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**A Few Notes On the Heraldry Seen at the Spring Meeting, June
2nd, 1908**

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A FEW NOTES ON THE HERALDRY SEEN AT THE
SPRING MEETING, JUNE 2ND, 1908.

BY F. WERE.

THE Editor generally wishes for a short report on the Heraldry, and as there are one or two interesting ones, I hope this will prove acceptable to the members.

The first church visited was Dymock, and I entered the church alone and began reading the coats of CAM, 1790; several HANKINS, 1738-76; Wynniatt, 1670; CHAMBERLAYNE, 1729-38; WALL, 1694; and then I lighted upon one of the worst types of quite recent false heraldry; this was the shield on the RICHARD HILL monument, in which the "bars were sable on a gules field," and the impaling bore a "chevron gules on a sable field." Now this shield appears in Bigland untinged, and will be found at the bottom of p. 288 in the xxviii vol. of our *Transactions*, with my probable tinctures in brackets; but in his time, unless he overlooked it, it bore no impaling. I was told that his wife was a Rooke, and there could be no harm really in inserting it; but then it should be true, not false, and as it bears a "chevron," whilst Bigland's Rookes bear a "fess," I doubt it even being true. I think it well to draw attention to this, as it might lead to an alteration. Whilst I was studying this the whistle sounded, and I had a fire of questions to come and see the shield on the tower, so I was just able to read it, and find it answers one of my Bigland's heraldic "Queries," p. 384, given by Bigland, without family, as "Two bendlets charged with bars dancette." Now "bars" it cannot be, since there is nothing horizontal about the hatchings, they are like two saws with their teeth together, and the real blazon is "Argent two bends each per bend indented gules and vert," RUYHALE. A slight variation of this

is given in *Worcestershire Visitation*, 1569, p. 70, as the fourth quartering of Harewell, where it is "vert and gules," but this is named Corbett; it is really a quartering of Corbett, as Roger Harewell married the daughter and heir of Corbett, and the latter the daughter and heir of Cowley, whilst Cowley married the heiress of Ruyhale; this is treated very clearly in text and note by Grazebrook in his *Worcestershire Heraldry*, p. 487. There is another shield on the tower given by Bigland as "three pheons," FORSTER; and I am exceedingly sorry now I had not time to study it. This is mentioned on p. 254, vol. xxviii. Seeing that Fosbrooke, vol. ii, pp. 236-7, gives the account of the Ruyhales, who lived at Dymock in Hen. IV to Hen. VI's time, and the Forster family could have had nothing to do with the tower in the Ruyhales' time, as they did not come to the place before 1608, perhaps they repaired some part of it, otherwise it might possibly be a partly-defaced coat of Merbery, "A cross between four pheons," John being part owner of the manor and contemporaneous with Ruyhale.

Kempley Church, next visited, had the two shields of Pyndar given by Bigland and Rudder. The former says LOGGIN, the impaling, has three, and Rudder two, piles; the shield is very sloping to fit the base of the monument, so the piles look more like two than three, but I believe the last to be the correct. The President said the Pyndar monument was the only one in the church, so I did not search; but Bigland gives two, which must have been removed, one to LEWES, and another to FINCH, about which I should like to insert here an omission in my "Queries," vol. xxviii of the *Transactions*; it is the fifth quartering of Finch given by Bigland as "Parti per fess indented argent and sable four hunting horns counter-changed." I cannot trace such a coat, so it ought to be entered in the "Queries." As regards the fourth quartering [GOBYON], p. 265, as stated there, Butler, of Wem, married the heiress, now I find in *Brydges' Collins Peerage*, iii. 376, that Henry Finch's wife, Alice Belknap, bore as second quarter Butler, of Wem, who of course would be entitled to quarter Gobyon;

but this surely is going far afield to pick and choose from.

At Newent I had not time to see whether Bigland's shields were still there. I found two of them in N. aisle, DRAPER and BEALE.

At Pauntley I was able first to read two shields of painted glass in the W. window.

1: "Gules a fess chequy or and azure," WHITTINGTON, impaling "Gules (very dark) a chevron between three escallops argent," MILBORNE, as given in the *Transactions*, vol. xxviii, p. 339, and called fifth shield. The "escallops" are poorly executed, more the shape of leaves. 2: The sixth shield in Bigland is WHITTINGTON, as in 1, impaling, "Quarterly per fess indented azure and argent," in first quarter an oblong piece of glass let in "per fess," but too defaced to be distinguished, which evidently bore "a lion passant guardant or," for CROFTS or CROFTES. These two shields represent the double marriage of John Whittington, of Pauntley with Elizabeth, daughter and heiress of Simon Milborne and Elizabeth, daughter of Sir Richard Croftes, Knight (see *Gloucester Visitation*, Mis. Peds., p. 268). Bigland's successors read this coat as "Per pale and per fess dancette azure and argent," and named it CROMWELL, so that under Cromwell, p. 221 of the *Transactions*, and under WHITTINGTON, p. 492, I was obliged to put a (?) before it; and I am exceedingly sorry if my note in brackets suggesting FITZWARREN has led people astray; so kindly draw a pen through in both places from "I think" to "arg.," and from "I think" to "Fitzwarren." Whilst after CROFT, on p. 220, might be inserted "CROFTES. Pauntley. Impaled with Whittington in W. window, 'Quarterly per fess indented azure and argent, in first quarter (defaced) a lion passant guardant or.' John Whittington married secondly Elizabeth, daughter of Sir Richard C., Knight."

In N.E. window are three shields. 1: "? Argent (there was a grey daub on the field on the sinister side, but I believed

it to be only dirt on the outside) three swans, 2 and 1, entrained"; their beaks and feet were more filled in, and may have been "sable or dark gules," which would be in favour of a metal field. This coat is entered in my "Queries" in the *Transactions*, under Pauntley, p. 389, but it is badly punctuated; the comma after swans should be a full stop, and the "i" of the "impaled" following a capital I, as the Diggs impaling is quite a different shield. There is no name given to this shield by Bigland's successors; if the field is "argent," and Papworth gives no "or," the only one like it is given thus by him, "Arg. three birds (? swans) sa.," WARBERTON; but I cannot see how this helps.

2: "Per fess argent (a nice piece of silvery glass) and gules a fess (here clearly) counter-componée or and azure." This is evidently a mended-up Whittington shield, and it is sad the "argent" glass has been added instead of a "gules" one; the "counter-componée" I think must be accounted for by the "chequy" not spacing out properly. This is given as the third shield in the windows in Bigland, where the "fess is blazoned compony," and the field all "gules," so the alteration has been effected since.

3: This is a finely-executed shield, the shape of the escutcheon suggesting late sixteenth or seventeenth century. This is No. 4 in Bigland, and is blazoned "Gules a fess between six pears pendent or," and is there named SOUCHE, to which, on p. 437 of the *Transactions*, I have appended a (?). No such a coat for Souche is known, and it is really Besford or Pearsford, as is proved by the Clopton brass and pedigree; but why it appears here has yet to be found out. This was all I could do at Pauntley, so I failed to see Bigland's No. 2 in the windows, which I have given in the bracketed HAUTEVILLE, p. 282, in the *Transactions*, and the other coats.