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THE INSTITUTE OF HERALDIC AND GENEALOGICAL STUDIES

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01227 768664

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Set in its own grounds in a charming property dating from the thirteenth century, the Institute runs courses of instruction leading to qualifications in genealogy and heraldry. We offer a range of Distance Learning Courses, including our renowned Correspondence Course in Genealogy which was established to train professional genealogists.

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Edited by Sarah Bulson
eductaion@ihgs.ac.uk

Front cover:

Students at IHGS Awards Day, photograph courtesy of Elizabeth Yule ©IHGS 2024

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IHGS NEWS

AWARDS DAY

We were delighted to host numerous students and friends at our annual Awards Day, which took place in the beautiful grounds of Canterbury Cathedral. The event was a wonderful opportunity to acknowledge and celebrate the hard work and accomplishments of our students and Tutors.

The day was filled with sunshine, and we all had a great time catching up in the gardens with a stunning view of the Cathedral before enjoying a buffet lunch.

The Awards presentation began with a heartfelt thank you to Dr. David Wright for his dedicated service as Principal, and best wishes were extended to him upon his retirement. Trustee Amanda Cottrell took on the role of welcoming host on behalf of our Chairman Dr. Paul Fox and presented David with a gift from the Trustees.

Our President, the Earl of Lytton, was on his usual fine form as he joined Amanda to present certificates to the successful students. Certificates were presented to Alison Durkin, Gemma Robbins-Flowerdew, Sarah Osborne, Sonja Sarantis, Emma Vidler and Christopher Wareham.

John Tunesi of Liongam represented the Heraldry Society and presented the Intermediate Certificate in Heraldry to Ian Newton and John Norris.



IHGS Students who received their certificates

Many Congratulations to all of them.



IHGS staff and Tutors

* * * * *

EXAMINATION RESULTS 2023-2024

We are very pleased to confirm our examination results for this year. Many congratulations to them on their achievements.

The stand out Diploma pieces this year included:

- Rachel Cartwright - Knodishall Hall: a house history.
- Alison Durkin - Richard Stanwell: Law Enforcer to Law Breaker
- Sarah Osborne - The Switzer Family

Diploma in Genealogy

- Rachel Cartwright
- Alison Durkin
- Sarah Osborne

Higher Certificate in Genealogy

- Teresa Needle
- Rebecca Spiers
- Emma Vidler
- Christopher Walsh

Advanced Level in Genealogy

- Michelle Rees

Intermediate Level in Genealogy

- Simon Clarke
- Christopher Cope

Elementary Level in Genealogy

- Angela Lissett
- Cheryl McPherson
- Paula Nobes
- Gemma Robbins-Flowerdew
- Sonja Sarantis
- Christopher Wareham
- Simon Webster

Heraldry Intermediate Certificate

- [Awarded jointly by IHGS & The Heraldry Society]
- Ian Newton
- John Norris

* * * * *

BICKERSTETH MEDAL 2024

At our Awards Day we were pleased to announce that the Bickersteth Medal has been awarded to Chris Whitten and Wikitree.com.

Wikitree is a sister website to Wikipedia. Established fifteen years ago by Chris Whitten and his colleagues, it is totally free, and supported by a volunteer community. It has 1 million members, 39 million profiles, and 12 million profiles with DNA connections. It has amazing search functionality to see if you are related to other people - famous, infamous, or just friends. Unlike other ancestry websites you can write profiles of ancestors like Wikipedia pages, with text, photographs etc. It is open content, so others can add to your work, with a high emphasis on integrity through its honour code, and correct referencing. In order to edit pre-1500 profiles it is necessary to take a series of free training courses. The establishment of this vast database is very much in accordance with the founding principles of the IHGS.

* * * * *

NEW COURSE – DNA and Genetic Genealogy

We are delighted to report that our new Distance Learning Course *DNA and Genetic Genealogy* will be launched in spring 2025. Written by our DNA specialist Tutor, Dr Sophie Kay, it is a six-module tutored assessed course. As with all our Distance Learning Courses, it is flexible, students are free to progress through the course at their own pace. More details will be released soon through our website and monthly newsletter.

* * * * *

AUCKLAND FAMILY HISTORY EXPO 2024

IHGS is sponsoring the Auckland Family History 10th Anniversary event on the 9th-11th August.

The Keynote speaker is IHGS specialist DNA Tutor Dr Sophie Kay. Her keynote talk *Time Team: when archaeology met family history*. It's now thirty years since Time Team first brought the wonderful world of archaeology to UK screens and beyond, with their celebrated approach of having 'only three days' to explore each dig location, reaching millions of viewers around the world. 2023 marked a new milestone for the programme, when Time Team introduced family history research to investigate the historical narratives of the people and communities associated with the dig location. Armed with images and insights from the programme, Time Team's 'Ancestry and Genealogy Expert', Dr Sophie Kay, will take attendees behind the scenes of the show, providing a sneak peek into what happens when the worlds of family history and archaeology collide!

To find out more visit their website, <https://www.aucklandlibraries.govt.nz/pages/family-history-expo.aspx>

* * * * *

FIBIS 25 YEARS CONFERENCE

IHGS is glad to be supporting the FIBIS conference *British India: Exploring Colonial Life & Family History* 27th - 29th September, Thame. For more details and to book please visit www.fibis.org/25-years-conference/

* * * * *

THE HAMERTON FAMILY OF HELLIFIELD PEEL

Margaret Gaffney, DipGen

PREFACE

The piece was originally part of Margaret's Diploma submission in 2021 and went on to win the RQG Prize. The restraints caused by publishing in the journal has meant that there are some small alterations to the text and formatting.

INTRODUCTION

In 2020 I was asked to transcribe two pedigree charts – both entitled “This Genealogy records the descent of Robert Chisenhall Hamerton, of Hollins, Wellington, who landed in New Zealand with his parents, from Hollins Hall, Burnley, Lancashire, August 6 1854.” The first chart was compiled by Robert Chisenhall Hamerton, and traced the Hamerton line back to Richard de Hamerton, living in Slaidburne, Yorkshire, in 1170, and the last event recorded was the birth of Gwenda Mavis Hamerton, born July 1906, daughter of Reginald Alexander Hamerton and Ethel Maude Watkins. There were some biographical notes for many individuals on the pedigree along with references to “Hist. Craven” and accompanying page numbers, referring to Whitaker's *The History and Antiquities of the Deanery of Craven*, and the family had a long connection with Hellifield Peel in the parish of Long Preston, West Yorkshire. Robert Chisenhall Hamerton died in 1913, so this chart probably dates between then and 1906.

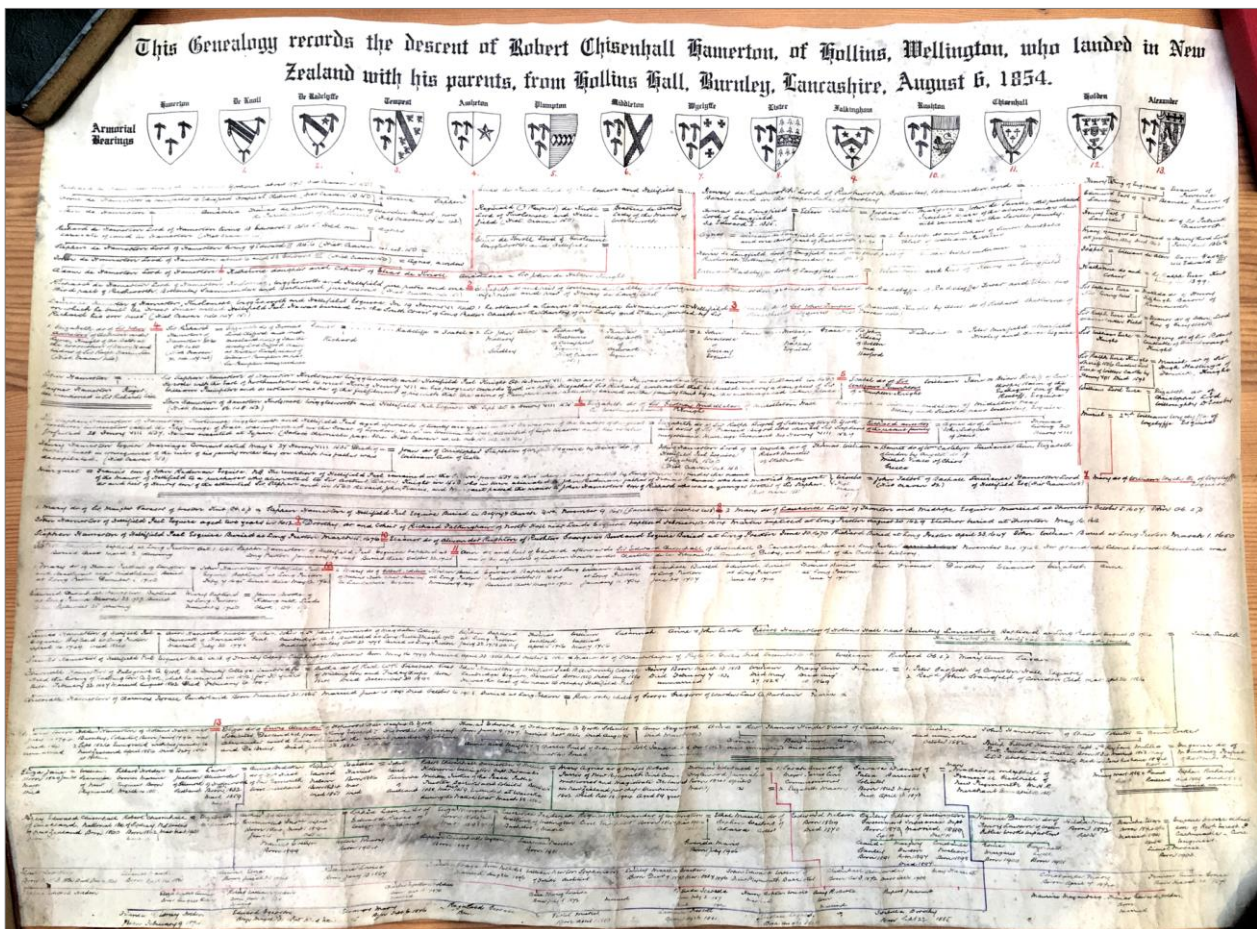


Figure 1: Pedigree chart of the Hamerton family, compiled by Robert Chisenhall Hamerton, between 1906 and 1913.

Claude Stanley Hamerton, grandson of Robert Chisenhall Hamerton, subsequently made a copy, with additions, and this version of the pedigree chart dates to Easter, 3 April 1931, and I worked from a printed copy of it. Both charts are illustrated with 14 "armorial bearings", appearing to be marital arms, each annotated with a number, and matched with a corresponding numbered marriage in the charts. (Throughout, I refer to the earlier pedigree chart created by Robert Chisenhall Hamerton as the RCH chart, and the later chart created by his grandson Claude Stanley Hamerton as the CSH chart.)

I was interested in what the quartered arms for Robert Chisenhall Hamerton would be – and how each marriage to an heiress had augmented the Hamerton arms over successive generations. This essay is my investigation into Robert Chisenhall Hamerton's direct Hamerton ancestral line, and how accurate the heraldic shields are in the way they are presented, and the genealogy they suggest. In the first section I take a look at the Hamerton surname, then review details discovered in published sources to order to augment the pedigree information already transcribed. In the second section, I discuss each of the annotated marriages in turn.



SECTION I

The Hamerton Surname

The *Oxford Dictionary of Family Names in Britain and Ireland* lists HAMMERTON as the main spelling, with HAMERTON as a variant. It is an example of a locative name, derived from any of several places called Hammerton or Hamerton, especially Hammerton Green in West Yorkshire.¹ In *The Penguin Dictionary of British Surnames*, Titford suggests the second element is 'place/farm' from Old English, while the first element could be '(hammer-shaped) crag' or 'hammer(-smithy)' or a plant-name 'hammer-sedge/-wort'.² Both Reaney³ and Hanks⁴ give the earliest bearers of the surname as: Fulk de Hammertona 1142-54 in Mowbray Charters; John de Hamerton, 1255 in Inquisitiones post Mortem (Yorks); Johannes de Hamerton, 1379 in Poll Tax (Green Hammerton, WR Yorks); Johannes de Hamyrton 1379 in Poll Tax (Selby, WR Yorks).

The Hamerton Arms

The Hamerton arms for the family were illustrated in *petra sancta* on both the RCH and the CSH pedigree charts, and I wanted to check both the surname and the arms in Burke's General Armory and Papworth's Ordinary.

Blazon	RCH chart	CSH chart
<i>Argent, three hammers Sable</i>		

¹ Hanks, Patrick, Coates, Richard, McClure, Peter. *The Oxford Dictionary of Family Names in Britain and Ireland. Volume 2: Cushion-Joynson*. Oxford University Press. (Oxford, 2016). p1182.

² Titford, John. *The Penguin Dictionary of British Surnames*, Penguin Books (London, 2009). p208

³ Reaney, P.H., Wilson, R.M. *A Dictionary of English Surnames* (Psychology Press 1991) p1480.

⁴ Hanks, Patrick, Coates, Richard, McClure, Peter. *The Oxford Dictionary of Family Names in Britain and Ireland. Volume 2: Cushion-Joynson*. Oxford University Press. (Oxford, 2016). p1182.

Burke's General Armory confirmed the Hamerton arms and also gave the family's crest and motto.⁵

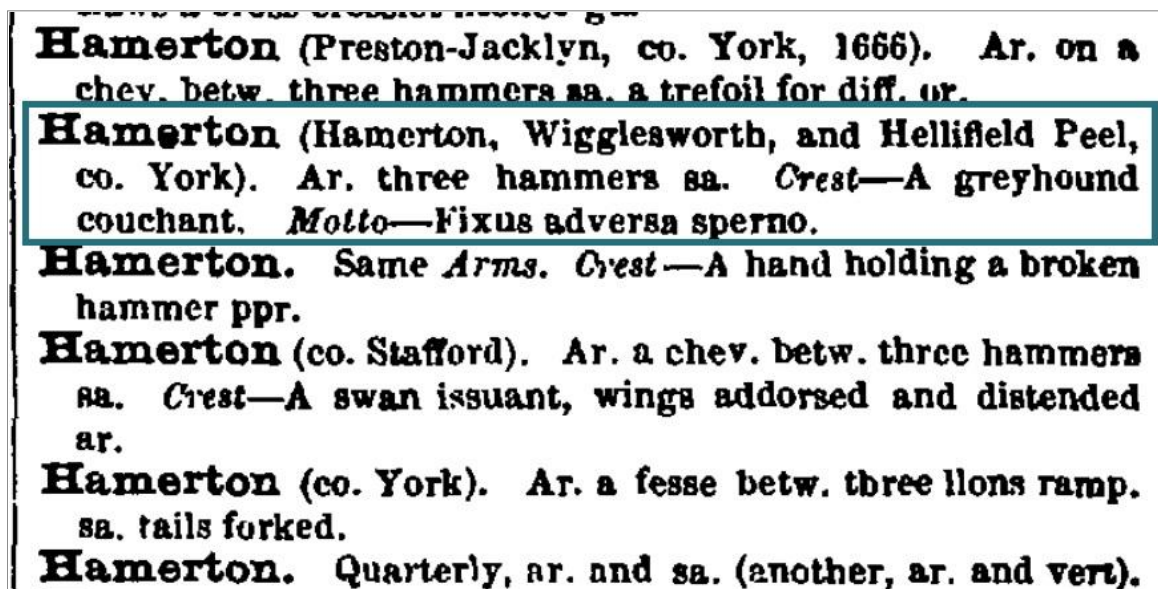


Figure 2: Entries for Hamerton, Burke's General Armory

Following up in Papworth's *Ordinary of British Armorials* and the entry gives quartering information for the family under research.⁶

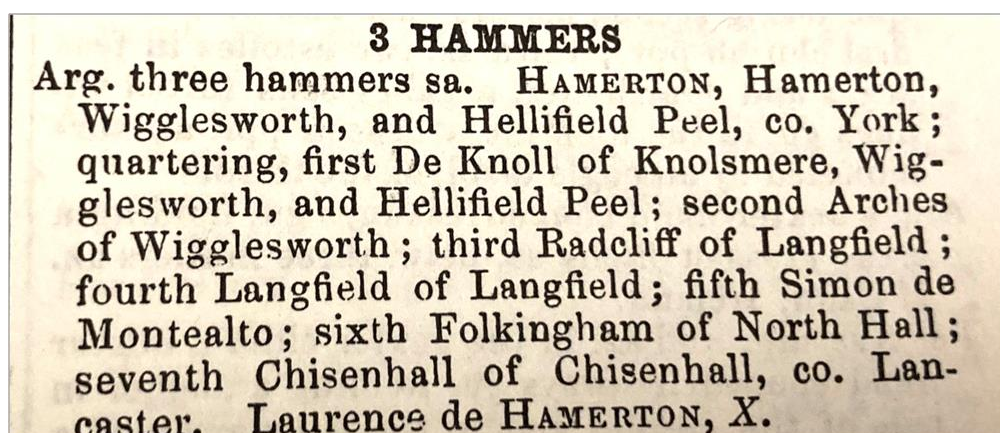


Figure 3: Entry for Hamerton in Papworth's Ordinary

There are two quarters that don't appear on the pedigree chart: the arms of the Arches of Wigglesworth, and those of Simon de Montealto, though both names do appear in the RCH pedigree chart, so I know where the families connect and through whom the arms were inherited.

Published Sources

I next looked to published sources to investigate the Hamerton family and arms further.

