

THE ARMS OF THE  
UNIVERSITY & COLLEGES  
OF CAMBRIDGE

DESCRIBED BY

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## PREFACE

THIS paper has been written at the request of the publishers to accompany the drawings supplied by Messrs. Hills & Saunders, Cambridge. In it I have tried to define and to give a short history of the arms now borne with authority in the University. The work is necessarily incomplete. On some points authentic material is still lacking, and my facts and opinions may be incorrect. The limitations of space have reduced the articles to mere sketches, but those who wish to go further into the study of the history and heraldry of the University will find a list of some of the more accessible works on p. 45. Lastly, it being a favourite saying of a distinguished contemporary librarian, that "those who write books without indexes will be the librarians' assistants in Hell," there is an index.

Thanks are due to the University and College authorities, who have generously allowed me access to their libraries and muniments, also to the officials of the College of Arms for their courtesy in answering my inquiries. I must express my particular indebtedness to Mr. A. L. Attwater, Fellow and Librarian of Pembroke College, for his very practical help, and to my wife for correcting the manuscript and proofs.

R. W. OLDFIELD.

10th October 1930.

## CHAPTER I

## ON THE HERALDRY OF THE UNIVERSITY IN GENERAL

AT a very early date ecclesiastical communities adopted heraldic distinctions. As the lay nobles invented badges and coats of arms to distinguish themselves and their followers in battle and in the lists, so the clergy found arms useful for the sealing of documents and for the ornament of their appointments. By the end of the thirteenth century the assumption of arms by the great monastic houses had become general. The colleges of Oxford and Cambridge were not monasteries. The statutes of the earliest English collegiate foundation, that of Walter de Merton at Oxford, expressly excluded all monks and friars from the Society, and the statutes of Peterhouse, the oldest Cambridge college, were drawn up "after the fashion of the Hall of Merton."<sup>(1)</sup> They were, however, religious houses in that the masters and fellows were clerks in holy orders, and that they lived under a common rule in a common dwelling. Colleges, moreover, were provided by their pious founders with all things needful for a corporate and perpetual life. They therefore became subject to the statute of 1307, which enacted that every religious house should have a common seal, to be kept in the custody of the head and four worthy and discreet members, and that every grant to which this seal was not affixed should be null and void.<sup>(2)</sup> Usually these seals displayed the arms of the founders, and gradually the colleges appropriated these arms to general use.

"The voluntary assumption of arms and the ignorance and obstinacy of those who had assumed them caused many inconveniences and absurdities,"<sup>(3)</sup> to regularize which King Henry VII. issued Commissions of Visitation to the Provincial Kings of Arms. By these they were empowered to issue warrants directing the authorities of the places where they intended to hold visitation to warn all those who claimed the right of bearing arms to appear in person and prove their descent and the right to the said arms. Proof having been given, the arms and the pedigrees were

<sup>(1)</sup> Statutes of Peterhouse, A.D. 1344.

<sup>(2)</sup> "Statutum de apportis religiosorum," 35, Edw. I.

<sup>(3)</sup> Edmondson, *Complete Body of Heraldry*, i. p. 159.

## *Heraldry of the University.*

then registered in the Visitation Book, such entry forming conclusive admission of right. Four visitations of Cambridge-shire are recorded, the last of which was held in 1684.<sup>(4)</sup> Although corporate bodies are thought to have been exempt from compulsory appearance at visitations<sup>(5)</sup>, the majority of Cambridge colleges did in fact cause their arms, together with the names of the masters and fellows of the time, to be registered in the visitation books.

In addition to the records of the visitations there are available many of the original patents granting arms in the University. Eleven are known to be in Cambridge, and there is hope that a twelfth, that of Sidney Sussex College, may some day reappear. For this rich documentation we are largely indebted to Robert Cooke, Clarencieux King of Arms and a Master of Arts of St. John's College, who between the years 1572 and 1590 granted arms to the University itself, to seven colleges, and to the five Regius Professors. While the historian cannot but applaud the industry which placed so many armorial achievements beyond dispute, the antiquary may yet deplore the pedantic taste displayed in their production. In granting a noble coat to the University, Cooke enters into the undignified controversy of his time as to whether Oxford or Cambridge was the older seat of learning, and asserts that Cambridge was founded in 394 B.C. by the fabulous Cantabor. He altered, some say defaced, the ancient arms of Peterhouse, Trinity Hall, Queens', and Jesus Colleges, adding to the last three the unacademic trappings of helm, crest, and mantling. Finally, he granted to the Regius Professors coats of arms full of Hebrew, Greek, and Latin characters, in four of which the lion of England is marked on his flank with a capital letter like a fat beast in a show.

