

Heraldic Arms Appendix

Realms of History

July 2015

Realms of History

Appendix for Heraldic Arms

Charges (examples)



Lion - Dauntless courage; bravery, strength, ferocity, and valour



Tiger - Great fierceness and valor when enraged to combat; one whose resentment will be dangerous if aroused.



Bear—Strength, cunning, ferocity in the protection of kindred.



Wolf- Reward from perseverance in long sieges and/or hard industry. One whom it is dangerous to assail or thwart.

Rhinoceros - Great ferocity when aroused.



Elephant - Great strength, wit, longevity, happiness, royalty, good luck, and ambition.

Heraldic Tiger - Same as Tiger.



Leopard - Valiant and enduring warrior who enterprises hazardous things by force and courage.

Realms of History

Appendix for Heraldic Arms

Panther - As a lion may be said to signify a brave man, so may a panther a beautiful woman, which, though fierce, is very tender and loving to her young, and will defend it with the hazard of her life.



Horse - Readiness for all duties for king and country.



Bull or Ox - Valor and magnanimity.



Boar - A fierce combatant when at bay, and ceases fighting only with its life, and therefore may be properly applied as the armorial bearing of a warrior.



Goat - One who wins through politics rather than war.

Lamb - Gentleness and patience under suffering.



Ram - Authority.



Hares and Rabbits - One who enjoys a peaceable and retired life.

Squirrel - Lover of the woods.

Hedgehog - Provident provider.

Beaver - Industry and perseverance.

Realms of History

Appendix for Heraldic Arms



Fox - One who will use all that he may possess of sagacity, wit or wisdom in his own defense.



Talbot, Mastiff and Greyhound - Courage, vigilance and loyal fidelity.

Cat or Cat-A-Mountain - Liberty, vigilance, forecast and courage.

Camel - Docility, patience and indefatigable perseverance.



Bee - Well-governed efficient industry.

Ant - Symbolizes great labor, wisdom and providence in one's affairs.

Spider - Wisdom, labor and providence in all affairs.

Grasshopper - Wisdom and nobility.

House Snail - Deliberation and perseverance.



Double Eagle and Eagle - Person of noble nature, strength, bravery, and alertness; or one who is high-spirited, ingenious, quick-witted, and judicious; "True magnanimity and strength of mind" acc. to Guillim. If wings "displayed," it signifies protection.

Alerion - Signifies one who having been maimed and lamed in war, was thus prevented from fully asserting his power.

Realms of History

Appendix for Heraldic Arms



Wings - Celebrity, sometimes protection or coverture.

Feathers (usually ostrich) - Willing obedience and serenity.



Falcon or Hawk - One eager or hot in the pursuit of an object much desired until achieved.

Hawks or Falcons Bells - One who feared not to signal his approach in either peace or war.



Owl - One who is vigilant and of acute wit.



Peacock— Beauty, power, knowledge and pride of carriage.



Pelican - Self-sacrifice and charitable nature; When feeding her young ("in her piety"), symbolizes the duties of a parent or parental love.

Stork - Filial duty, emblem of a grateful man.



Swan - A lover of poetry and harmony.

Goose and Duck - A man of many resources.

Gannet - To subsist by the wings of his virtue and merit, having little land to rest upon.

Realms of History

Appendix for Heraldic Arms



Swallow - Symbol of the fourth son (mark of difference); may signify one who has to subsist by virtue and merit, not inheritance. One who is prompt and ready in the dispatch of his business.

Cock - Courage, always ready for battle, ready to fight to the death.



Dove - Loving constancy and peace; the Holy Spirit; with an olive branch in its bill, it signifies a harbinger of good tidings



Raven—Divine providence; One who, having derived little from his ancestors, has through Providence become the architect of his own fortunes or one of an enduring constancy of nature.

Crow - Signifies a settled habitation and a quiet life.



Dolphin—Swiftness, diligence, salvation, charity and love. Charity and a kind affection towards children.



Tortoise - Invulnerability to attack.



Unicorn - Extreme courage; virtue and strength.

Realms of History

Appendix for Heraldic Arms



Griffin - Head, wings, and talons of an eagle with the body of a lion; valour and death-defying bravery; vigilance.



Dragon - A most valiant defender of treasure; valour and protection.



Cockatrice - Terror to all beholders.



Sphinx - Omniscience and secrecy.

Pegasus- Poetic genius and inspiration; messenger of God. Exceeding activity and energy of mind whereby one may mount to honour.

Harpy - Ferocity under provocation. (virgins face, neck and breast with the body of a lion)



Mermaid - Eloquence.

Realms of History

Appendix for Heraldic Arms

Centuar - For those who have been eminent in the field of battle.

Hydra - The conquest of a very powerful enemy. (dragon with seven heads)



Phoenix - Resurrection.



Stag, Hart, Buck and Deer - One who will not fight unless provoked; Policy, Peace and Harmony.

Horns and Antlers - Strength and Fortitude.



Escallop Shell - One who has made long journeys or voyages to far countries, or victorious naval commander.

Other Shells - Protection of Providence.



Heart - Charity, sincerity, truthfulness.

Flaming Heart— Ardent, intense, burning affection.



