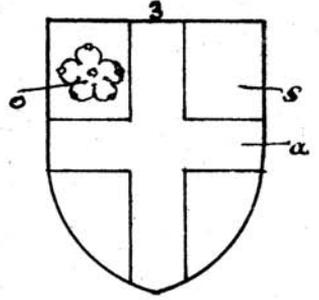
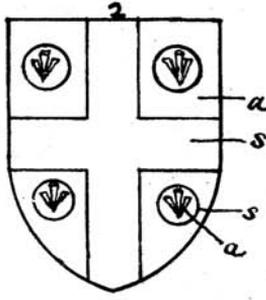
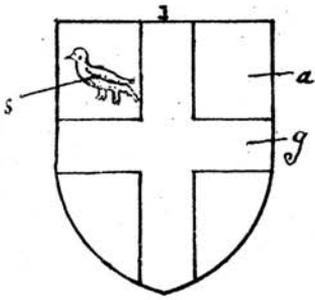
GROUP XIII - PLATE VI



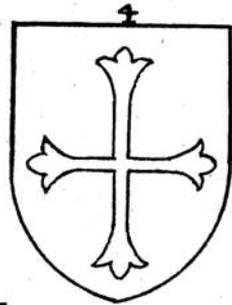
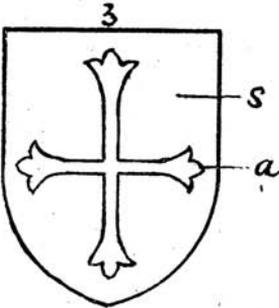
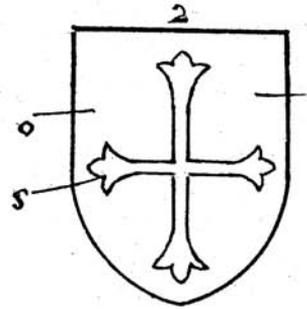
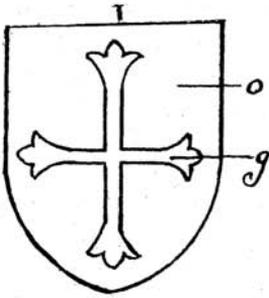
GROUP IX



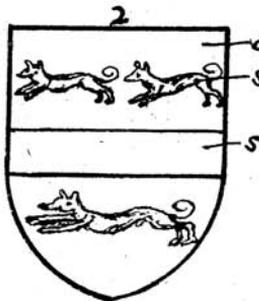
GROUP X



GROUP XI



GROUP XIV



GROUP XV - PLATE X

PLATE IV.

- Group V.—1, Dacre ; 2, Layton of Dalemain ; 3, Bouche ;
4, Genton ; 5, Fallowfield ; 6, Strickland.
Group VI.—1, Lucy ; 2, Brougham ; 3, Binham.
Group XII.—1, Hay, Earl of Carlisle ; 2, Hodgson.

PLATE V.

- Group VII.—1, Huddleston ; 2, Le Fleming ; 3, Dudley ;
4, Blunston ; 5, Harrington ; 6, Maltravers ; 7, Salkeld ; 8,
Vernon ; 9, Curwen ; 10, Ireby ; 11, Thornborough ; 12,
Thwaites.

PLATE VI.

- Group VIII.—1, Engayne ; 2, Stanwix ; 3, Sandis ; 4,
Southaik.
Group XIII.—1, Vipont ; 2, Lowther ; 3, Musgrave ;
4, Hellebeck.

PLATE VII.

- Group IX.—1, Lancastre ; 2, Broughton ; 3, Bardsey ; 4,
Preston ; 5, Kirkby ; 6, Lovick ; 7, Copeland.

PLATE VIII.

- Group X.—1, De Meschines ; 2, Warwick ; 3, Halton ;
4, Orton ; 5, Bird ; 6, Fairfax ; 7, Pickering ; 8, Leyburn ;
9, Dudley.

PLATE IX.

- Group XI.—1, Harcla, Earl of Carlisle ; 2, Fletcher ;
3, Moresby ; 4, Orfeur ; 5, Kirkbride ; 6, Bouche ; 7, Ellis ;
8, Thwaites.

PLATE X.

- Group XIV.—1, Carlisle ; 2, Lamplugh ; 3, Upton ; 4,
Delamore.
Group XV.—1, Brisco ; 2, Patrickson ; 3, Whelpdale ;
4, Machell ; 5, Matholl, the colours are marked wrong of this
coat ; they should be the same as those of Machell, for which
I rather think Matholl is a slip of St. George.