But let us not be captious. Rather let thanks be given to Robert Cooke, his predecessors and successors in office, who have so faithfully laboured for the University and its colleges to place beyond doubt those arms which are authoritative.

<sup>(4)</sup> Moule, *Bibliotheca Heraldica*, p. 565.

<sup>(5)</sup> Fox-Davies, *Book of Public Arms*, Introduction, vii.

## CHAPTER II

### OF THE ARMS OF THE UNIVERSITY AND ITS COLLEGES IN PARTICULAR



## The University.

ARMS.—Gules on a cross ermine between four lions passant gardant gold a book of the first.

These arms were granted by Robert Cooke, Clarencieux, on 9th June 1573 for William Cecil, Lord Burghley, Chancellor of the University. The elaborate Latin patent is preserved in the Registry. For this achievement he was paid the sum of £3, 6s. 8d.<sup>(6)</sup>

It is doubtful whether the University had any proper arms before this time. The early seals are pictorial, showing the Chancellor in his cope seated with a doctor standing on either hand. These three figures are on a bridge of three arches, through which flows a river adequately peopled with fish. The *Catalogus* (?) records this composition as “the arms of the University,” but nowhere else have they been found on a shield.

The only other early arms ascribed to the University are those given in the record of the arms of all bishoprics and corporate bodies represented at the Council of Constance in 1414. In this the University of Oxford is shown as bearing *France modern and England quarterly in fess point a book gules back to the dexter*, and the University of Cambridge as having the same arms, but with *the book gules the back to the sinister*.<sup>(8)</sup> It seems probable, however, that these were invented by the ingenious compiler who wished to make his work complete, since they have not been found elsewhere.



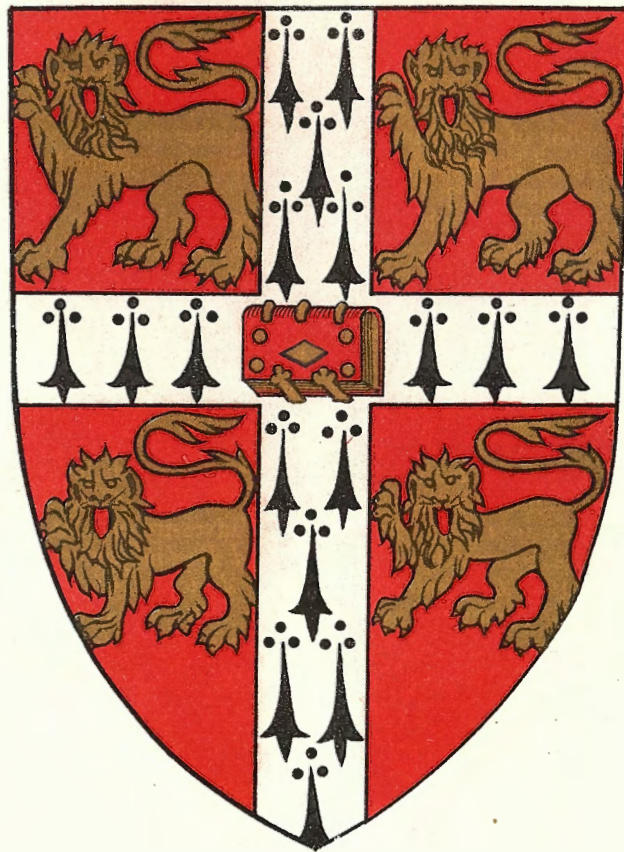
ARMS OF CAMBRIDGE  
UNIVERSITY BEFORE 1574

After the *Catalogus* & ancient Seals.  
96

<sup>(6)</sup> *University Audit Book*, 1574-5, p. 129: “haraldis londini pro diversis formis insigniorum describendis, ut summus noster Cancellarius delectam faceret, quam ex illis præstatueret, proque eorundem confirmacione sub sigillo officii sui. lxxvs. viijd.”

<sup>(7)</sup> Matthew Parker, *Catalogus*, 1572.

<sup>(8)</sup> Richental, *Das Conciliumbuch Geschehen zu Constanz*. Augsburg, 1483, pp. cxlvii and cxlix.