⁵ Burke, Sir Bernard. *The General Armory of England, Scotland, Ireland and Wales*. Reprint of 1884 edition. Genealogical Publishing Company. Baltimore, 1969. p445.

⁶ Papworth, John W. *Papworth's Ordinary of British Armorials*. T Richards (London, 1874), p901.

Fairbairn's Book of Crests

Fairbairn's includes the crest and motto of the Hamerton family of Hellifield Peel and provides a reference to the plate that displays an illustration of the crest.⁷

Hamerton, Chisnall, of the Peel, Hellifield, Yorks, and Claremont Terrace, Sunderland, a greyhound couchant, <i>Fixus adversa sperno.</i>	61. 1
Hamerton, a hand holding a broken hammer ppr.	221. 13
Hamerton, issuant from the wreath a swan with wings addorsed and distended arg.	100. 2

Figure 3: Hamerton entry in Volume I of Fairbairn's Book of Crests

The index gives four pages of plates with greyhound illustrations: 58 through to 61, with the Hamerton crest referenced 61.1.⁸ When viewing the plate illustrations in Vol II⁹, it's more likely to be 60.1 (see Figure 5 below) than 61.1 which has a greyhound erased, shown in Figure 6 below.

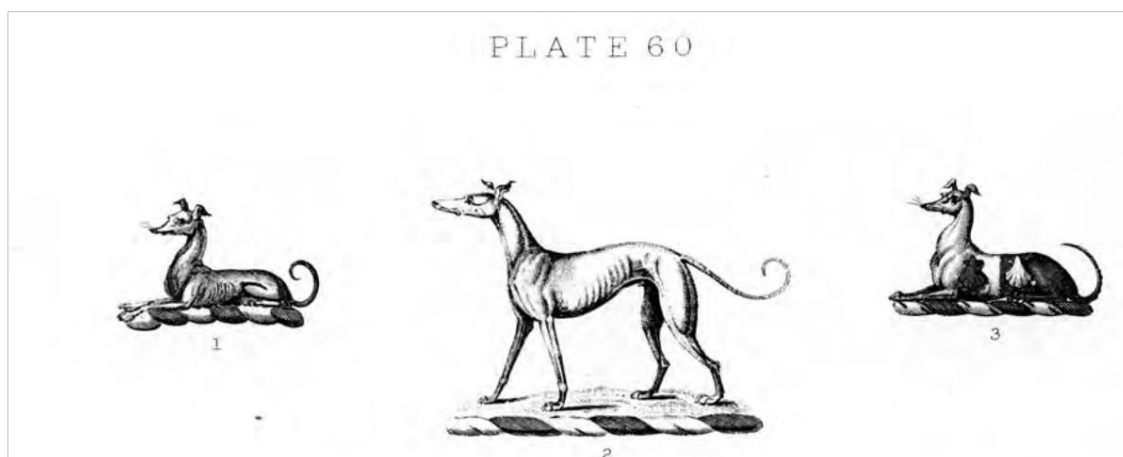
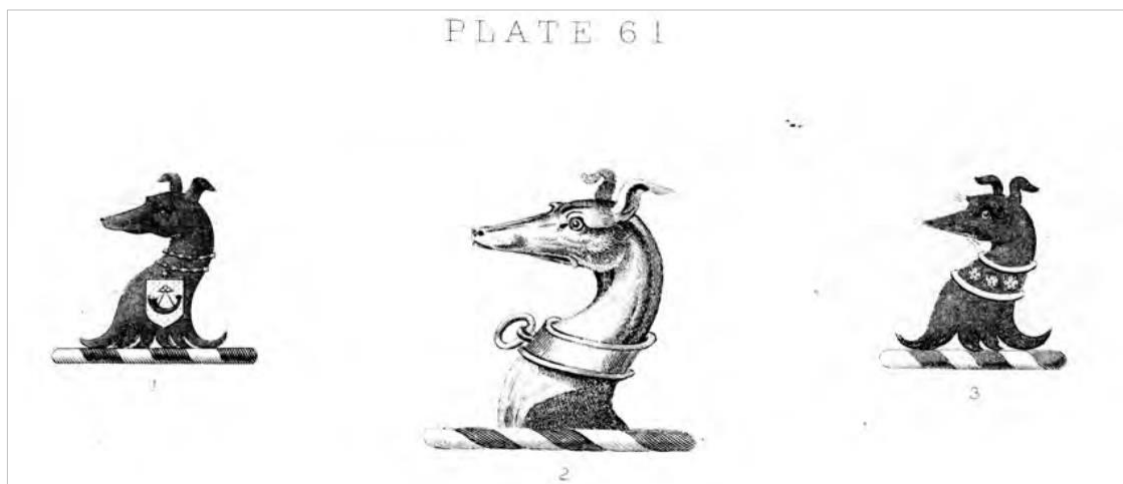


Figure 4: Plate 60, Fairbairn's Book of Crests, Volume II



⁷ Fairbairn, James. *Fairbairn's Book of Crests of the Families of Great Britain and Ireland, Volume I*. Reprint of 4th edition. TC & EC Jack. London, 1892, p252.

⁸ Fairbairn, James. *Fairbairn's Book of Crests of the Families of Great Britain and Ireland, Volume I*. Reprint of 4th edition. TC & EC Jack. London, 1892, p144.

⁹ Fairbairn, James. *Fairbairn's Book of Crests of the Families of Great Britain and Ireland, Volume II*. Reprint of 4th edition. TC & EC Jack. London, 1905.

Figure 5: Plate 61, Fairbairn's Book of Crests, Volume II

A translation of the motto is given in Part II (1) of Volume 1: Resolute I scorn adversity.¹⁰

Fit via vi.....	<i>The way is made by force.....</i>	Campbell, Proctor-Kamsden, Way.
Fixus ac solidus.....	<i>Fixed and solid.....</i>	Stewart.
Fixus adversa sperno.....	<i>Resolute I scorn adversity.....</i>	Crump, Hamerton.
Flecti, non frangi.....	<i>To be bent, not broken.....</i>	Carroll, Hemery, Houldsworth, Temple.

Figure 6: Hamerton motto, Fairbairn's Book of Crests, Volume I

Burke's Family Index¹¹

Burke's Family Index indicated that 1937 was the last edition of Burke's Landed Gentry in which an entry for Hamerton was featured, and also referred to Bower as the current surname. Details were given of several generations of Hamertons, and lists Dorothy Helen Warden Bower as the current Hamerton, the only child of Chisnall Hamerton.¹² (Further editions of Burke's Landed Gentry were consulted after prompting from Marshall.)

The Genealogist's Guide¹³

My next step was to consult Marshall's *The Genealogist's Guide*, and there were numerous references to the Hamerton family to follow up.

HAMERTON. Surtees Society, xxxvi. 354. Burke's Commoners, i. 519, Landed Gentry, 2, 3, 4, 8. Foster's Yorkshire Pedigrees. Foster's Visitations of Yorkshire, 526. Burke's Heraldic Illustrations, 15. Whitaker's Deanery of Craven, 118, (150). John Watson's History of Halifax, 239. Harleian Society, xvi. 152. Notes and Queries, 7 S. ii. 302. The Genealogist, New Series, ix. 168.

Figure 7: Entry for Hamerton in *The Genealogist's Guide*, Marshall

Surtees Society, xxxvi¹⁴

Published in 1859, this is Dugdale's Visitation of Yorkshire for the years 1665 and 1666, edited by Robert Davies, from a handwritten copy made by Dr Raine, collated by the editor with Dugdale's original copy, held privately for many years.

It contains a nine generation pedigree for 'Hamerton of Preston-Jacklyn', a line descending from James, 2nd son of Laurence Hamerton of Hamerton Peele. Arms: *Argent, on a chevron between three hammers Sable a trefoil slipped Or*. No other Hamerton pedigrees are included.

10 Fairbairn, James. *Fairbairn's Book of Crests of the Families of Great Britain and Ireland, Volume I*. Reprint of 4th edition. TC & EC Jack. London, 1892. Part II (1) Mottoes, p28.

11 Montgomery-Massingberd, Hugh (ed). *Burke's Family Index*. Burke's Peerage Limited. London, 1976. p69.

12 Pirie-Gordon, H. *Burke's Genealogical and Heraldic History of the Landed Gentry. Centenary (15th) edition*. 1937. pp1024-25.

13 Marshall, George W. *The Genealogist's Guide*. Genealogical Publishing Co. Inc. (Baltimore, 1980), p372

14 Davies, Robert, ed. *The visitation of the county of Yorke, begun in Ao Dni 1665 and finished Ao Dni 1666 by William Dugdale*. Surtees Society vol. 36, 1859, pp354-355

Foster's Yorkshire Pedigrees¹⁵

Foster's pedigrees is divided between two volumes, with volume I containing West Riding and II North and East Riding. The pedigrees included in the volume are listed at the beginning, in general alphabetical order. Families with pedigrees are listed in uppercase. Those names in sentence case are families introduced into the pedigrees, with the second name being the pedigree in which it appears. Hamerton is listed as “HAMERTON, OF HAMERTON, AND HELLIFIELD PEEL.”

For Hamerton, there is a 24 generation pedigree, commencing from Richard de Hamerton living in 1170 and concluding with Chisnall Hamerton born November 1865 and his sister Maria born November 1868, and includes the Preston-Jacklyn (or Purston-Jacklin as it is named here) line. Blazon of the arms is given, as well as crest, and an illustration of both provided, although the greyhound appears more dormant than couchant.



Figure 8: Hamerton arms and crest, Foster's Yorkshire Pedigrees

Foster's Visitations of Yorkshire¹⁶

This publication contains the visitation of Yorkshire made in the years 1584/5 by Robert Glover, Somerset Herald and deputy to William Flower, to which was added the subsequent visitation made in 1612 by Richard St George, with several additional pedigrees, including the arms taken out of church and houses and similar.

Hamerton is listed within the section 'Pedigrees recorded in the Visitation of 1612' and includes a five generation pedigree with a note to see pedigree “at large” in his Yorkshire Collection.¹⁷ The 'Stanecliffe' at top left of the Hamerton entry appears to refer to the wapentake, and the name bottom right in upper case 'STEPHEN HAMERTON' may indicate that he was the source of the pedigree information.

¹⁵ Foster, Joseph. Pedigrees of the county families of Yorkshire. Volume 1. West Riding. W. Wilfred Head (London, 1874)

¹⁶ Foster, Joseph, ed. The visitation of Yorkshire, made in the years 1584/5. Foster, Joseph, ed. Privately printed London, 1875

¹⁷ Foster, Joseph, ed. The visitation of Yorkshire, made in the years 1584/5. Foster, Joseph, ed. Privately printed London, 1875, p526.

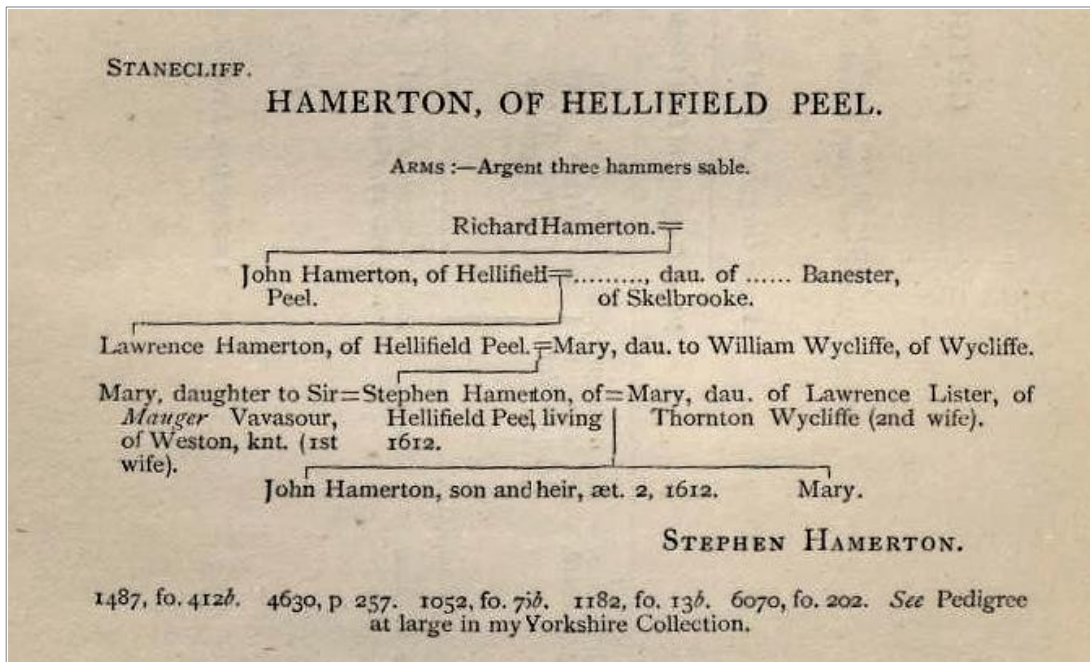


Figure 9: Hamerton pedigree from Visitation of Yorkshire in 1612, Foster's Visitation

Also contained within this publication is a copy of *Sir William Fayrfar' booke of Arms of Yorkshire*, contemporary with these visitations, and Hamerton appears on page 648, along with others in the same area, and includes a blazon of arms for John Hamerton (*Argent, a fesse between three lions rampant double queued Sable*), not found in Papworth's Ordinary, though it has been annotated with a question mark, suggesting some doubt. It was useful to see other surnames from the same locale, and these included two (Banester, Lister) that appear in the RCH chart.

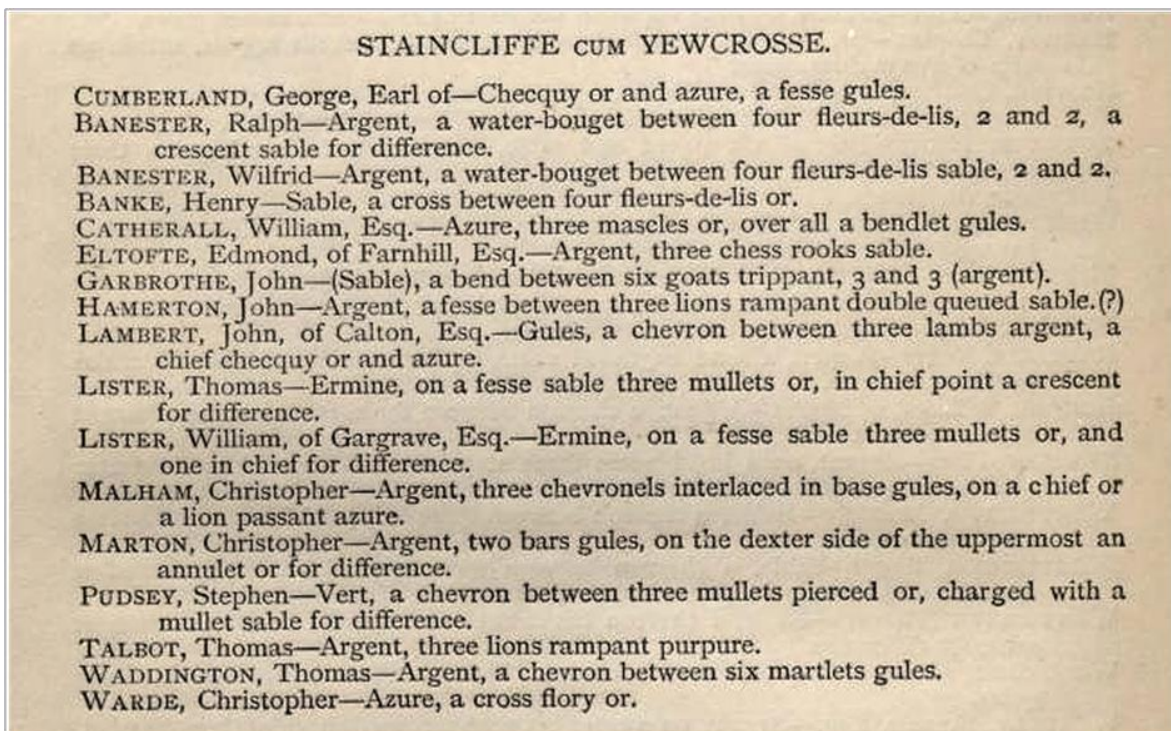


Figure 10: *Sir William Fayrfar' booke of Arms of Yorkshire*

Burke's Heraldic Illustrations¹⁸

Produced to redress the “slight and ill executed etchings that ever and anon disfigure our antiquarian and genealogical literature”, the contents include engraved plates of arms, pedigrees and annotations to explain the engravings, a section on mottoes translated and explained, and an index which links the family name to the plate number.

On *Plate XV* was found the Pedigree of James Hamerton of Hellifield Peel. The pedigree displays only five generations, starting from Adam de Hamerton, but several generations are skipped and included are the most prominent marriages. The entry gives the Hamerton crest and motto, and also an incredibly informative blazon for the arms containing fifteen quarters.

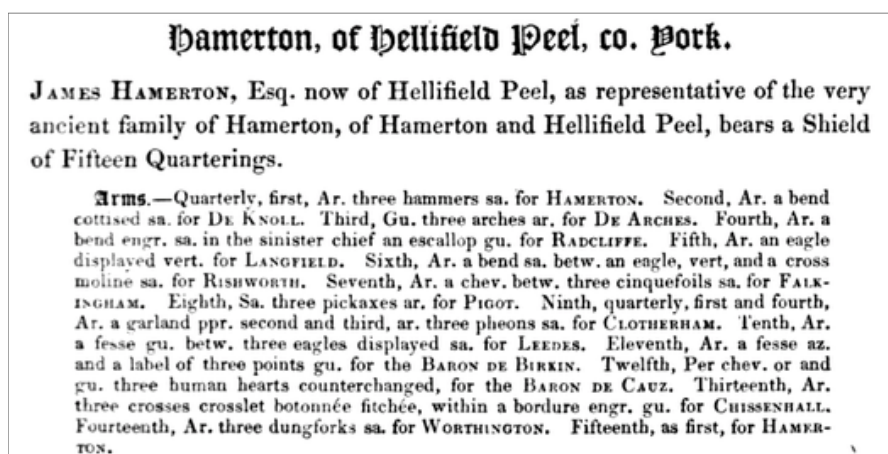


Figure 11: Hamerton entry, Burke's Heraldic illustrations

The arms are illustrated with the crest and motto, and on the side has annotations for each quarter.

