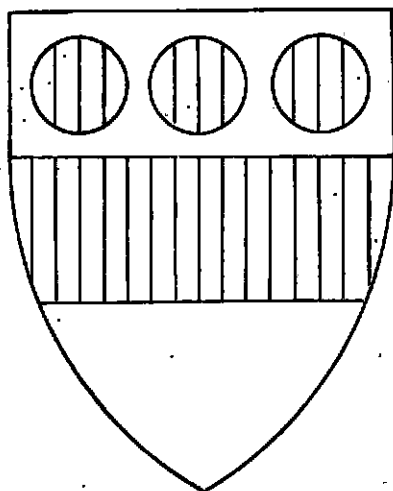
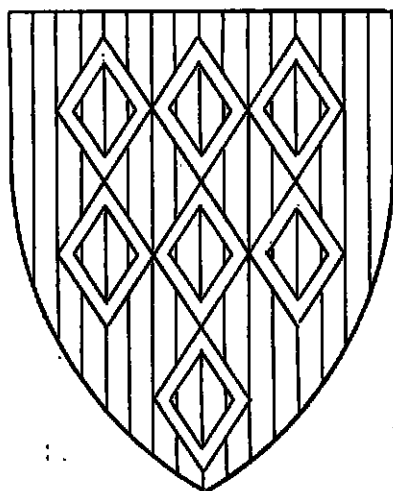


COATS-OF-ARMS OF SOME RICARDIAN CONTEMPORARIES

LAWRENCE T. GREENSMITH

TWO LORDS FERRERS

The two Ferrers Lords had one thing in common: their year of birth, which was ten years before that of King Edward IV and twenty before that of our Richard; but there was nothing else until their deaths (25 years apart) in battle and not even on the same side.



GREY OF GROBY: 1432-1461

Sir John Grey (usually so styled) was actually the 8th Baron Ferrers of Groby and the first husband of Elizabeth Woodville. Markham's book refers to her as the widow of Lord Grey of Groby (near Leicester). He was not summoned to Parliament for, as a Lancastrian, he lost his life at St. Albans. He was never so well known as his—and Elizabeth's—sons, Thomas and Richard. The first was the 9th Baron who became Marquis of Dorset; and the second shared (with his maternal uncle, Earl Rivers) the tutelage of his half-brother, Edward Prince of Wales, at Ludlow. It is irrelevant here, but all the same interesting, that both the Marquis of Dorset and his half-sister Elizabeth of York were ancestors of Lady Jane Grey.

Their arms were both striking and ancient (having once been those of the former Earls of Winchester, c. 1200). The shield is *red*, with *seven golden mascles conjoined*. The mascle is not a common charge which the text-books classify as a sub-ordinary. It is really a lozenge (the playing-card diamond) but a *voided* one. Mascles may be conjoined in various ways: diagonally, horizontally or vertically or (as in this case) both ways at once. Some blazons unnecessarily specify that they should be arranged 3, 3, 1: the only alternative would require a very long, or at least a lozenge-shaped, shield.

DEVEREUX OF CHARTLEY: 1432-1486

Sir Walter Devereux was the son of another Walter, Chancellor of Ireland when Richard, 3rd Duke of York was Lord Deputy. He married Anne, heiress of a Lord Ferrers of Chartley, and was summoned to Parliament by that title in right of his wife. In their younger days, he had been a friend of the Duke's sons Edward (Earl of March) and Edmund (Earl of Rutland) who was killed at Sandal with his father.

Kendall tells us that our Richard first saw him as one of the several followers of his father at Ludlow Castle when he was only nine years old. In 1483, when King Edward IV died, Sir Walter was present at the funeral. He also attended Richard's coronation and was one of his close following at Bosworth when both were killed. Little else seems to be recorded: it is perhaps small wonder that the DNB does not mention him.

The Ferrers Barony had begun with the Ferrers Earls of Derby (whose ancient Norman castle of Chartley, now a ruin, is in Staffordshire). It is not clear, and it is improbable, that Devereux took the arms with the Barony for he already had inherited arms which were passed on to his better-known descendant, Queen Elizabeth's Earl of Essex. These arms were *silver, a red fess and in chief three torteaux* (or red roundles).

An interesting (and apt) pendant is that there were (and maybe still are) certain arms with 8 quarterings, one for Ferrers of Groby and another for Devereux (both as shown here with but a small difference for the Ferrers). Thus the arms—but not the names—of these families were somehow united.

GENEALOGICAL COMPLEXITIES, PART 2

W. K. NORMAN

Some errors crept into December's table. The vertical line from Joan Beaufort should be deleted and replaced by one descending from the = sign. The line from Humphrey, Duke of Buckingham=Anne Neville should descend to both Humphrey, Earl of Stafford (ob 1455) and Henry Stafford.

For this issue, I have been looking into some "foreign connections", particularly the descendants of the two daughters of John of Gaunt who married into the Houses of Portugal and Castile. From the table it will be seen that John of Gaunt was a great-grandfather of Henry VI, Isabella of Castile and Charles the Bold of Burgundy. The December table adds Edward IV, Richard III, Humphrey, Earl of Stafford and Henry Stafford, second husband of Margaret Beaufort, who was also a great-grandchild, as were Rupert of Bavaria, Warwick the Kingmaker, Henry, Duke of Exeter (first husband of Anne, eldest sister of Richard III), John, Duke of Norfolk (died 1461), Henry Percy, 3rd Earl of Northumberland, James II of Scotland and Alfonso V of Portugal. Indeed all English monarchs after Richard II could claim direct descent from John of Gaunt.

Catherine of Aragon's direct legitimate descent from John of Gaunt suggests that she had a better claim to the English throne than Henry VIII!

Valois, Anjou and Burgundian connections are also shown on the table. Thus Louis XI of France was a first cousin of both Henry VI and his wife Margaret of Anjou.