## Peterhouse.

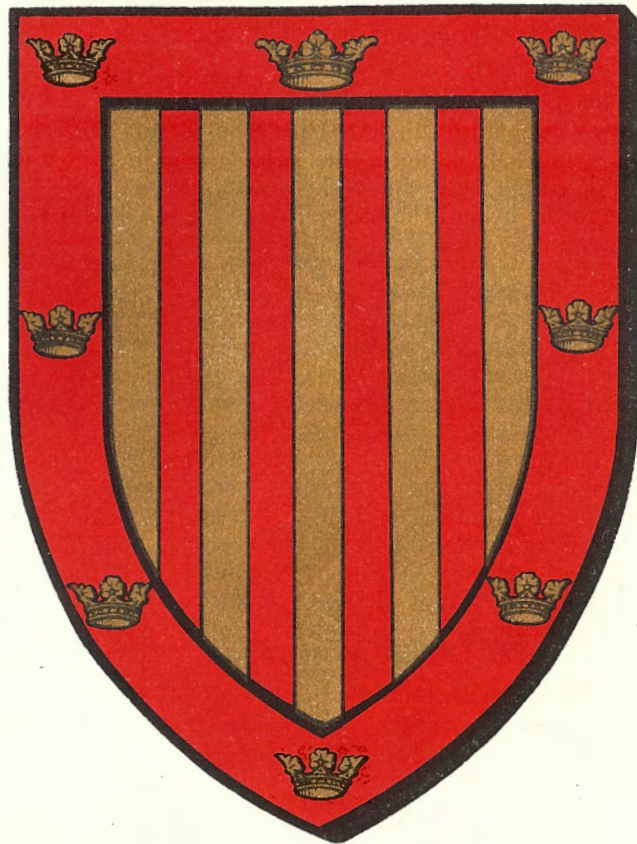
ARMS.—Or four pales gules a border of the last charged with golden crowns.

This, the most ancient college in the University, was founded by Hugh of Balsham, Bishop of Ely, in 1284 :

“ which house he desired to be called the House of St. Peter or the Hall of the Scholars of the Bishops of Ely at Cambridge.”<sup>(9)</sup>

The house has used four different shields since its incorporation. On its first seal are shown the arms of the See of Ely, *gules three crowns gold*, probably borne by leave of the Founder. In the first edition of the *Catalogus*, 1572, the arms are shown as *gules two keys in saltire or*, allusive to the patron saint. In the revised edition of the *Catalogus*, 1573, and in Hammond's Map of Cambridge, 1592,<sup>(10)</sup> the arms are given as *or three pales gules*, which are those traditionally assigned to the Founder.

In 1575, Robert Cooke, Clarencieux, at the instance of Andrew Pern, D.D., Master of the College, set aside these earlier arms and granted the coat set out above.<sup>(11)</sup> These are obviously intended to be the arms of the Founder within a border of Ely, but by accident or design Cooke has added a fourth pale gules to the original three.



<sup>(9)</sup> Statutes of Peterhouse, 1344.

<sup>(10)</sup> A map of Cambridge, signed by John Hammond, and dated 1592, which shows in the margins the arms of all the colleges in the University. The original is in the Bodleian Library, but it is fully described in *The Architectural History of the University and Colleges of Cambridge* (Willis & Clark), vol. i. pp. ci-cvii.

<sup>(11)</sup> Original patent in the College Treasury.

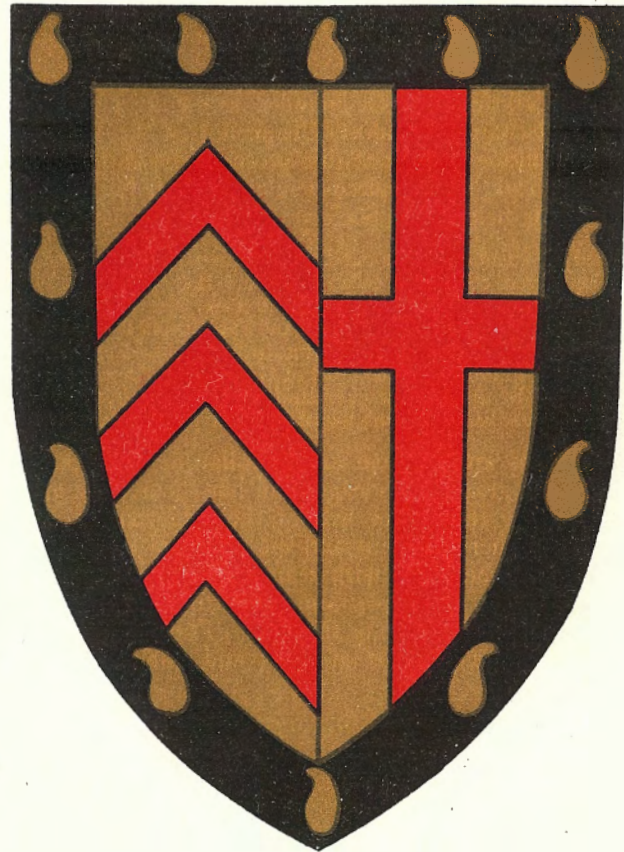
## Clare College.