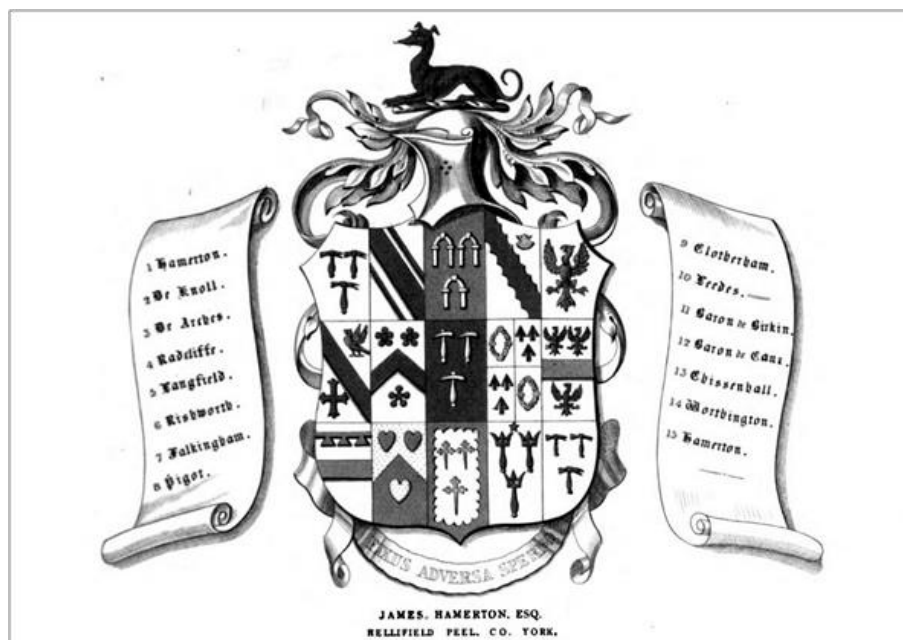


Figure 12: Burke's Heraldic illustrations, plate XV, for James Hamerton

¹⁸ Burke, Sir John Bernard; Burke, John Heraldic illustrations, Volume 1. London, 1844. p15

This was a fascinating find, as some of the arms are not mentioned at all in the RCH or CSH charts. The James Hamerton to whom these arms belong was the first cousin once removed to Robert Chisenhall Hamerton.

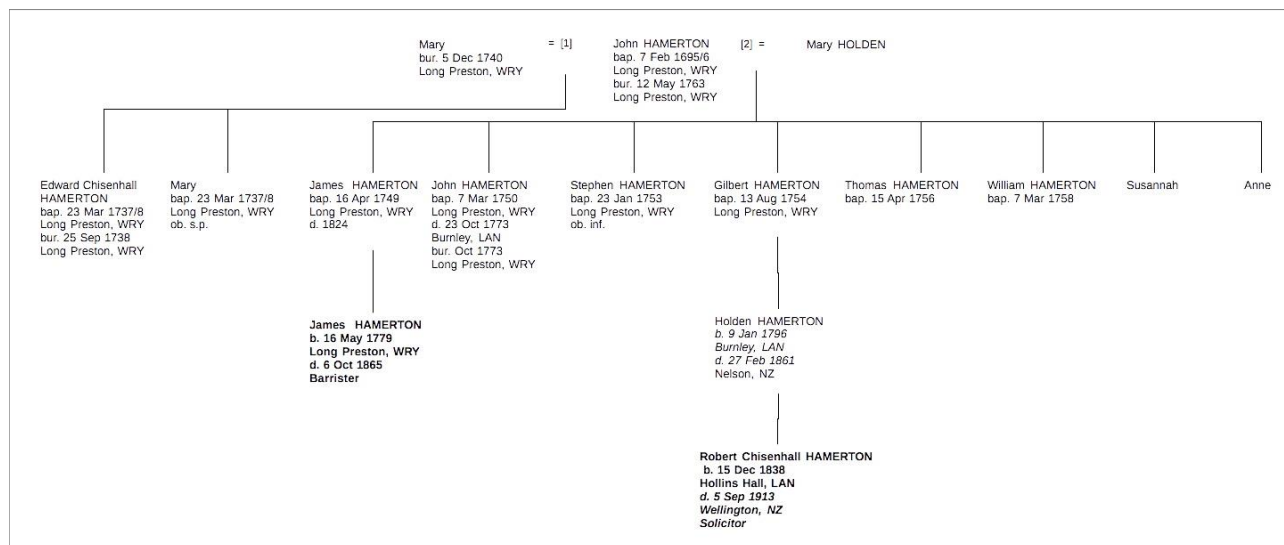


Figure 13: Hamerton pedigree chart showing James Hamerton and Robert Chisenhall Hamerton

In the Mottoes section, Hamerton's motto of *Fixus adversa sperno* has been translated as: *Firm I despise adversity*.

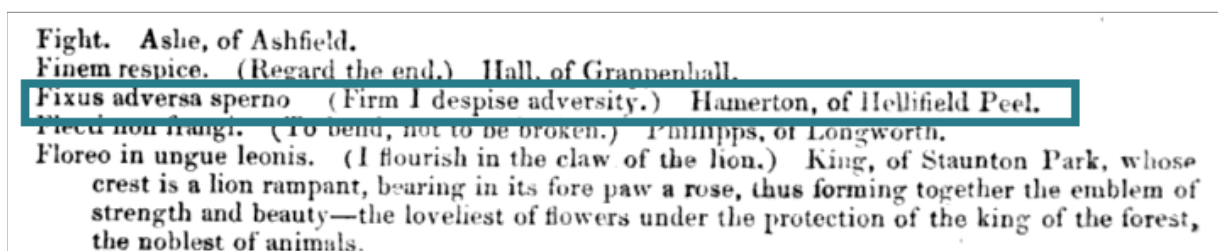


Figure 14: Hamerton motto, Burke's Heraldic illustrations

Whitaker's History of Craven¹⁹

Thomas Dunham Whitaker was the vicar of the parish of Whalley, on which he wrote a history, and this work on the Deanery of Craven was a continuation of the history of Whalley. The RCH pedigree chart seemed to rely heavily on this work. The Deanery of Craven contained several parishes with which the Hamerton family had strong connections. They were “the only family of antiquity who ever resided within the parish [of Sladeburne], migrating at an early period to Wigglesworth and Hellifield.”²⁰

Between pages 54 and 55, on Miscellaneous Plate, is illustrated one of the arms found in Sallay Abbey, and it looks like the Hamerton arms being impaled, which may give a clue to a marriage of a Hamerton daughter.

¹⁹ Whitaker, Thomas Dunham. *The History and Antiquities of the Deanery of Craven, in the County of York*. 2Nd edition. Nichols, 1812. P. 118 (150)

²⁰ Whitaker, *The History and Antiquities of the Deanery of Craven, in the County of York*, p27.



Figure 15: Arms found in Sallay Abbey

Several families that intermarried with the Hamertons are also mentioned in Whitaker, including the Lister family of Myhope and Thornton, whose pedigree appears on page 103. Whitaker's History also includes heraldry found in churches, and gives an illustration of the font at Bolton and a display of the arms that are found on it, including the Hamerton arms.²¹

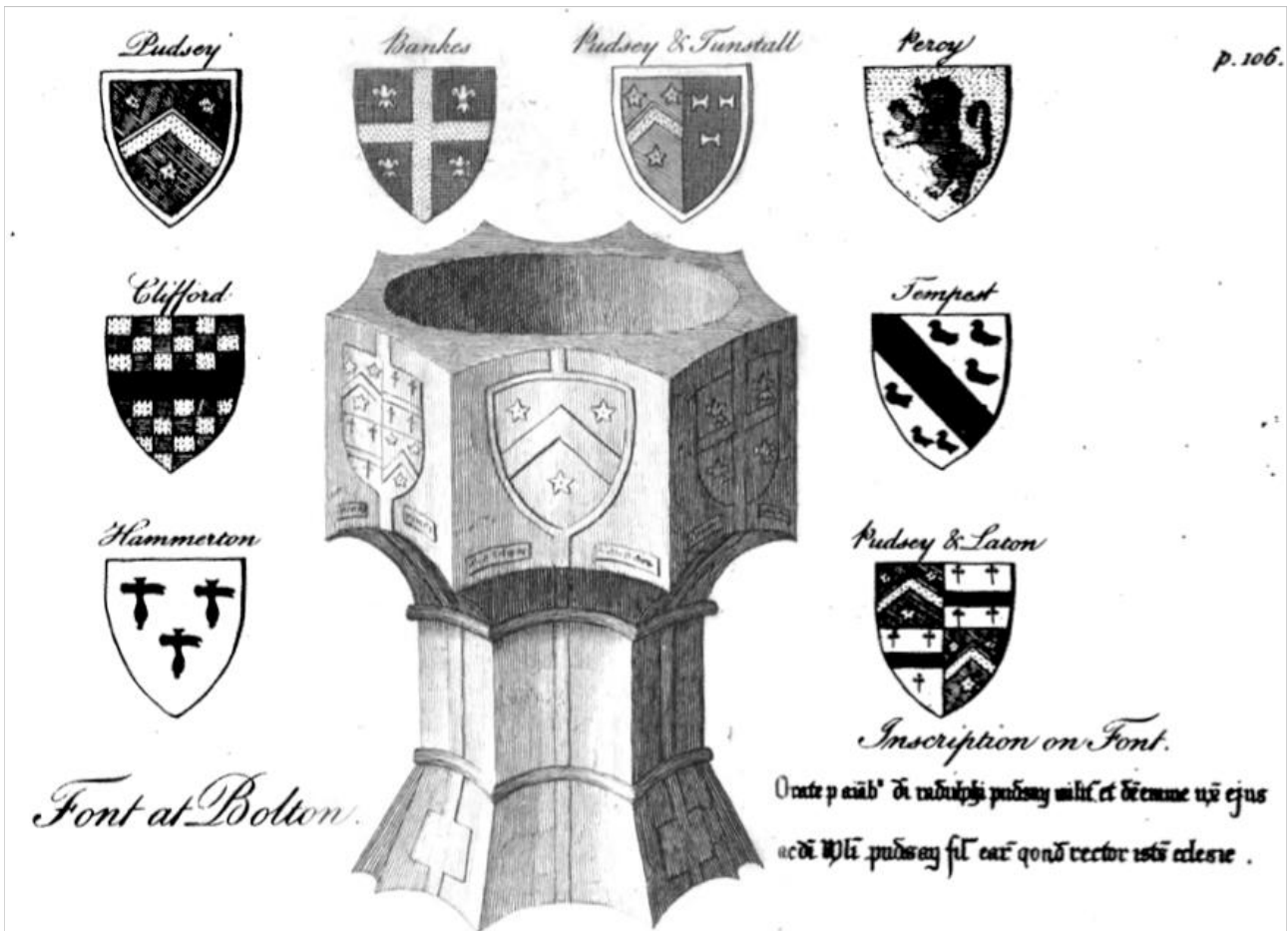


Figure 16: Illustration of the Bolton font, Whitaker's History of Craven

²¹ Whitaker, *The History and Antiquities of the Deanery of Craven, in the County of York*, p106.

The other arms include Tempest, Hamerton, Pudsay and Layton, Pudsay, Banks, Tunstall, and Percy.

The chantry in the church at Long Preston was founded by Richard Hamerton, knight, and the Hamerton tomb bears five shields: the first Hamerton impaling Tempest; second, Hamerton impaling Assheton; third, Hamerton quartered with Knolle and Arches borne quarterly; fourth, quarterly, Plumpton; fifth, Hamerton, and Radcliffe of Longfeld.²² Whitaker's footnote adds that "the heralds have very improperly given this coat, with the difference of an Escallop, which distinguished the Wimmersley branch. But on the stone it is most evidently a Mullet, which was the difference always given by the Radcliffes of Longfield and Todmorden."

The Hamerton pedigree follows, but in the digitised second edition, it has been badly reproduced and much of the detail has been lost. The third edition, available on FamilySearch, provided a much improved version, and also more information including charts for the connected Lister and Tempest families. Some blazons were included in the pedigree charts, eg. Knolle.

The History and Antiquities of the Parish of Halifax, in Yorkshire²³

Published in 1775, the publication discusses Langfield and Stephen Hamerton, and contains useful information on marriages and arms, including the blazon for Knoll (*Argent, a bend between two bendlets, Sable*) and for the spouse (not named, described as the "daughter of... Underhill") of Richard Hamerton, who bore *Argent, on a chevron Sable, between three trefoils Gules, a leopard's head of the first*. This appears to be Elizabeth, daughter and heir of William de Radcliffe and his wife Ellen de Langfield.

It contains a narrative pedigree of the Hamerton family, though either the text is unclear or Watson has mixed up a couple of the marriages.

William Flower's Visitations of Yorkshire in the Years 1563 and 1564²⁴

The Harleian Society published William Flower's Visitations of Yorkshire in the Years 1563 and 1564 in 1881. In the preface, the editor Charles Norcliffe noted that with this publication the list of Heraldic Visitations of Yorkshire was complete. The other four being:

- 1530 Visitation, made by Thomas Tonge, Norroy, published by Surtees Society 1863, ed W.H.D. Longstaffe
- 1664 and 1665 Visitation made by Sir William Dugdale, published Surtees Society 1859, ed Robert Davies
- 1584-5 and 1612 Visitations, made by Glover and St George, published Joseph Foster, ed. Joseph Foster

The index on page 32 contains numerous Hamerton references with many Hamertons included in other pedigrees as they married into a family, so especially useful for adding to collateral lines. The Hamerton pedigree appears on pages 152-153, shown in Figure 18.

²² Whitaker, Thomas Dunham. *The History and Antiquities of the Deanery of Craven, in the County of York*. 2Nd edition. p124.

²³ Watson, John. *The History and Antiquities of the Parish of Halifax, in Yorkshire*. T Lowndes, 1775

²⁴ Norcliffe, Charles Best, ed. *The Visitations of Yorkshire in the Years 1563 and 1564: Made by William Flower, Esquire, Norroy King of Arms*. Harleian Society XVI, 1881. p152-153

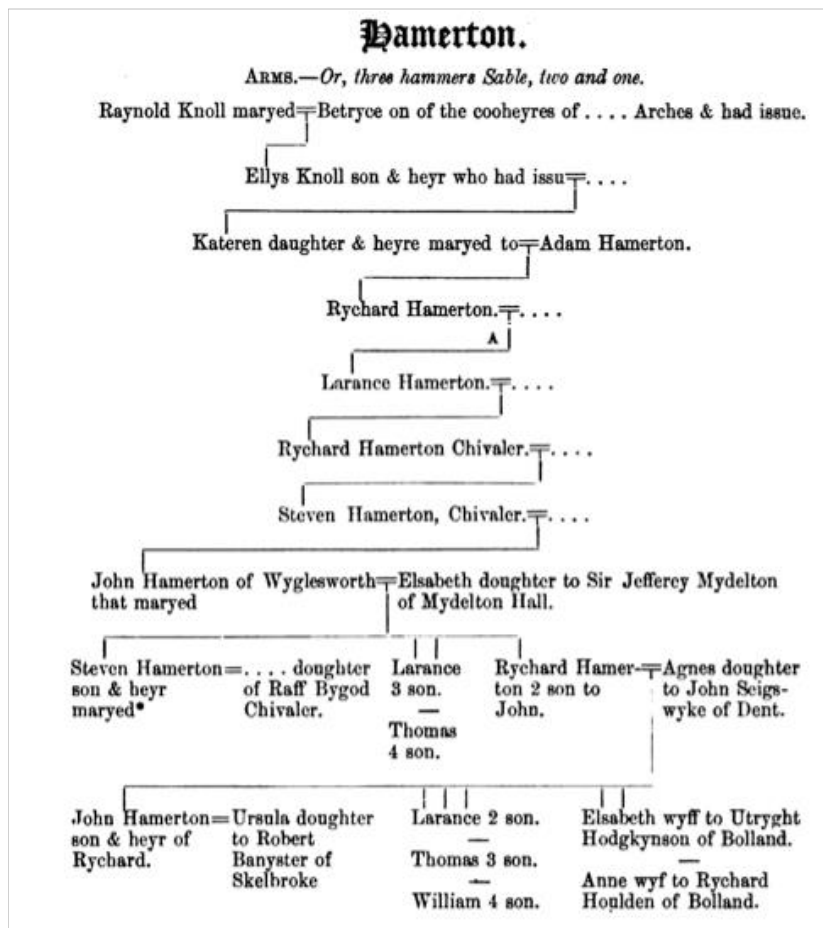


Figure 17: Hamerton pedigree in *The Visitations of Yorkshire in the Years 1563 and 1564*

Notes and Queries 7 S ii²⁵

Published Oct 16, 1886, this contained a response by C.H.E. Carmichael of New University Club, S.W. to Mr J. Hamerton Crump's query published in 6th S iv. 208, 10 Sep 1881²⁶ about the Hamerton family. Mr J Hamerton Crump's query was related to a collateral line. Mr Carmichael's response included numerous references to the Hamertons of Hellifield Peel, wills and visitations, and the publications in which to find them.

