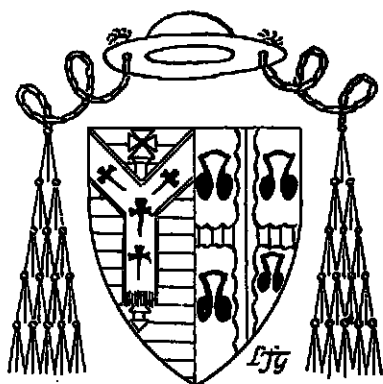
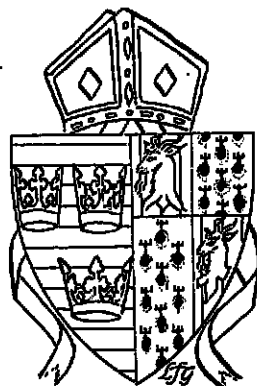


COATS OF ARMS OF SOME RICARDIAN CONTEMPORARIES

LAWRENCE T. GREENSMITH



BOURCHIER



MORTON

CARDINALS CANTUAR:

Thomas BOURCHIER 1404(?)–1455–1486

John MORTON 1420(?)–1486–1500

Besides being contemporaries of Richard (both born long before and both surviving him) they were very much contemporaries of each other: they overlapped 66 years of their long lives (twice as long as Richard had lived). Morton succeeded Bouchier at Canterbury and like him became a Cardinal.

Bouchier, like Alcock (v. *Ricardian* 39) 40 years after him, had been bishop both of Worcester and of Ely, but he also achieved the Primacy and held it for 33 years. Alcock was Lord Chancellor twice but Bouchier not at all until he was at Canterbury. Morton had also been at Ely but there were his two years in exile before Henry VII recalled him, soon to be Canterbury. He, too, became Lord Chancellor, and was Cardinal 20 years after Bouchier.

THOMAS BOURCHIER was brother of Henry, first of the only two Earls of Essex of that name. He had been Prebendary of Lichfield and Chancellor of Oxford University before his first Bishopric. A Lancastrian, he crowned King Edward IV in 1461 and his Queen in 1465, helped the restoration of Edward IV in 1471, and headed the deputation which persuaded Queen Elizabeth to entrust the young prince Richard to his uncle Richard, the Protector. He crowned Richard as King and also Henry Tudor, whom he also married to Elizabeth of York in 1486. He died the same year.

His arms were: *silver, a red cross engrailed between four water-bougets* (which might have been intended as a sort of pun on the name: it is often spelled without the first "r"). The drawing shows them impaled with the arms of the See of Canterbury, the whole ensigned with his Cardinal's hat with 15 tassels at each side which are all red.

About JOHN MORTON there is perhaps less need to say much (for so many of us know it already). The DNB says of him (what may not before have appeared in *Ricardian*) that he was "a great builder and repairer" and that in the Fens "Morton's Dyke perpetuates his memory". This may well be true, but the writer is quite unable to confirm this from any map or guide-book. However, it makes a change from something scurrilous.

Although, as the title implies, he would eventually impale his arms with those of Canterbury's see and use the Cardinal's hat, it has been thought fit in the drawing to impale them with Ely and to use the Bishop's mitre as the appropriate ensign for only these were ever correct in Richard's own time. Morton's own family arms were: *Quarterly: 1 and 4: red, a goat's head silver but with golden horns; 2 and 3: ermine*. The bishops of Ely impaled with *blue, three golden crowns, 2 and 1*.

RESEARCH NOTES AND QUERIES

P. W. HAMMOND

Sir James Tyrell

A note has been received from Mr J. A. Speares on Sir James. After congratulating Joyce Melhuish on her article "Sir James Tyrell and his Chapel at Gipping" in *Ricardian* Number 50 he makes the following comments on the building of Gipping Hall itself:

The hall was built of brick, a French system which only reached England in the later part of the 15th century. My own feeling is that the hall, of which an engraving exists (as also of Herons, the other Tyrell property at Brentford) was likewise built as a post-bridal gift for Dame Ann, whose first married home was, no doubt, the much earlier moated Tyrell manor about a mile from the chapel and the hall site, and which still exists complete with Tyrell Knots on the exterior beams and a coat of arms in the sitting room.

James Tyrell's father became Sheriff of Norfolk and Suffolk in 1446 and was, no doubt, in frequent official touch with the Yorks at Fotheringhay at the time of Richard's birth. Other evidence of early contact between the two families is the aside remark, to me acceptable at face value, in the testimony of the Tudor agent Bernard de Vignolles (Gairdner: *Letters & Papers*) in 1496,