ARMS.—Gold three chevrons gules (for CLARE) impaling gold a cross gules (for DE BURGH) all within a border sable sown with golden drops.

This College was first founded in 1326 as University Hall by Richard de Badew, Chancellor of the University. The foundation did not at first prosper, and in 1338 Elisabeth de Burgh, sister and co-heir of Gilbert, Earl of Clare, came to the help of the Society. The Lady Clare having :

“ turned the attention of our mind to the University of Cambridge and to a Hall therein commonly called University Hall which already exists of our foundation and which we would have bear the name of the House of Clare and no other for ever, and have caused it to be enlarged in its resources out of the wealth given us by God and in the number of students ; in order that the Pearl of Great Price, Knowledge, found and acquired by them by means of study and learning in the said University, may not lie hid beneath a bushel, but be published abroad.”<sup>(12)</sup>

The arms are personal and peculiar to the Foundress. She being a greater personage than her spouse, the arms of Clare occupy the dexter half of the achievement. After the death of her third husband she encircled her arms with a black band bedewed with tears, thus putting the shield into mourning. It is pleasant and fitting that it has been so borne by her College to this day. They were duly confirmed in the visitations of 1575 and 1684 as “ ancient arms.”



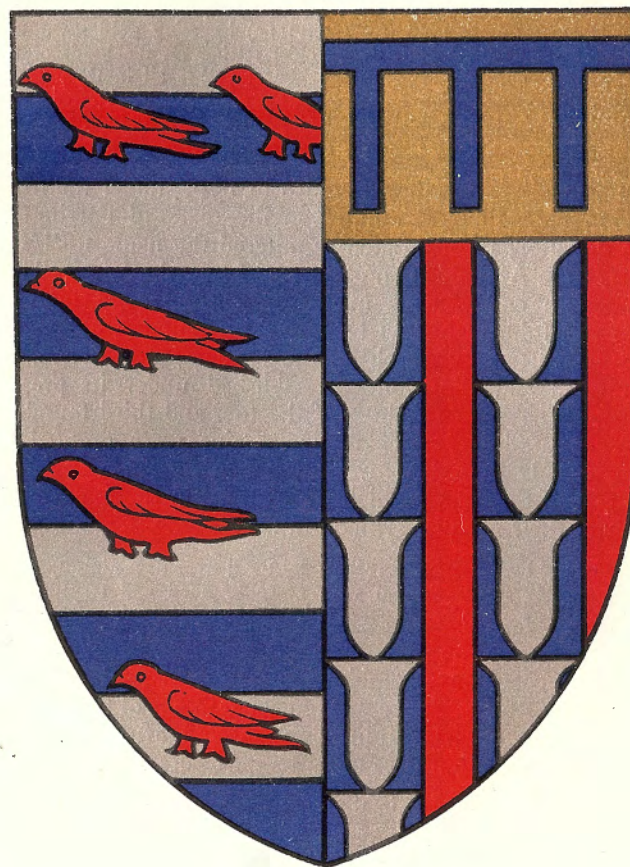
<sup>(12)</sup> Statutes of the College, 1395, quoted Cooper, *Annals*, i. p. 30.



## *Pembroke College.*

ARMS.—Barry of ten pieces silver and azure an orle of martlets gules (for VALENCE) halved with gules three pales vair a chief gold with a label of five points azure (for ST. POL).

These are the arms of the Foundress, Mary de St. Pol, daughter of Guy de St. Pol, head of the younger branch of the family of Chatillon, and of Mary of Brittany. In 1321 she married Aymer de Valence, Earl of Pembroke, "a person of the highest consideration in the reigns of Edward I. and Edward II."<sup>(13)</sup> He died in 1324 of a sudden illness on his way back to England from an embassy to the French king, and not at his wedding tournament, as Thomas Gray, himself a son of the College, would have us believe.<sup>(14)</sup> For the safety of his soul and the souls of her own parents his widow founded Denny Abbey, near Waterbeach, for the Minoresses, or Sisters of St. Clare, and, in 1347, Pembroke College. The original seal of the College shows the arms of the Foundress as still borne. They are an example of that early process of displaying the arms of husband and wife known as dimidiation. The two coats are cut down the paler line, and the dexter half of the husband's conjoined with the sinister half of the wife's on one shield. This pleasant method of denoting the unity of the spouses did not long continue. The dimidiation of Valence with St. Pol indeed made a harmonious whole while maintaining the character of both coats, but other arms lent themselves less happily to this practice. Thus the chevrons of Clare when halved by Edmond Plantagenet on his seal become indistinguishable from bends and no longer suggest the original female coat. The College has no patent granting arms, but is recorded in the Visitation of 1684 as bearing of right its "ancient arms."