The Genealogist (NS) vol 9 (1893)²⁷

The last Visitation of Yorkshire was made by Sir William Dugdale, Norroy King of Arms, in 1665 and 1666. The record of the same from a MS copy was printed by the Surtees Soc vol 36 in 1859 and edited by Robert Davies. With the availability of information through the publication of parish registers, marriage licences, wills and the like, Davies' intention was to continue the pedigrees as far back as possible. The work of Dugdale was printed in italics, and additional material inserted by Davies was in ordinary type.

²⁵ "The Hamerton Family", *Notes and Queries*, 7th S. II, published 16 Oct 1886. pp 302-04.

²⁶ "Families of Hamerton, Routh, and Lewn", *Notes and Queries*, 6th S. IV, published 10 Sep 1881; p208.

²⁷ Clay, J.W. ed. "Dugdale's Visitations of Yorkshire 1665-66, with additions", *The Genealogist*, New Series, ix (pp61-77, 161-171, 220-227); p 168.

The Hamerton entry is for Hamerton of Preston-Jacklyn but the addition is one generation back to Laurence Hamerton, of Hamerton and Hellifield, living 1440. Additions are names of issue, spouses burial and baptism dates, probate dates.

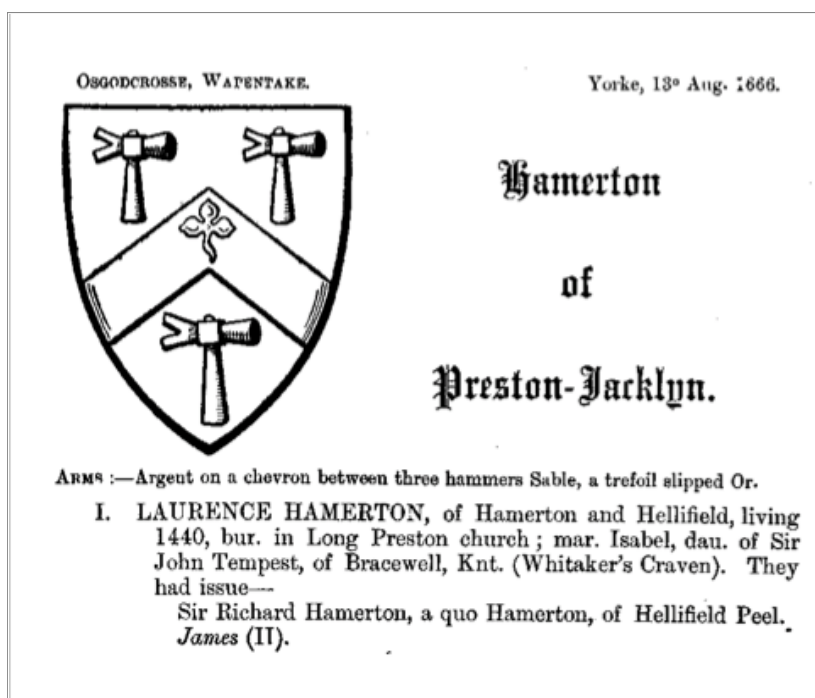


Figure 18: Hamerton entry in Davie's Dugdale's Visitation

Burke's Landed Gentry 2 3 4 8

As well as the centennial (1937) edition referenced by Burke's Family Indexe, further editions of Burke's Landed Gentry were checked for entries: third edition (published 1855) available online through Ancestry, fourth edition (published 1868), and the ninth edition (published 1898). Copies of entries from the latter two editions were acquired from IHGS.

The third edition lists the current Hamerton as James Hamerton Esq of Hellifield Peel, born 16 Mary 1779. barrister, and includes a lineage of eight generations but skips numerous of them. It also includes a blazon, crest, motto and seat.²⁸ The fourth edition contains the same information.²⁹ The ninth edition lists the current Hamerton as Chisnall Hamerton, son of the earlier James, and displays the Hamerton arms, but with a crescent for difference, perhaps acknowledging the descent from a second son (Richard) after the eldest son Stephen was attained in 1537. As well as details given of the latest generation of Hamertons, more information is given of earlier generations, including the marriages of some of the Hamerton daughters.³⁰

Details of later generations pointed to records of the legal profession and alumni records and these were consulted but not included here as beyond the scope of discussion.

28 Sir Bernard Burke. *A Genealogical and Heraldic Dictionary of the Landed Gentry of Great Britain and Ireland*. Third edition. London, England: Hurst and Blackett, 1855; p505-506.

29 Burke, Sir Bernard. *A Genealogical and Heraldic Dictionary of the Landed Gentry of Great Britain and Ireland*. Fourth edition. 1868. p629.

30 Burke, Ashworth P. *A Genealogical and Heraldic Dictionary of the Landed Gentry of Great Britain and Ireland*. Ninth edition. 1898. p663.

Burke's Commoners³¹

This includes similar, though slightly more expansive notes than *Landed Gentry*, mentioning estates (Hellifield, in the county of York, and Chisnall Hall, in Lancashire.) as well as seat.

That concluded the leads from Marshall, and the following are Hamerton references from Whitmore's *A Genealogical Guide*.³²

HAMERTON. Lincs. Peds., Harl. Soc. li, 449; lv, 1247. Surtees Soc. cxxxiii, 81. Wallop Family, 399.

Figure 19: Hamerton entry in Whitmore's *A Genealogical Guide*

Surtees Society vol 133 (1920)³³

This Surtees Society publication contains the William Flower's Visitation of Yorkshire in 1563-64 and pedigrees collected by him in 1567. The alphabetical list of pedigrees and arms includes Hamerton of Wigglesworth and three generations of the family are described, but the footnotes contain references to the 1612 visitation and several wills: John Hamerton's will dated 1513 and proved 2 January 1515 (Test. Ebor part v. p. 45), the will of Richard Hamerton of Slaidburn dated 9 March 1538-9, and proved 23 April 1539 (Test. Ebor, part vi p.86) and John's son Stephen, dated 6 March 1546/7, proved 25 April 1547 (Test. Ebor, part vi, p255).

Lincolnshire Pedigrees, Harleian Society li, 449³⁴; lv, 1247³⁵.

Harleian Society, volumes 51 & 55 contain Lincolnshire pedigrees, ed. Rev Canon A R Maddison, published in 4 volumes between 1902-1906. The Hamerton family referenced in both volumes is from Horncastle, descended from Hugh Hamerton of Darby and Isabel, daughter of Richard Langley, and are not readily connected to the Hamertons of Hellifield.

The Wallop Family and their Ancestry³⁶

This includes only four generations of the Hamerton family, showing the link to the Tempest and Pudsey families, with very little other detail.

The Genealogist's Guide, Barrow³⁷ and A Catalogue of British Family Histories, Thomson³⁸

After concluding the leads from Whitmore, I checked Barrow and Thomson. The first contained a reference to *History of Clonmel* which included details of a Hamerton family descended from Richard Hamerton who settled in Clonmel around 1654, and Thomson contained no Hamerton references.

31 Burke, John. *A Genealogical and Heraldic History of the Commoners of Great Britain and Ireland, Enjoying Territorial Possessions Or High Official Rank: But Uninvested with Heritable Honours, Volume 1*. Henry Colburn, 1835. P.519

32 Whitmore, J. B. *A Genealogical Guide*. Walford Brothers, 1953.

33 Dendy, Frederick Walter (ed). Visitation of Yorkshire by William Flower in 1563-64, and pedigrees of Yorkshire and adjacent counties collected by him in 1567, Surtees Society v. 133 (v. ii);

34 Maddison, Rev Canon A. R. Lincolnshire Pedigrees; Volume LI Harleian Society (1903. p449.

35 Maddison, Rev Canon A. R. Lincolnshire Pedigrees; Volume LL Harleian Society (1906). p1247.

36 Watney, Vernon James. *The Wallop Family and Their Ancestry*. Volume II Colepeper – Marshal. John Johnson (Oxford, 1928). p399.

37 Barrow, Geoffrey B. *The Genealogist's Guide: An Index to Printed British Pedigrees and Family Histories, 1950-1975*. London, England: Research Publishing Company, 1977.

38 Thomson, T.R. *A Catalogue of British Family Histories*. The Research Publishing Co. London, 1980.

SECTION II

Hamerton Marital Arms

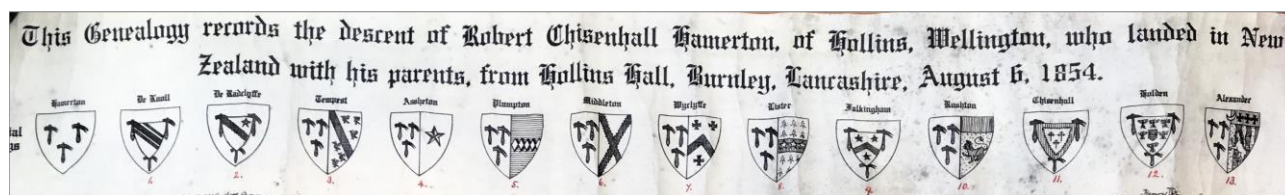




Figure 20: Illustration of armorial bearings, Hamerton pedigree chart compiled by Robert Chisenhall Hamerton

The armorial bearings on both the RCH and the CSH pedigree charts are in *petra sancta* and are a little difficult to decipher. For each, I have provided a suggested blazon of the wife's arms (which are displayed with Hamerton either *inescutcheon* or *impaled*), the shield as it appears in the original RCH chart, and then the shield as it appears in CSH's 1931 copy. I then compare these with what I have found through published and online sources.

The pedigree charts provided show the direct descending line with spouse and parents (where known), and each chart ends at the marriage under discussion. Details displayed in standard text have been sourced from the original pedigree chart, while those in italic text are details found during subsequent research in published sources and online records.

1. DE KNOLL

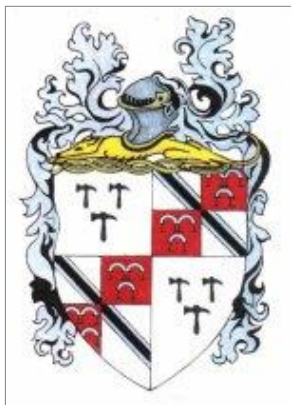
Blazon	RCH chart	CSH chart
<i>Argent, a bend cotised Sable</i>		

I could not find these arms connected to Knolle/De Knoll in Papworth's, and Burke's *General Armory* specifically ascribes to Elias De Knoll (Lord of Knollsmere, Wigglesworth, and Hellifield Peel) and his daughters and co-heirs: *Gules, a chevron between three roses Argent*.³⁹ However, I then checked Papworth's again for *Argent, a bend between two bendlets Sable* and found it ascribed to Ellys de KNOLLE, and the entry referenced Jernyn's Ordinary.⁴⁰ Katherine de KNOLL was coheiress along with her sister Anastasia, not only of de KNOLL, but also of de ARCHES through her grandmother, Beatrice.

³⁹ Burke, Sir Bernard. *The General Armory of England, Scotland, Ireland and Wales*. Reprint of 1884 edition. Genealogical Publishing Company. Baltimore, 1969. p578.

⁴⁰ Burke, *The General Armory of England, Scotland, Ireland and Wales*, p203.

The de ARCHES arms aren't shown on the pedigree chart, but do appear on the quartered arms of James HAMERTON, *Gules three arches Argent*. The Wigglesworth and Riley family history website suggests the Arches de Wigglesworth used these arms, and by 1812, the Wigglesworth family were using them.⁴¹ On the website is a representation of the Hamerton arms, presumably after the death of Katherine's father, when Adam de Hamerton's arms were quartered with his, showing both De Knoll and De Arches.



The Hamerton crest is shown, though interestingly the greyhound (more dormant than couchant) has been placed underneath the helm. (I have been unable to contact the owners of the website to verify the provenance of the illustration.)

John Schuerman who has also researched the TEMPEST family, questioned the ancestry of Katherine De Knoll as depicted in most published sources. His article “The Arches and Knolls” on the Medieval Genealogy website puts forward his reasoning, which casts doubt on the pedigree compiled by RCH.⁴²

Figure 21: Adam de Hamerton arms

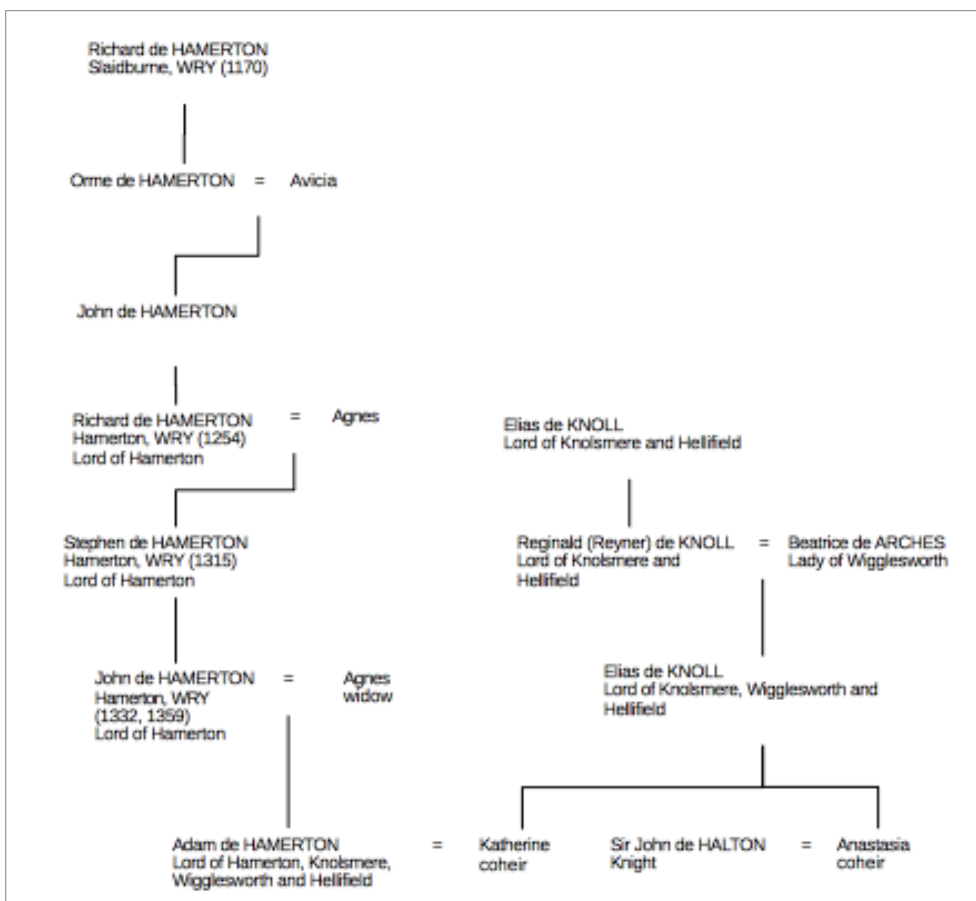




Figure 22: Hamerton pedigree, Adam de Hamerton and Katherine de Knoll

41 “Wigglesworth Manor”, Wigglesworth and Riley family history (http://www.wigglesworth.me.uk/wigglesworth_history/Wigglesworth%20Manor.htm : 27 Sep 2021).

42 John Schuerman, “The Arches and Knolls”, Medieval Genealogy (<http://www.medievalgenealogy.org.uk/families/arches/index.shtml> : accessed 8 Sep 2021).

2. DE RADCLYFFE

Blazon	RCH chart	CSH chart
<i>Argent, a bend engrailed Sable, a mullet for difference</i>		

Through the marriage to Elizabeth de Radclyffe, the Hamerton family connects to the Rushworth, Langfield, Montealto and Radclyffe families. Here the de Radclyffe arms are given with a mullet for difference, whereas in James Hamerton's (Figure 9) there is an escallop, as Whitaker noted.

