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A GRAMMAR

OF

BRITISH HERALDRY,

CONSISTING OF

Blazon and Marshalling;

WITH AN INTRODUCTION

ON THE

RISE AND PROGRESS OF SYMBOLS AND ENSIGNS.

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[SECTION C.]—"BEASTS."

The animals of this class, most generally met with in British Heraldry, are the following:—

1.—ANTELOPE	21.—HORSE
2.—ASS	22.—LEOPARD
3.—BADGER	23.—LION
4.—BAT	24.—LYNX
5.—BEAR	25.—MARTIN
6.—BEAVER	26.—MOLE
7.—BOAR	27.—MONKEY
8.—CAMEL	28.—MOUSE
9.—CAT	29.—OTTER
10.—CHAMOIS	30.—OUNCE
11.—CONEY	31.—OX
12.—DEER	32.—PANTHER
13.—DOG	33.—PORCUPINE
14.—ELEPHANT	34.—RAT
15.—ERMINE	35.—RHINOCEROS
16.—FERRET	36.—SEAL
17.—FOX	37.—SHEEP
18.—GOAT	38.—SQUIRREL
19.—HARE	39.—TIGER
20.—HEDGEHOG	40.—WOLF

1. ANTELOPE.—This elegantly shaped animal (smaller than the Stag,) is of constant occurrence in the heraldry of our country. It must not be confused with the "HERALDICK-ANTELOPE," which will be spoken of hereafter among the CHIMERICAL charges.—[Plate XIII., fig. 13.]

2. ASS.—This charge is not often seen in Coat Armour. Among those families to which it appertains, may be enumerated ASKEW, AYS COUGH, HACKWELL, HOKENHULL, &c. It is the emblem of *Patience*; perhaps also, of *Faithfulness*, *Frugality*, and *Discernment*, for "This animal can well distinguish his master from other men; and has good eyes, a fine smell, and an excellent ear."—[Plate XIII., fig. 14.]

[NOTE.]—Gwillim, in his excellent "*Display of Heraldry*," makes mention of one instance of the bearing of a *Mule* in armoury. It appertains to the family of MOILE.

Crest and Supporters. It pertains also to the DIGBY, DE-CLIFFORD, and ST. JOHN families.—[Plate XV., fig. 17.]

31. THE OX. 35. THE RHINOCEROS.—The bearing of a *bull* or *ox*, may be considered as a note of *great strength, labour, industry, and valour*. “The Athenians, to signify their gratitude for the laborious travail of the ox, did stamp the similitude thereof upon one of their Coins.” It was also the ensign of the Egyptians. It is borne by the families of OXENDEN, ALDRICH, &c.—[Plate XV., fig. 18.]

The head is borne separately by the TURNBULL, BULLEN, and other families. It is also borne *trunked* or *caboshed* by the WALRONDS, &c.—[Plate XV., fig. 19.]

[NOTE.]—This term, (which has been spoken of under the head of “DEER”) is derived from the word ‘*Cabo*,’ signifying in the Spanish language ‘*a head*.’ It is applied only to *horned* beasts, and signifies “that the head of some such beast is borne sole and of itself, having no part of the neck thereto adherent.”

The families of VEALE and METCALF bear the *Calf* as an Emblem.

The RHINOCEROS is very seldom seen. The EARL MOUNTCASHELL bears it as a Supporter. So also does LORD COLVILLE.

37. THE SHEEP is the Emblem of *utility* and *profit*, and is a fitting charge for a Man profitable to his Country.—The LAMB may very properly be taken for the symbol of *lenity*, and *tenderness of nature*.

The *Ram*, (which was highly esteemed by the Thebans,) is borne by the HARMAN and WINDRAHAM families; and his *head* (“wherein is his chiefest strength,”) belongs to the RAMSEY, RAMSDEN, and HAMERSLEY families.—[Plate XV., fig. 20.]—The HOLY-LAMB (represented with the *crossed staff* and *banner of St. George*, and a *circle* round the head,) is borne by numerous families, among whom may be mentioned those of LLEWELLYN, DAVIE, EVANS, ROWE. “This kind of bearing (says Gwillim,) may well befit a brave resolute spirit, who undertakes a war in the cause of Christianity.”

The Fleece of this Animal (*Toison-d’or*,) is appropriately borne by the JASON family.

40. THE WOLF is a very ancient and most uncommon bearing. “It denoteth (says Morgan,) those valiant Captains that do in the end gain their attempts after long sieges, and hard enterprizes. It may also betoken men serviceable to their country in destroying those that are both fierce and treacherous,—not being generous and noble, but breakers of a truce.” Upton has put the question, “whether the bearing of a Wolf in Arms is not fit for