Hand - Faith, sincerity and justice; two right hands conjoined represent union and alliance

Realms of History

Appendix for Heraldic Arms



Red Hand - Usual mark for a baronet.



Arm - A laborious and industrious person.

Gauntlet - Armed for the performance of martial enterprise.

Leg - Strength, stability and expedition.

Shoe - Same as Leg.

Foot - Same as leg.



Human Head - Honor.

Blackamoor Head - Deeds of prowess in the Crusades.

Skulls - Mortality.

Crossed Thigh-bones - Mortality.

Eye - Providence in Government.

Millstones - The mutual converse of human society.

Sceptre - Justice.

Trident - Maritime dominion.



Crown - Royal or seigniorial authority.

Celestial Crown - Heavenly reward.

Realms of History

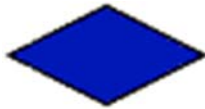
Appendix for Heraldic Arms



Pastoral Crosier - The emblem of a shepherd's watchfulness over his flock, and denotes episcopal jurisdiction and authority.



Annulet or Finger Ring - Fidelity. Sign of the fifth son.



Lozenge - Honesty and constancy, also held to be a token of noble birth.



Billets - Their first bearer was a man who obtained credence, knowledge and faith in his words and deeds, and who was secret in his affairs.

Pen - Emblematic of the liberal art of writing and of learned employments.

Inkhorn - Same as pen.

Harp - Well-composed person of tempered judgment; contemplation; mystical bridge between heaven and earth.

Lyre - Contemplation; tempered judgment.

Scythe - Hope of a fruitful harvest of things hoped for.

Sickle - Same as Scythe.



Anchor - Succor in extremity and the Christian symbol of hope.

Realms of History

Appendix for Heraldic Arms



Ship, Lumphiad or Galley - All such symbols would point to some notable expedition by sea, by which, perhaps, the first bearers had become famous.

Cubes, squares or dice - Constancy, wisdom, verity probity, and equity.

Lozenge - Same as Cubes.



Axe -- Execution of military duty.

Purse - A frank and liberal steward of the blessings that God has bestowed.



Tower or Castle - Grandeur and solidity. Sometimes granted to one who has held one for his king, or who has captured one by force or stratagem.



Bridge - Signifies a governor or magistrate.

Pillar or Column - Fortitude and constancy.



Snake - Wisdom.



Scaling Ladder - One who was fearless in attacking.

Crosses - Symbolic of some Christian experience or sentiment.

Trestles and stools - Hospitality.

Realms of History

Appendix for Heraldic Arms



Cushions - Marks of authority.

Angels, Cherubs and Seraphs - Dignity, glory and honor; missionary; bearer of joyful news



Estoiles - Emblems of God's goodness or of some eminence in the first bearer above the ruder sort of men.



Mullet - Denotes some Divine quality bestowed from above. Sign of the third son. (5-pointed star)

Spur - Preparedness for active service; pressing onward



Dignity of knighthood.

- An esquire.



Sun - Glory and splendor.



Crescent - Hope of glory, one who has been enlightened. Sign of the second son. (horns to the chief)

Moon - Serene power over mundane actions.

Fire - Zealousness.

Realms of History

Appendix for Heraldic Arms

Lightning - The effecting of some weighty business with great clarity and force.

Rocks - Safety, refuge and protection.



Portcullis - Effectual protection in emergency.



Hunting Horn - One who is fond of high or noble pursuits.

Trumpet - Ready for the fray.

Cannon, Mortars, Cannon Balls and Grenades - Well bestowed on those who have dared their terrors in sieges and battles.

Sword - Indicates the bearer to a just and generous pursuit of honor and virtue in warlike deeds.



Arrows and Arrowheads - Martial readiness.

Spear or Lance - Knightly service and devotion to honor.



Spear Heads or Pheons - Dexterity and nimbleness of wit to penetrate and understand matters of highest consequence.

Shield - A defender.

Saddles, Stirrups and Spurs - Preparedness for active service.

Realms of History

Appendix for Heraldic Arms



Horse Shoe - Good luck and safeguard against evil spirits.

Trunk of a Tree - An object of veneration. New life sprouting from the old. Life and the mystical connection of the earth with heaven and the underworld.



Fusil - Travel and labour. (narrow lozenge)

Shacklebolt - Victory in war.



Water Bougets - Conferred on those who had brought water to an army or besieged place.



Catharine Wheel - Emblem of one who is prepared to undergo great trials for the Christian faith.



Escarbuncle - Supremacy.



Buckles - Victorious fidelity in authority.

Realms of History

Appendix for Heraldic Arms



Clarion or Rest - Same as Trumpet.



Beacons or Cressets - One who is watchful for the commonwealth or who gave the signal in time of danger.



Chains - Reward for acceptable and weighty service; with crowns and collars, this suggests the bearer bore the chain of obligation or obliged others because of services done.

Fusil of Yarn - Negotiation.



Fret - Persuasion



Gold Roundles - One who has been found worthy of trust and treasure.

White Roundles - Generosity.

Wheel—Fortune, cycle of life.

Cornucopia - Bounty of Nature's gifts.

Chaplets and Wreaths - Granted for special service. Usually with green leaves and four roses: the crown of joy and admiration.