Elizabeth's arms from Foster's Yorkshire pedigrees were said to be *Argent, on a chevron Sable between three trefoils Gules, a leopard's head of the first.*

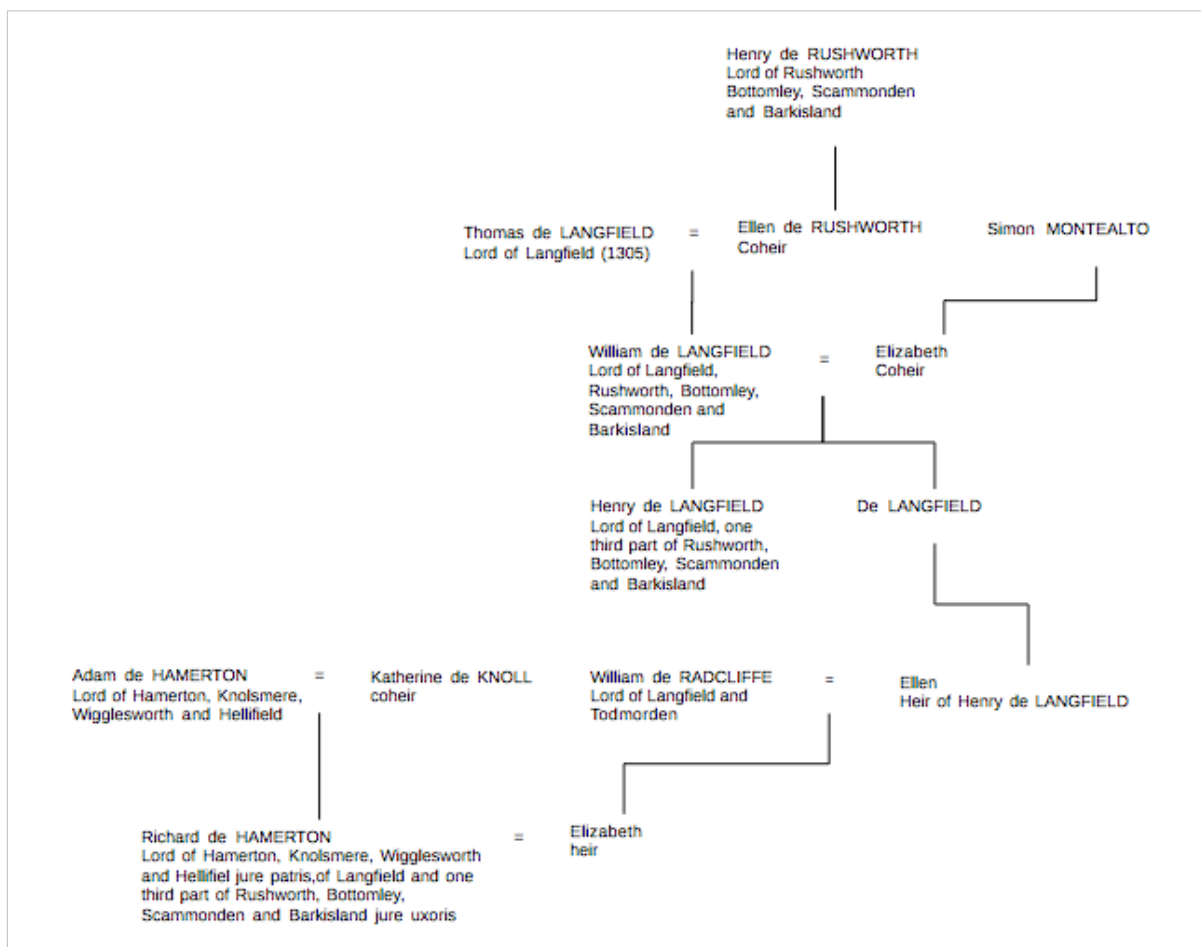

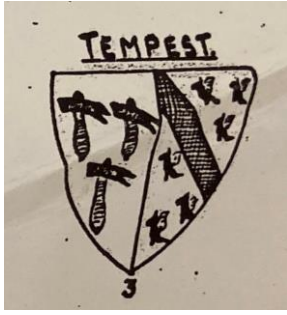


Figure 23: Hamerton pedigree, Richard de Hamerton and Elizabeth de Radcliffe

Burke's General Armory has a number of Radcliffe/Radclyffe arms listed. Elizabeth's father was connected to Todmorden (*Argent, a bend engrailed Sable in the sinister chief a fleur-d-lis Gules*)⁴³, and was also a descendant of Radclyffe of Radclyffe Tower (*Argent, two bendlets engrailed Sable*).⁴⁴ The first Radcliffe listed has arms *Argent, a bend engrailed Sable, a mullet for difference*, but the locations don't appear to link with our Radclyffe family.

At this point, Monte Alto deserves a mention. It doesn't appear on James Hamerton's quarterings, and there are several possibilities in Burke's General Armory under variant spellings. There is a reference to a shield for Roger de MonteAlto (Roger de Montalt, Lord of Mold) on the Heraldry Society website.⁴⁵ The shield, *Azure a lion rampant Argent*, is found in Westminster Abbey. Roger was Steward of the Earldom of Chester and died in 1260. The *Dictionary of British Arms: Medieval Ordinary Volume One* includes several Monte Alto entries under the Beast (1 Lion Rampant) section of the Ordinary.⁴⁶

3. TEMPEST

Blazon	RCH chart	CSH chart
<i>Argent, a bend between six martlets Sable</i>		

On first inspection, the charges looked more like wyverns to me, but checking Burke's General Armory for the Tempest of Bracewell family made it clear they should be martlets.⁴⁷

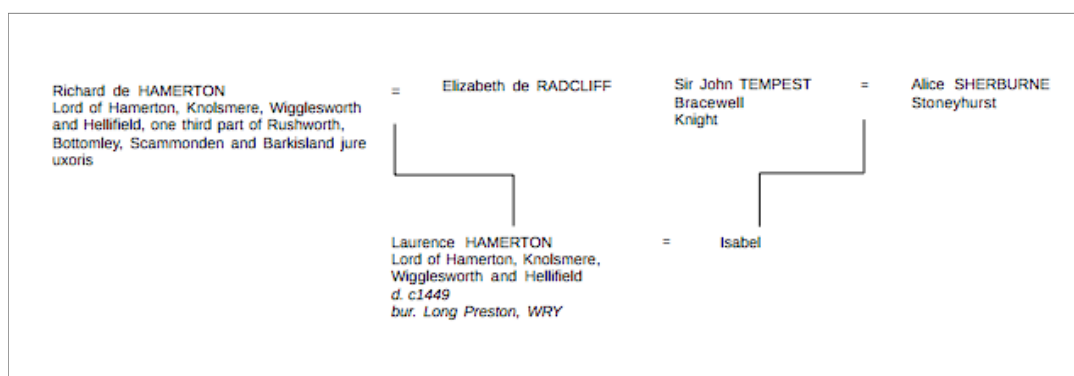


Figure 24: Hamerton pedigree, Laurence Hamerton and Isabel Tempest

43 Burke, Sir Bernard. *The General Armory of England, Scotland, Ireland and Wales*. Reprint of 1884 edition. Genealogical Publishing Company. Baltimore, 1969. p835.

44 Burke, *The General Armory of England, Scotland, Ireland and Wales*, p834


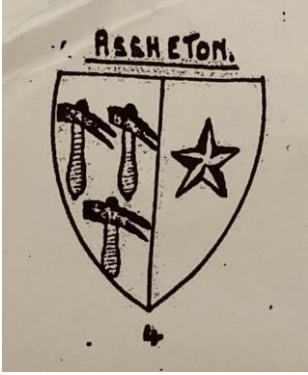
45 "Medieval Heraldry in Westminster Abbey", Heraldry Society (www.theheraldrysociety.com/articles/medieval-heraldry-in-westminster-abbey/ : accessed 2 Oct 2021).

46 Wagner, Sir Anthony. *Dictionary of British Arms: Medieval Ordinary Volume One*. Society of Antiquaries of London (1992)

47 Burke, *The General Armory of England, Scotland, Ireland and Wales*, p1001.

John Schuerman and Doug Hickling dispute the parentage of Isabel Tempest as recorded in most pedigrees (Sir John Tempest and Alice Sherburne), and provide evidence for their assertion that she was the daughter of Sir Richard Tempest and (probably) Margaret Stainforth, in their article “Who were the parents of Isabel Tempest, wife of Laurence Hamerton?”⁴⁸

4. ASSHETON

Blazon	RCH chart	CSH chart
<i>Argent, a mullet Sable</i>		

From the *petra sancta*, it is difficult to see which tincture the mullet would be, but on checking Burke's *General Armory*, two entries for Assheton have a mullet sable (one is pierced of the field). There are also several arms for the variant spelling of ASHTON that are the same or similar.⁴⁹

Richard Hamerton married twice, but it was his first marriage, to Elizabeth Assheton, widow of Sir Ralph Harrington, that had issue.

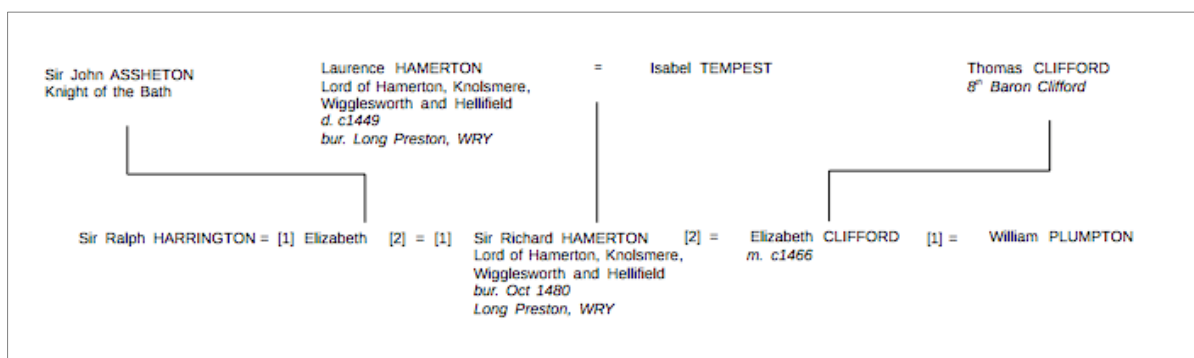

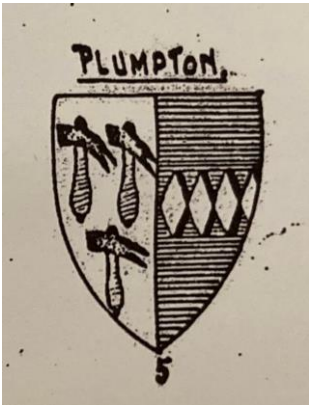


Figure 25: Hamerton pedigree, Richard Hamerton and Elizabeth Assheton

⁴⁸ Hickling, Douglas, and Schuerman, John. “Tempest Wives and Daughters in the late medieval period. Part 4.”, *Medieval Genealogy* (www.medievalgenealogy.org.uk/families/tempest/tempest4.shtml : accessed 8 Sep 2021).

⁴⁹ Burke, Sir Bernard. *The General Armory of England, Scotland, Ireland and Wales*. Reprint of 1884 edition. Genealogical Publishing Company. Baltimore, 1969. p30.

5. PLUMPTON

Blazon	RCH chart	CSH chart
<p><i>Azure, five fusils in fess Argent</i></p>		

Burke's General Armory has three entries for Plumpton, one for Yorkshire 1665: *Azure five fusils in fess Or, each charged with an escallop Gules*; one for Derbyshire, descended from York: *Argent five fusils in fess Sable each charged with an escallop of the first*. The third, from Lancaster, is *Azure a bend between six lozenges or*.⁵⁰ Papworth's has *Azure five fusils in fess Or* with a reference to Sallay Abbey, Co York. *Azure five fusils in fess Argent* are ascribed to several different families Exeter, Sussex, quite unconnected.⁵¹ Checking lozenges as well, Papworth's has *Azure five lozenges in fess Or* ascribed to Fitz-John.⁵²

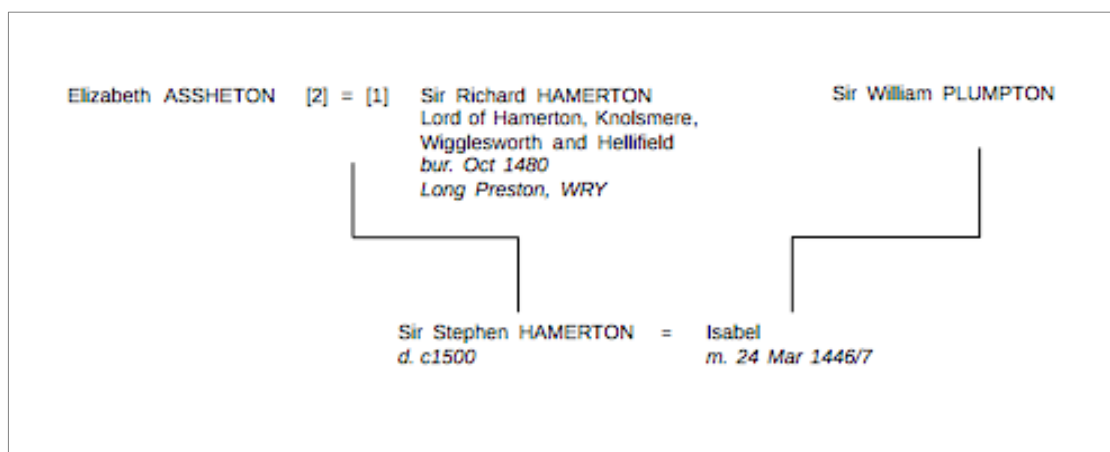


Figure 26: Hamerton pedigree, Stephen Hamerton and Isabel Plumpton

⁵⁰ Burke, Sir Bernard. *The General Armory of England, Scotland, Ireland and Wales*. Reprint of 1884 edition. Genealogical Publishing Company. Baltimore, 1969. p809

⁵¹ Papworth, John W. *Papworth's Ordinary of British Armorial*. T Richards (London, 1874), p892

⁵² Papworth, *Papworth's Ordinary of British Armorial*, p970.

6. MIDDLETON

Blazon	RCH chart	CSH chart
<i>Argent, a saltire engrailed Sable</i>		

Burke's *General Armory* have these arms belonging to the Middleton family of Middleton Hall, Westmoreland.⁵³ John Middleton (temp. Charles II) was the last male heir in the direct line of that family.

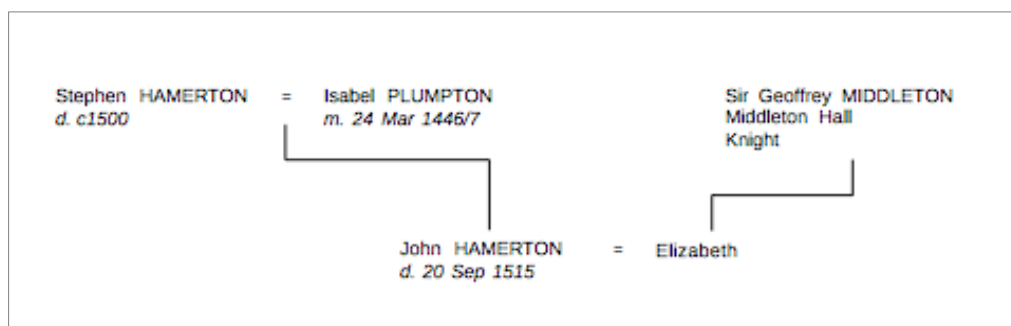

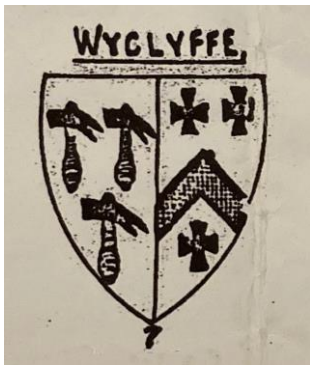


Figure 27: Hamerton pedigree, John Hamerton and Elizabeth Middleton

7. WYCLYFFE

Blazon	RCH chart	CSH chart
<i>Argent, a chevron between three crosses patonce Sable</i> or possibly <i>crosses formee</i> , from the second illustration		

⁵³ Burke, Sir Bernard. *The General Armory of England, Scotland, Ireland and Wales*. Reprint of 1884 edition. Genealogical Publishing Company. Baltimore, 1969. p683.

Burke's *General Armory* gives Wycliffe the arms: *Argent, a chevron between three crosses crosslet Sable*.⁵⁴ Checking Marshall⁵⁵ for a lead sent me to Foster's Visitations, where there is a pedigree for Wycliffe, of Wycliffe. William Wycliffe appears in this pedigree “William Wycliffe, of Wycliffe, lv. 1575”, great grandson of the earliest Wycliffe named, John Wycliffe, along with his two wives, the second of which is Muriell, Lady Bowes, daughter to William Lord Eure. Their children are listed, though Mary, Laurence Hamerton's wife, is tagged on the end with no details. The main arms are blazoned: *Argent, on a chevron Sable between three crosses botonee, gules 6 stags' heads cabossed of the field*. However, a footnote underneath the pedigree mentions:

*The following arms were allowed to William Wickliffe, Esq., per William Flower, Norroy, and Robert Glover, Somerset, ao 1575: Quarterly. 1 and 4. A chevron sable between three cross crosslets Gules, WYCLIFFE. 2 and 3. Argent a chevron sable, 3 bucks' heads cabossed of the first, ELLERTON. And a further note for Wycliffe: His 2nd wife was a daughter and co-heir of Thomas Surtees, of Dinsdale, Co. Durham.*⁵⁶

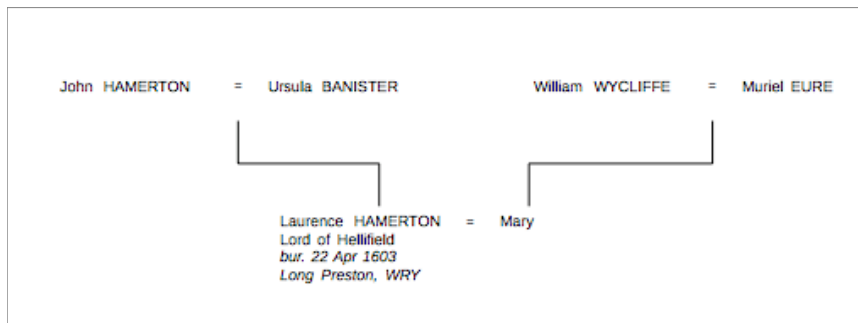


Figure 28: Hamerton pedigree, Laurence Hamerton and Mary Wycliffe

Muriel EURE's line on the RCH pedigree chart is traced back to Henry III and Eleanor of Provence.

8. LISTER

Blazon	RCH chart	CSH chart
<p>RCH: <i>Ermine, on a fess Gules three mullets Argent</i></p> <p>CSH: <i>Ermine, on a fess Or; three mullets pierced Sable</i></p>		

⁵⁴ Burke, Sir Bernard. *The General Armory of England, Scotland, Ireland and Wales*. Reprint of 1884 edition. Genealogical Publishing Company. Baltimore, 1969. p1141.

⁵⁵ Marshall, George W. *The Genealogist's Guide*. Genealogical Publishing Co. Inc. (Baltimore, 1980), p863

⁵⁶ Foster, Joseph, ed. *The visitation of Yorkshire, made in the years 1584/5*. Foster, Joseph, ed. Privately printed London, 1875. p377.

I've given two slightly different blazons as the illustrations differ in presentation. Burke's General Armory lists several Listers, and of those in York, two (Gisburne, Wydopp) have *Ermine on a fesse Sable three mullets Or*, and the other (Shipden Hall) *Ermine on a fesse Sable three mullets Argent a canton Gules*.⁵⁷

In the *History of the Deanery of Craven*, Whitaker gives the arms of Lister, of Mydhope and Thornton: *Ermine on a Fess Sable, three mullets Or*. Laurence was living in 1585, and married Everild, daughter of John Sayer, of Richmondshire.⁵⁸

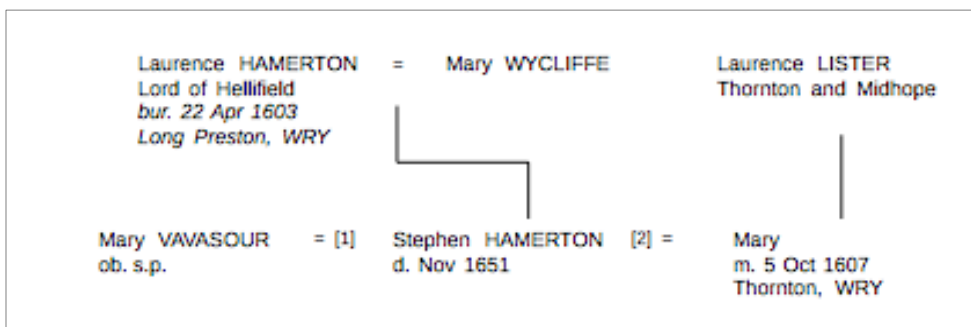




Figure 29: Hamerton pedigree, Stephen Hamerton and Mary Lister

9. FALKINGHAM

Blazon	RCH chart	CSH chart
<i>Argent, a chevron between three mullets Sable</i>		

The charges on the CSH shield (on the right) look more like *etoile*, though they only have five points, and a search in Papworth's does not find any corresponding match. In Burke's General Armory there is no Falkingham entry, but there are two for the variant spelling of Folkingham and the family of

⁵⁷ Burke, Sir Bernard. *The General Armory of England, Scotland, Ireland and Wales*. Reprint of 1884 edition. Genealogical Publishing Company. Baltimore, 1969. p611.

⁵⁸ Whitaker, Thomas Dunham. *The History and Antiquities of the Deanery of Craven, in the County of York*. 2Nd edition. Nichols, 1812; digitised book; Google Books (https://books.google.co.nz/books/about/The_History_and_Antiquities_of_the_Deane.html?id=-FdJAAAAcAAJ&redir_esc=y: accessed 6 Sep 2021),p103.

Barton, Yorkshire, have arms *Argent a chevron between three cinquefoils Sable*.⁵⁹ This corresponds

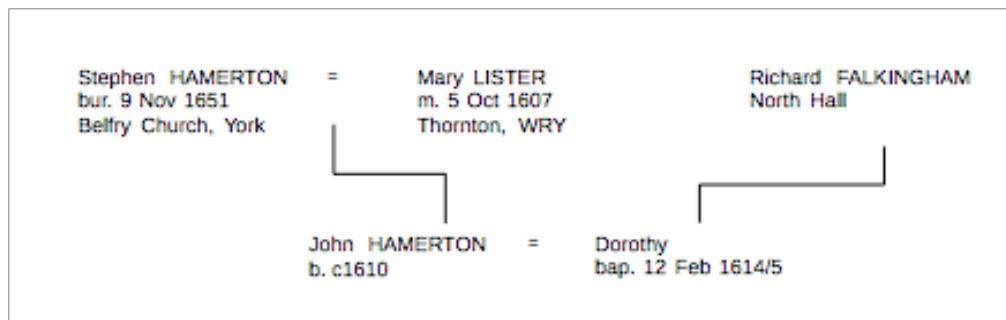


Figure 30: Hamerton pedigree, John Hamerton and Dorothy Falkingham to the Falkingham arms in James Hamerton's quartering (Figure 9).

10. RUSHTON

Blazon	RCH chart	CSH chart
<i>Or, a lion passant Sable, a chief Gules</i>		

Is the lion purple (RCH) or gules (CSH)? Or perhaps it is meant to be sable? In Burke's General Armory, Rushton (Lancaster and Stafford) have arms *Or, a lion passant Sable, a chief Gules*.⁶⁰



Figure 31: Hamerton pedigree, Stephen Hamerton and Eleanor

⁵⁹ Burke, Sir Bernard. *The General Armory of England, Scotland, Ireland and Wales*. Reprint of 1884 edition. Genealogical Publishing Company. Baltimore, 1969. p364

⁶⁰ Burke, Sir Bernard. *The General Armory of England, Scotland, Ireland and Wales*. Reprint of 1884 edition. Genealogical Publishing Company. Baltimore, 1969. p879

All the pedigrees I have viewed, and both the RCH and CSH charts, have Alexander RUSHTON as the father of Eleanor, but I have found a marriage licence for Stephen Hamerton and Eleanor Johnson, and the Preston history website mentions an Alexander Johnson of Rushton Grange. The National Archives list in their catalogue five items referencing Alexander Johnson and Rushton Grange.

1. The first item is dated 16 June 1630, and is a lease by his father “William Johnson of Rushton Grange, York, esq” and several others to “Alexander, son of William Johnson, of tithes in Eccleston and Elswick”.⁶¹
2. The second item, dated 20 November 1650, is a lease of property from Oliver Breres of Hamerton to Alexander Johnson of Rushton Grange.⁶²
3. A third item, dated 18 April 1681, concerning a marriage settlement between Alexander Johnson of Rushton Grange, Yorkshire and Mary Bellingham, eldest sister of Allen Bellingham of Leavens, Westmorland, and referring to Alexander's mother as widow of William Johnson, late of Rushton Grange, Yorks.⁶³
4. A fourth item, dated 6 May 1681, involving the surrender of “Rushton Grange in Bowland, Yorks. with all buildings and lands known as Rushton Grange in Bowland and Craven” along with other property, for consideration of 10 shillings, on payment of £10,000 by (2) Alexander Johnson of Rushton Grange, esquire, eldest son of (1) , to (1) Mary Johnson, widow of William Johnson late of Rushton Grange⁶⁴.
5. The fifth item is a court document dated 1 W&M (13 Feb 1689/90 – 12 Feb 1690/91) from the Records of the King's Remembrancer, referencing William Johnson (late father of defendant Alexander and late husband of defendant Mary) and involving in part “the capital messuage called Rushton Grange, and messuages, &c., belonging in Bowland and Craven”.⁶⁵

Alexander Johnson is also referred to in Thomas Bellingham's diary and was in correspondence with the Bellingham family.⁶⁶ All of which suggests that there was an Alexander Johnson connected to Rushton Grange that was possibly of age to be the father of Eleanor. The marriage licence of Stephen Hamerton and Eleanor Johnson was dated 1663, and Eleanor's age was given as 22, and her residence as Slaidburn, so a birth year of around 1641.

Stephen Hamerton, gen., 28, and Eleanor Johnson, spinster, 22, Slaidburn—there.

Figure 32: Index entry for marriage licence for Stephen Hamerton and Eleanor Johnson

⁶¹ “Lease by William Johnson of Rushton Grange, York, esq., Edward Wrightington, esq., Ralph Ashton, esq., Richard Turner and Roger Kenion of Whalley, to Alexander, son of William Johnson, of tithes in Eccleston and Elswick”; catalogue item; The National Archives Discovery catalogue (accessed 22 Sep 2021); description of original item held at University of Manchester Library, ref: RYCH/379.

⁶² “Lease of the Holehouse and Brow Estates”; catalogue item; The National Archives Discovery catalogue (accessed 22 Sep 2021); description of original item held at Chetham's Library, ref: Hamerton/1/12.

⁶³ “(1) Alexander Johnson of Rushton Grange, Yorks., esquire (2) Mary Bellingham”; catalogue item; The National Archives Discovery catalogue (accessed 22 Sep 2021); description of original item held at Lancashire Archives, ref: DDX 898/3/7.

⁶⁴ “(1) Mary Johnson, widow of William Johnson late of Rushton Grange, Yorks., esquire”; catalogue item; The National Archives Discovery catalogue (accessed 22 Sep 2021); description of original item held at Lancashire Archives, ref: DDX 898/3/8.

⁶⁵ “Richd. Astley and his wife Mary. v. Mary Johnson, widow, Alexr. Johnson, Sir Gervase...”; catalogue item; The National Archives Discovery catalogue (accessed 22 Sep 2021); description of original item, ref: E 134/1WandM/Mich30.

⁶⁶ “Johnson, Alexander”, *Preston History* (<https://prestonhistory.com/people/johnson-alexander/> : accessed 22 Sep 2021).

I found a baptism entry for an Ellanor Johnson dated 24 March 1639 in Slaidburn on the index at Findmypast, with father's name "Alexandri Johnson".⁶⁷ There was no linked image to check the register entry, and on browsing the available images of the Bishop's Transcripts, no entry was found on that date for Ellanor. There were six other baptisms with Alexander as father recorded in Slaidburn between 1631 and 1640, and viewed in the Bishop's Transcripts.⁶⁸ This suggested Alexander may have married around 1630 but no record was found.

However, a marriage bond dated 8 June 1689 was found on Ancestry for an Alexander Johnson and a Mary Bellingham.⁶⁹ Could this be a second (much later) marriage? It links with the marriage settlement found on the TNA Discovery catalogue. Unfortunately, it also described Alexander as a bachelor, so my theory that he was the father of Eleanor requires more investigation. No probate records have been found for Alexander that may shed some light. The corresponding register entry for the marriage on 19 June 1681 at St Martins-in-the-Field in London was found and it described Alexander as from the county of Yorkshire, and Mary from the county of Westmoreland, so it is likely the same couple.⁷⁰

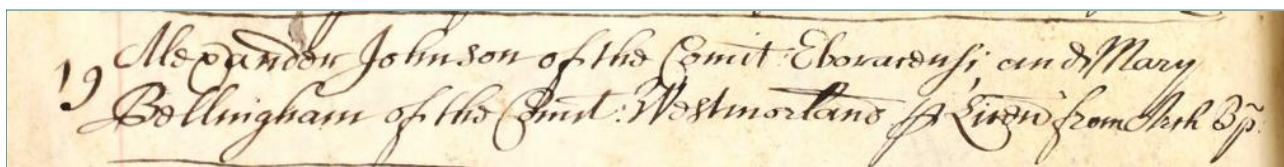




Figure 33: Westminster parish register entry for the marriage of Alexander Johnson and Mary Bellingham, 19 June 1681

11. CHISENHALL

Blazon	RCH chart	CSH chart
<i>Argent, three cross-crosslet fitchy Sable, within a bordure engrailed Gules.</i>		

Burke's General Armory has Chisenhall (Chisenhall, Co Lancaster) *Argent, three crosses crosslet botonnee fitchee within a bordure (sometimes engrailed) Gules.*⁷¹

⁶⁷ "England Births and Baptisms 1538-1975"; (Findmypast.co.uk : accessed 4 Oct 2021).

⁶⁸ "Yorkshire Baptisms"; (Findmypast.co.uk : accessed 4 Oct 2021); from original registers held at Borthwick Institute for Archives, York.

⁶⁹ *London and Surrey, England, Marriage Bonds and Allegations, 1597-1921* (Ancestry.co.uk : accessed 5 Oct 2021); from original records held at London Metropolitan Archives. MS 10091E/3

⁷⁰ *Westminster, London, England, Church of England Baptisms, Marriages and Burials, 1558-1812* (Ancestry.co.uk : accessed : 5 Oct 2021); from City of Westminster Archives Centre; London, England; *Westminster Church of England Parish Registers*; Reference: STM/PR/6/5.

⁷¹ Burke, Sir Bernard. *The General Armory of England, Scotland, Ireland and Wales*. Reprint of 1884 edition. Genealogical Publishing Company. Baltimore, 1969. p194

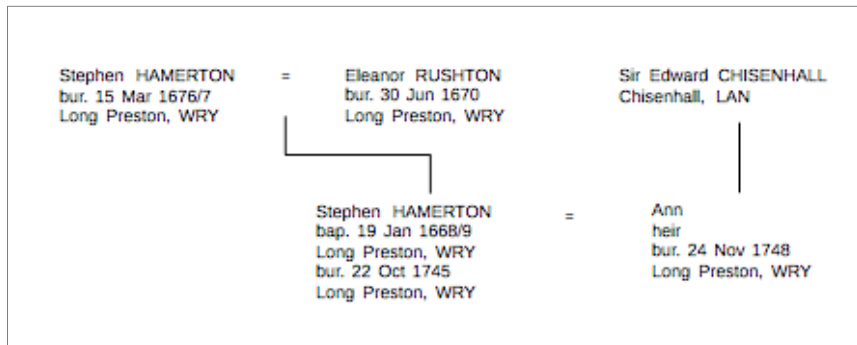


Figure 34: Hamerton pedigree, Stephen Hamerton and Ann Chisenhall

12. HOLDEN

Blazon	RCH chart	CSH chart
<p><i>Argent, six eagles displayed sable, three, two, one, inescutcheon Gules, crescent Argent</i></p>		

It was difficult to determine the charges here – Burke's General Armory gives the arms for Holden as: *Argent, six allerions Gules three, two, one, in the centre an escutcheon of the last*. An allerion being an eagle displayed without beak or feet, these were too small for me to identify, though in the CSH shield, there do appear to be feet.⁷²

Through this marriage, the Hamertons acquired Hollins Hall in Burnley, which was eventually used as the residence for the fourth son of John and Mary, Gilbert Hamerton, the grandfather of Robert Chisenhall Hamerton. It was where Robert was born, and after which he named his residence in Wellington, New Zealand.

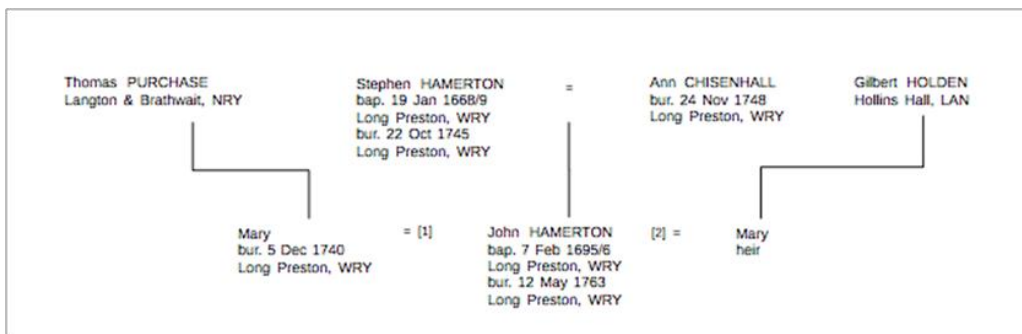

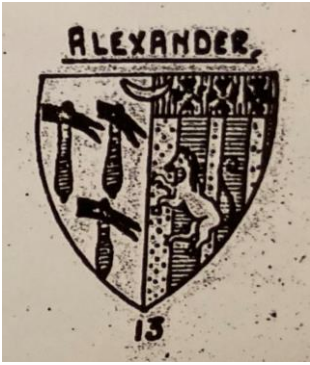


Figure 36: Hamerton pedigree, John Hamerton and Mary Holden

⁷² Burke, Sir Bernard. *The General Armory of England, Scotland, Ireland and Wales*.1884 p498

13. ALEXANDER

Blazon	RCH chart	CSH chart
<p><i>Paly (wavy?) Or and Azure, a horse rampant Argent, on a chief Gules three cross formy Sable.</i></p>		

These arms were problematic as I could find no reference for them in Papworth's, or in Burke's General Armory under Alexander or the variant Allexander, and the tincture use appeared to be incorrect (Sable on Gules). The RCH chart had a note against Lewis Alexander:

Lewis Alexander of Hopwood Hall, Halifax, Co Yorkshire, Solicitor. Descended from King Edward I. His brother [Gervase] Disney Alexander could have claimed the extinct peerage of Cobham and De Bray.

It appears that his brother did claim the peerage along with several others of similar claim. Cracroft's Peerage gives the details of the claim, descent including Lewis Alexander, and also the arms as: *Paly wavy of six Or and Azure, a lion rampant Erminois on a chief Gules three crosses flory ermine.*⁷³

Although a check was made of all the Cobham entries in Burke's General Armory, and of the three other surnames associated with the title (Brooke, Boothby, Disney), no matching arms were found.



Using Drawshield.net this is a rough guide to what the arms might look like:⁷⁴

Figure 35: Cobham of Kent arms

⁷³ "Cobham of Kent, Baron (E, 1313- abeyant 1951)", Cracroft's Peerage (<http://www.cracroftspeerage.co.uk/cobhamk1313.htm> : accessed 5 Oct 2021).

⁷⁴ DrawShield (<https://drawshield.net/> : accessed 5 Oct 2021).

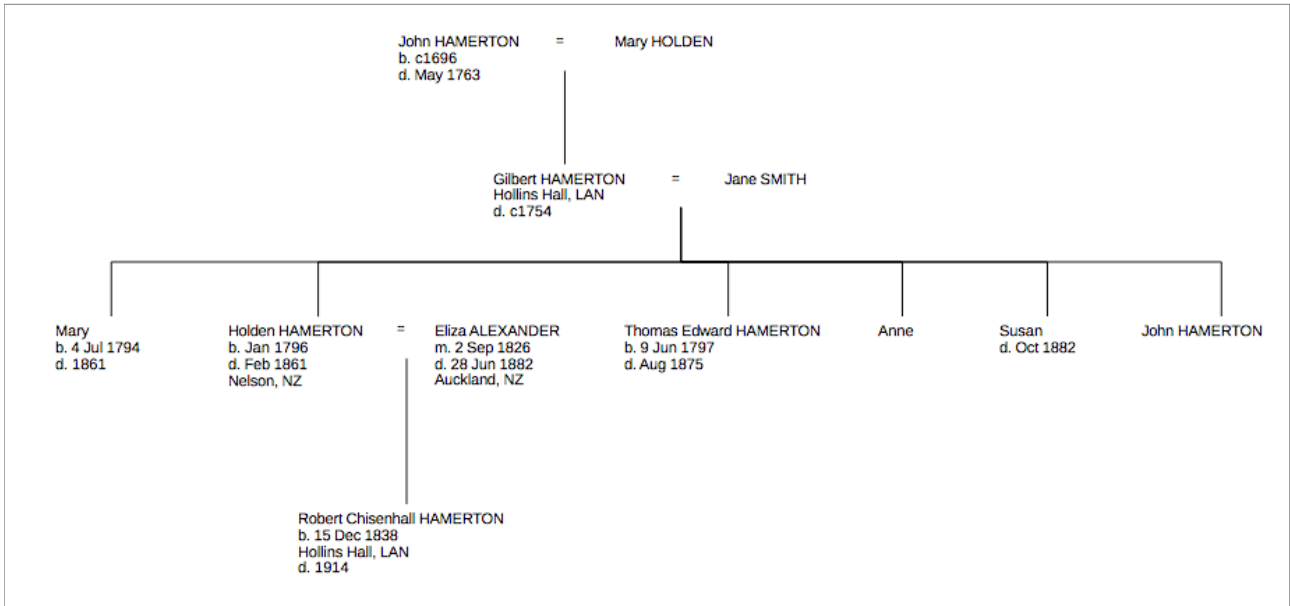


Figure 36: Hamerton pedigree, Holden Hamerton and Eliza Alexander

The quartered arms of James HAMERTON of Hellifield Peel (1779 – 1865)

James Hamerton's quartered arms are fascinating in how they show the family connections over the generations. But how do they match the armorial bearings that appear in the pedigree chart?

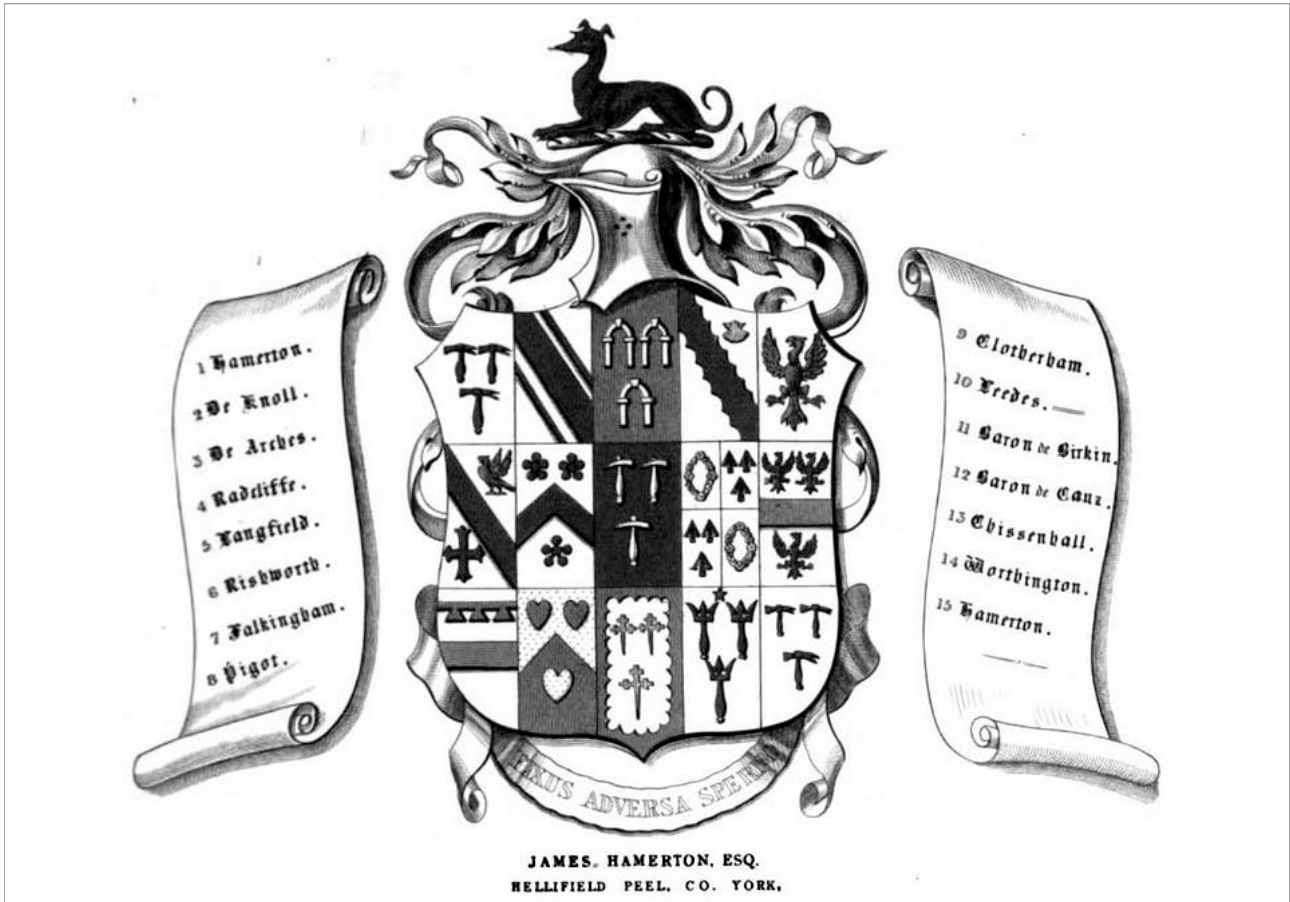


Figure 37: Burke's Heraldic illustrations, plate XV, for James Hamerton

There are nine coats of arms that appear in the quartering that do not appear on the RCH or CSH pedigree charts: De Arches, Langfield, Riskworth, Pigot, Clotherham, Leedes, Baron de Birkin, Baron de Caus, and Worthington.

De Arches

This ties in with the De Knoll family and the marriage between Katherine De Knoll and the connection is shown in the pedigree in Figure 23.

Langfield, Riskworth (variant spelling of Rushworth)

These are linked to the Radcliffe family and the connection can be seen in Figure 24, with the marriage of Richard de Hamerton and Elizabeth Radcliffe.

Pigot, Clotherham, Leedes

These are all linked to the Falkingham family, and connect to the Hamertons through Dorothy Falkingham and her marriage to John Hamerton.

On researching Dorothy and her family, in the printed parish registers of Leeds available on FamilySearch, I found a baptism in St Peter's of a child of "Mr John Falkingame, the Northe Hall" named Pygootte⁷⁵, with a footnote:

John, son of Thomas Folkingham, of North Hall, Esq. By Jane, d. and c.h. of Thomas Pigot, Esq. Widow of Sir Giles, second son of John Lord Hussey. - Folkingham pedigree in Ducat. Leod. 1816, p.106

Ducat Leodiensis provides not only a Falkingham pedigree detailing Dorothy's ancestry but also provides a pedigree of the Leedes family who held the North Hall estate, and showing how it came into the Falkingham family through the Pigots.⁷⁶

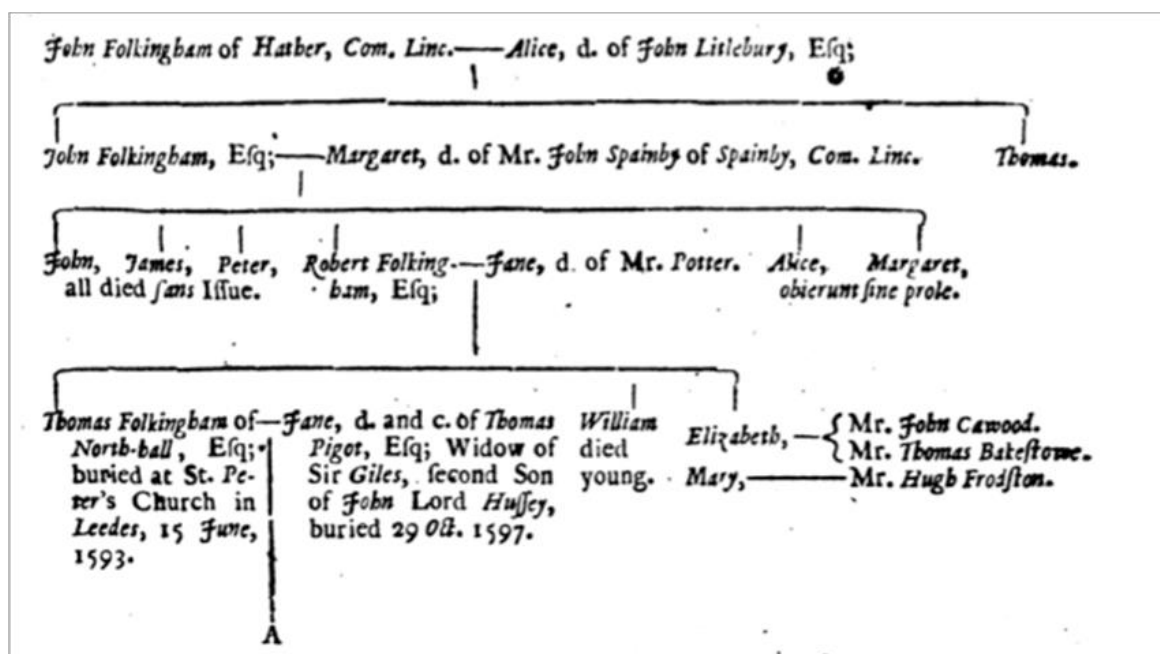


Figure 38: Folkingham pedigree, *Ducatus Leodiensis*, p112

⁷⁵ *Leeds Parish Church Registers 1571 to 1612*; entry for Pygootte Falkingame, 27 Apr 1586; Thoresby Society; p. 52

⁷⁶ Thoresby, Ralph. *Ducatus Leodiensis: or the Topography of the Ancient and Populous Town and Parish of Leedes, and Parts Adjacent in the West-Riding of the County of York*. Maurice Atkins (London, 1715). pp 112-113.

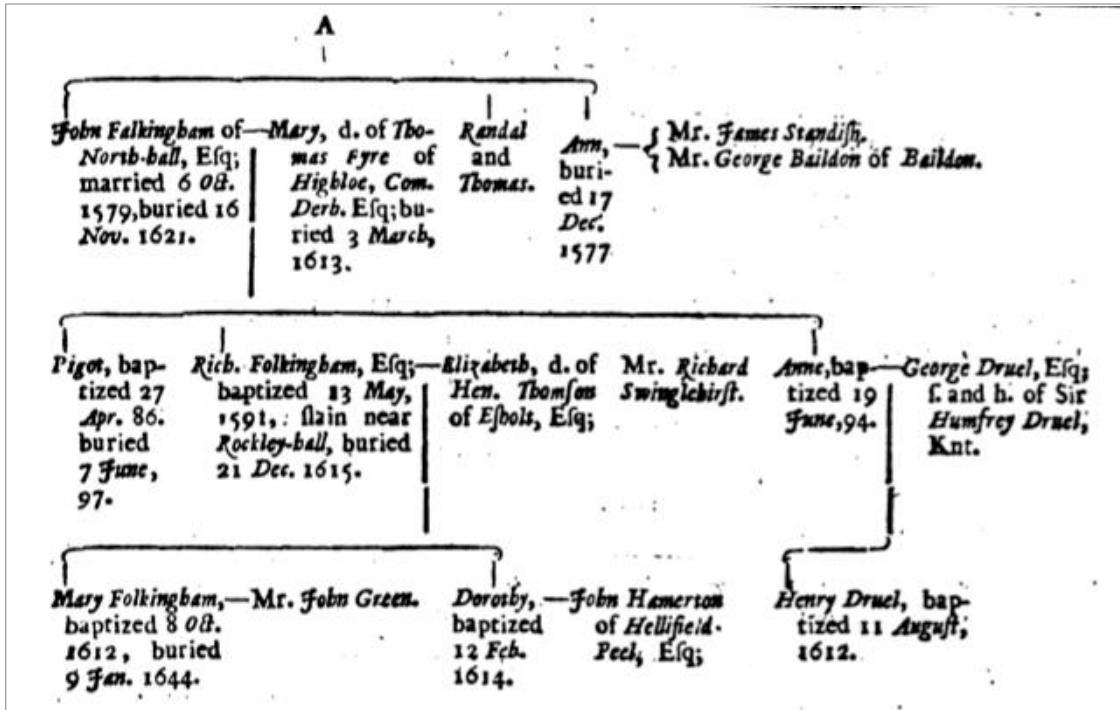


Figure 39: Folkingham pedigree, Ducatus Leodiensis, p113

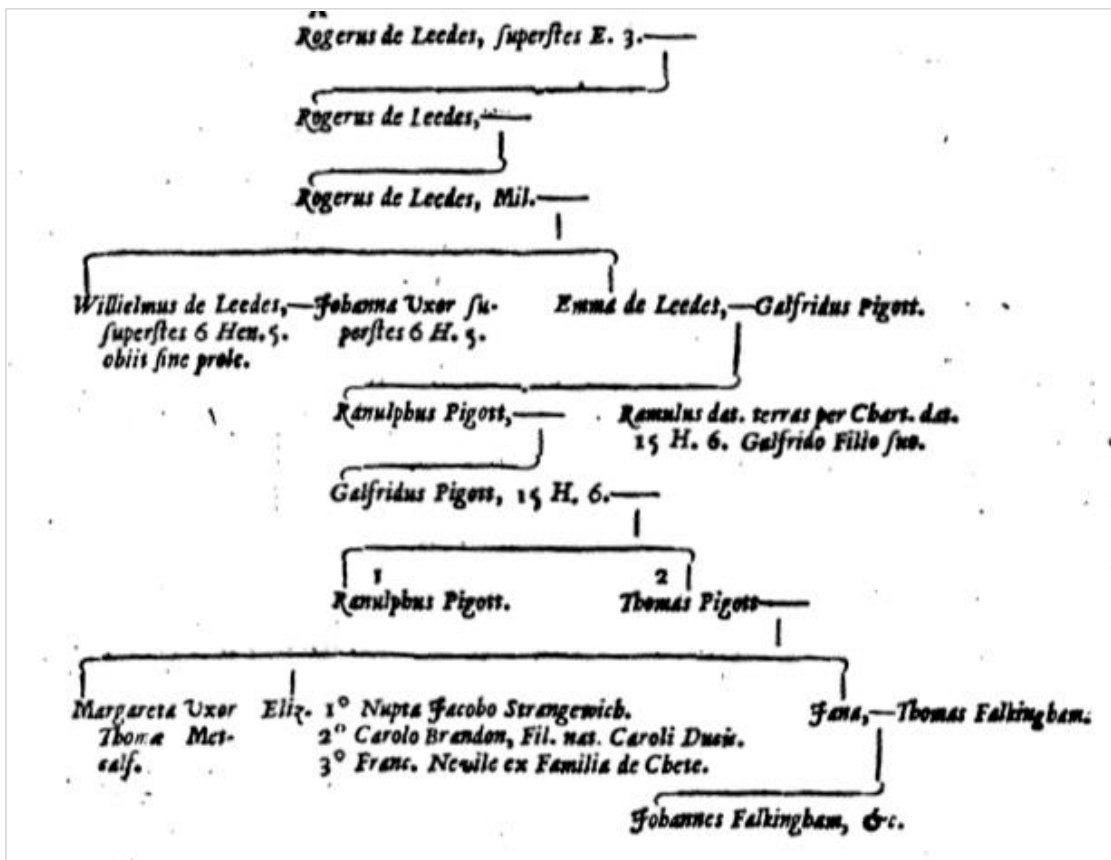


Figure 40: Pedigree showing Leedes, Pigot and Falkingham links through marriage. Ducat. Leod. 114

Thoresby also included an illustration of the arms for the three families.

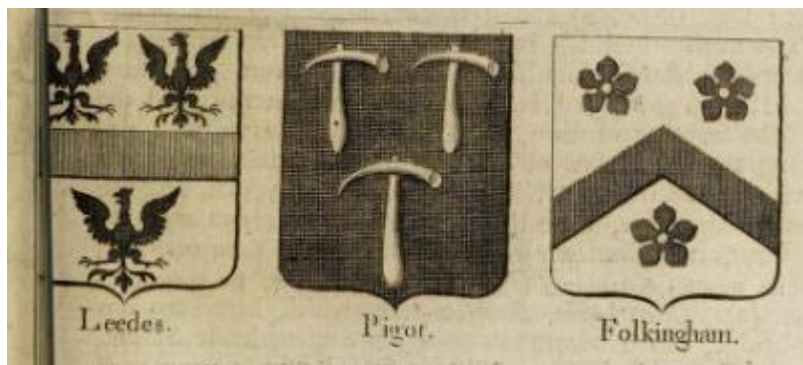


Figure 41: Arms for Leedes, Pigot, and Folkingham families, *Ducat Leodiensis*, p109

The Clothierham connection was through Sir Randolph Pigot (d. 1404) and his marriage to Joan, daughter and heir of John Clothierham, of Clothierham, and whose son Geoffrey Pigot married Emma, daughter of Sir Roger Leeds, of North Hall (seen on the pedigree in Figure 42 above).

Baron de Birkin, Baron de Cauz:

According to Thoresby, these two families are connected through a marriage between Thomas de Birkin and Custance de Cause, co-heir of her brother, Thomas de Cause, and from them descend the de Leedes, and also the North Hall estate.⁷⁷

Worthington

As the arms were quartered alongside Chisnall, I suspected the two families might be connected. A search on the two surnames lead me to the British History Online website and the Victoria County History of Lancaster. In the article on the township of Coppull, originally part of Worthington, there is reference to the manor of Chisnall, held by the Chisnall family, and to the manor of Blainscough, held by the Worthingtons, and to a marriage between Edward Chisnall and Margaret Worthington which “secured an estate in Shevington.”⁷⁸ I contacted a member of the Worthington Family History Society and obtained a copy of references to Margaret Worthington in their recently published *Worthington Families of the Seventeenth Century Volume I*.⁷⁹ It confirmed Margaret was the daughter and heiress of Nicholas Worthington of Shevington, and had married Edward Chisnall. Their only child Ann married Stephen Hamerton (see Figure 35).



Figure 44: Worthington arms, *Worthington Families of the Seventeenth Century*, p202

⁷⁷ Thoresby, Ralph. *Ducatus Leodiensis: or the Topography of the Ancient and Populous Town and Parish of Leedes, and Parts Adjacent in the West-Riding of the County of York*. Maurice Atkins (London, 1715) pp 113-114

⁷⁸ 'Townships: Coppull', in *A History of the County of Lancaster: Volume 6*, ed. William Farrer and J Brownbill (London, 1911), pp. 224-229.

⁷⁹ Worthington, Philip M, and Members of the Worthington 17th Century Project. “Chapter 17. Worthingtons of Blainscough, Lancashire”. *Worthington Families of the Seventeenth Century. Volume I*. United Kingdom, 2020, pp199-204.

CONCLUSION

There were several keys to unlocking more details of the ancestry of Robert Chisenhall Hamerton and the arms to which his family were entitled. An already compiled pedigree chart was a great starting point, but it was the use of published sources, and the leads they generated, that helped to extend not only the family pedigree, but also the understanding of how several estates passed down through the generations through judicious marriages. Being able to access many publications and records online, including parish registers and marriage licences, helped clarify family connections that were not altogether clear from other sources. My investigation into the heraldry of the Hamerton family highlighted how inexact a science the use (and illustration) of armorial bearings is, with creative licence being employed in some cases that may hinder interpretation. However, links can be discovered through deciphering the clues that heraldic elements give a researcher.

To answer the question I posed at the beginning – what would be the quartered arms for Robert Chisenhall Hamerton? Since there were no marriages to heraldic heiresses in the generations descending from his great grandfather, I would expect him to be entitled to the arms used by his grandfather Gilbert, perhaps with a cadency mark to signify a younger son. As such, they would be the same as the quartered arms I found for his first cousin once removed, James Hamerton (1779 – 1865), with a mark for difference.

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A DEATH SENTENCE COMMUTED

Elizabeth Wise, IHGS student

On 8th January 1890, in broad daylight, a woman's body was discovered in a ditch just yards off the main turnpike road through rural Norfolk. Just hours later, it was revealed that Maria Brown, had been kicked to death by her son-in-law Elijah Snelling.

Maria Brown had been making her way along Semere Lane to the Turnpike, taking her husband his lunch as he took a break from working on the road. At a junction on the lane, she met Elijah Snelling, married to her daughter, also named Maria, with whom he had three children.

The relationship between mother-in-law and son-in-law was not amicable, in large part due to Elijah's twelve-month prison sentence for the attempted murder of his wife almost seven years prior. The *Diss Express*, reporting on that trial on 24th August 1883 described how he had slit his wife's throat in the middle of the night of the 5th August, and how she taken refuge at her neighbours, Mr and Mrs Lawes. When asked at trial, despite denials from Maria Snelling herself, Mrs Lawes claimed that Elijah was previously violent towards his wife and "treated her very badly".¹

Elijah Snelling was born in the village of Tivetshall St Mary, adjacent to Semere Lane, in 1851, one of twelve children born to John and Harriet. The Snelling family were well established in the village, and like his father, Elijah worked as a thatcher.² He and Maria married in 1874 but by 1881 they did not have a home of their own, lodging at their parents' houses.³ From his criminal record it is clear that Elijah had a problem with alcohol. According to the England and Wales Criminal Register, Elijah was "suffering from a temporary [sic] delusion caused by drink".⁴ Other petty crime included a charge of stealing in Feb 1888 and involvement in a pub fight the previous month.⁵

On Wednesday 8th January 1890, Elijah had arrived early at the Ram Inn, Tivetshall, a popular coaching inn on the Turnpike Road. The depositions for the subsequent trial go into much detail of the morning.⁶ Henry Shibley, landlord, deposed that Elijah arrived at 7am and remained until midday, he had at least three and a half pints of ale in that time, before Shibley refused to serve him further due to his "strange manner"; he claimed at least three times that people were trying to shoot him. Jonathan Vincent and John Chatten later testified to hearing Elijah make disparaging comments about his mother-in-law, blaming her for his unhappy marriage and threatening to kill her. Elijah left around midday walking across the Turnpike and down Semere Lane, almost opposite the inn. Shibley and other witnesses described hearing shouting shortly after.

1 *Diss Express*, Friday 24th Aug 1883 page 5, The British Newspaper Archive, www.britishnewspaperarchive.co.uk, accessed 30th April 2024.

2 1861 England Census, Class: RG 9; Piece: 1232; Folio: 201, Page: 9, The National Archives

3 1881 England Census, Class: RG 11; Piece: 1967; Folio: 98, Page: 10 and Class: RG11, Piece: 1968, Folio: 97, Page: 22, The National Archives.

4 England and Wales, Crime, Prisons and Punishment, 1770-1935, Court: Norwich, Series: HO27, Piece: 195, Session Date: 17 Oct 1883, The National Archives

5 Norfolk Record Office, Calendars of Prisoners: Assizes 1863-1922 (Ref: C/S 10/17) www.nrocatalogue.norfolk.gov.uk, original data accessed 7th May 2024.

6 All further details of the day of the murder, the depositions, judge's trial notes, correspondence between the Home Office, Director of Public Prosecutions, prison governors and the personal health history of the Snelling family are obtained from The National Archives paperwork, see footnote 7.

The judge's trial notes describe the witnesses, all local residents, who found and recovered Maria Brown's body. Laura Hardy was first to discover Maria, lying face down in the ditch, and recognised her by her dress. Rosetta Mutticks and Euphemia Hardy described seeing Elijah wandering around the area that afternoon, seemingly drifting, for around two hours. Euphemia confronted him: "For God's sake Snelling your poor mother is dead up in the hole", he replied: "I hope she is at hell by this time". It was Samuel Adams and his employer, Mr Haunton, a local farmer, who came across Elijah soon after and Haunton, seeing blood on Snelling's boots, challenged him on how it got there. Elijah claimed "I did it pulling my mother in law out of the ditch". "I should think you put her in" Haunton accused. "I did. I murdered her" Snelling confessed. He then rode with Haunton and Adams to Rushall Blacksmiths, where he was apprehended by P.C. Gooch of Harleston Police Station, before being taken to Norwich Castle.

The trial took place on the 1st March at Norwich Assizes and was presided by Justice Denman. Legge Paulley, the local surgeon described the results of the postmortem noting that Maria Brown had extensive injuries to her head, face and chest, including bruising and fracturing of bones which could be accounted for by kicking with heavy boots. No defence of mental instability was put forward. Elijah was found guilty of wilful murder and sentenced to death by hanging.

The hanging was scheduled for the 15th March to be carried out at the recently-built Norwich prison, taking over from Norwich Castle. Public executions had been abolished in 1868, so the hanging would have happened in the presence of prison staff, select journalists and perhaps Maria Brown's relatives. As it was a capital offence, the paperwork was forwarded to Whitehall, for the Home Secretary to authorise, and was reviewed by the Director of Public Prosecutions. All paperwork is now held at The National Archives and includes more than a hundred documents of correspondence from all parties involved.⁷

Immediately following the trial, questions were raised as to Elijah Snelling's state of mental health. The governor of Norwich Prison was of the opinion that he was of "sound mind". The Medical Superintendent of the Norfolk County Asylum, David Thompson, whilst agreeing that he was well by the time of trial, was of the opinion that at the time of the murder Snelling was suffering from "alcoholic excess" and "delirium tremens", a condition caused by alcohol withdrawal following excessive drinking. He linked this to the attempted murder of Maria Snelling in 1883, and noted that on that occasion, as well as on the day of the murder, Elijah was paranoid, imagining that people were trying to kill him.

In the course of reviewing the trial, questions were asked by the Home Office of the Snelling family's history of mental illness. Elijah's mother, Harriet, was deposed to divulge of any instances. She was adamant that of her twelve children, her husband and his 15 or 16 siblings, and her own family, "none of them have ever shewn [sic] any symptoms of insanity".

⁷ The National Archives, Ref: HO 144/927/A51311 Date: 1890 Mar 1

A letter from Reverend Thompson of Tibenham parish claimed otherwise. He had regular interactions with his parishioner, Elijah's sister Harriet Dyer, who he felt had "paroxisms [sic] of madness" and that "all their brothers and sisters...are more or less peculiar in their conduct." He also alluded to a great aunt of Elijah's who had spent time in an asylum and an aunt who had committed suicide following the death of a child. Further investigation has revealed the aunt to be Matilda Snelling, whose son Charles was born in the workhouse at Pulham Market. He died at six weeks old and Matilda drowned herself in a pond near Fakenham three years later.⁸

On 21st March 1890 the Home Secretary commuted the death sentence. That Elijah Snelling's sanity was not considered in the trial, and the subsequent investigations into his health and family history, were given as deciding factors for the reduction from death to penal servitude for life.

The covering pages of the trial paperwork give little details about Elijah's prison record. For this, various records have been located in online sources. When pieced together the records reveal that from Norwich Castle, Elijah was moved first to Portsea Prison in Portsmouth, Hampshire where he appears in the 1891 census.⁹ From here he was briefly moved to Pentonville Prison before relocating to Portland Prison in Dorset on 2nd March 1893.¹⁰ He remained here for the rest of his sentence in good health and with good behaviour. In around 1905 discussions began between the Home Office and the prison governor regarding his possible release, but it was decided that, as no family member or friend had come forward to request his release, and due to the seriousness of case, he should serve twenty years. He was released from Portland on 28th February 1910 with the intention of returning to Tivetshall.

No photographs of Elijah Snelling could be found in any of the crime and prison records. However, the Habitual Criminals Register of 1910, published when he was around 59, describes him as 5ft 4in, of fair complexion with dark blue eyes and his hair light brown, turning grey. He had some small scars to his face and wrist, but no tattoos.¹¹

During his time in prison, Elijah's wife, Maria, continued to raise their three children. In 1891 she was lodging with her widowed father John within sight of the scene of the murder, but by 1901 she had her own home in the nearby village of Dickleburgh. She appears to have supported herself by taking in foster children, known as the "boarding out system". On the census of that year, she has two girls boarding, an 11-year-old from West Ham and a 4-year-old from Staffordshire.¹² She died of a stroke on 6th April 1925.¹³

8 Norfolk, England, Church of England Deaths and Burials 1813-1995, Ref: Sculthorpe Burials 1813-1885, page 37, Matilda Snelling (bur. 10th March 1841) and Norfolk, England, Transcripts of England Baptism, Marriage and Burial Registers 1600-1935, Ref: Bishop's Transcripts Archdeaconry of Norwich 1838, BT ANW 1838 O-S, Sprowston, page 40, Benjamin Snelling (bur. 11 Nov 1838) www.ancestry.co.uk, Norfolk Record Office, Norwich, original data accessed 17th June 2024. Pulham Market: Depwade Union Workhouse Baptism Register, 30th Sep 1838, Charles Benjamin Snelling, www.freereg.org.uk, transcription accessed 17th June 2024.

9 1891 England Census, Class: RG 12; Piece: 862; Folio: 111, Page: 29, The National Archives

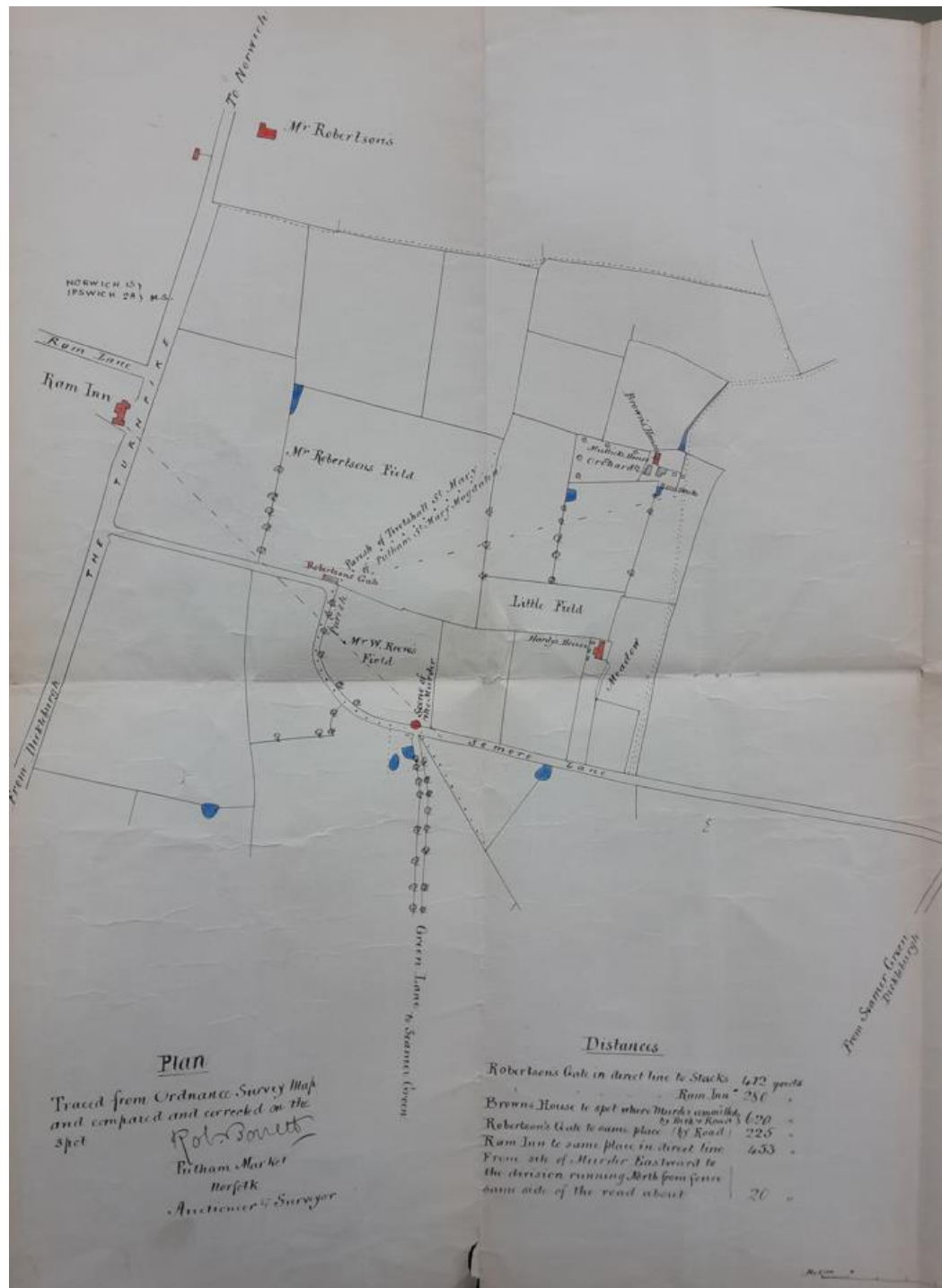
10 England and Wales, Crime, Prisons and Punishment, 1770-1935, Series: PCOM2, Piece: 80, Page: 388 The National Archives, original data accessed 17th June 2024.

11 England and Wales, Crime, Prisons and Punishment, 1770-1935, Series: MEP06, Piece: 21, The National Archives

12 1891 England Census, Class: RG 12; Piece: 1545; Folio: 83, Page: 15 and 1901 England Census, Class: RG13, Piece: 1862, Folio: 40, Page: 3 The National Archives

13 General Register Office Death Certificate, Name: SNELLING, Maria, Date: June Quarter 1925, District: Depwade, GRO Ref: Vol 4B 21

As for Elijah, his whereabouts after release are more difficult to trace. He cannot be found in the 1911 census or on electoral registers. He is recorded in the 1921 census at the home of his son, John Snelling, in Dickleburgh, although he is only stated as a visitor, and under work he has “no fixed place”.¹⁴ On 19th January 1929 he died of heart disease, aged 78.¹⁵ Probate records show that he left just over £223.¹⁶ He had spent almost as many years out of prison post-release as he had serving his sentence.



Map included in the bundle of trial paperwork showing the main locations mentioned in the trial.¹⁷

14 1921 Census of England and Wales, Class: RG15, Piece: 9776, Schedule: 10, www.findmypast.co.uk, The National Archives

15 General Register Office Death Certificate, Name: SNELLING, Elijah, Date: March Quarter 1929, District: Depwade, GRO Ref: Vol 4B 394

16 Grant of Administrations 1929, Norwich, Name: SNELLING, Elijah, Date of Death: 19th Jan 1929, www.probatelibrary.gov.uk, original data.

17 The National Archives Ref: HO 144/927/A51311 Date: 1890 Mar 1

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