<sup>(13)</sup> Ainslie, *Pembroke College Commemoration Book*.

<sup>(14)</sup> Gray, "Ode for the Installation of the Chancellor, 1769":

"Sad Chatillon on her bridal morn,  
That wept her bleeding love. . . ."



## Gonville and Caius College.

ARMS.—Silver on a chevron between two coupleclothes indented sable three escallops gold (for GONVILLE) impaling gold sown with flowers gentil a sengreen in chief resting on the heads of two serpents in pale, their tails bound together all in their proper colours resting on a square green marble stone between their breasts a book sable garnished gules buckles gold (for CAIUS) all within a border gobony silver and sable.

This College was first founded in 1348, under the name of Gonville Hall, by Edmund Gonville, rector of Torrington. His executor, Bishop Bateman, altered the name to "The Hall of the Annunciation of Blessed Mary the Virgin," and by certain endowments made himself a second founder. In 1557 John Caius, M.D., the third founder, obtained a Royal Charter, by which all the former foundations were confirmed and the College established under its present name. The arms are those of the first and third founders. The extraordinary arms of Dr. Caius were granted by Laurence Dalton, Norroy King of Arms, in 1560. In the text of the grant, which is preserved in the College, he explains their peculiar symbolism :

"betokening by the boke, learning ; by the ij serpents resting upon the square marble stone, wisdom with grace founded and stayed upon vertues stable stone ; by sengrene and flower gentil,<sup>(15)</sup> immortalitie y<sup>t</sup> never shall fade."

The two coats were combined and granted to the College in 1575 by Robert Cooke, Clarendieux, in one of the shortest patents known. It is in English, and after a concise preamble grants, but does not attempt to describe :

"To Thomas Legge, Dr. in the Civil Lawe, Master of the College, the arms of Edmund Gonville and John Caius in pale within a border gobone silver and sables."

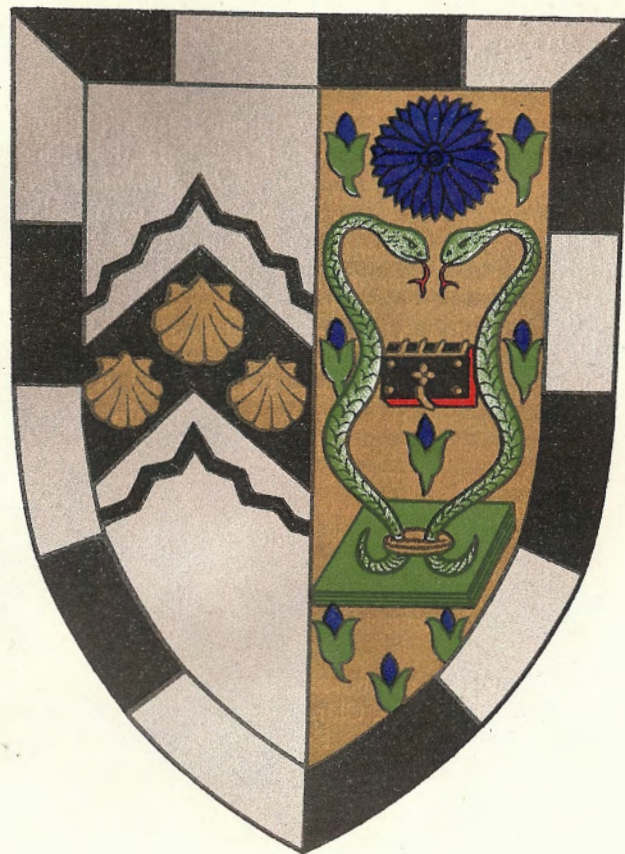
<sup>(15)</sup> SENGRENE. *Sempervivum majus* (Houseleek).

"They are good against St. Anthonies fire, the shingles and other creeping ulcers,—the juice (mixed with other herbs) makes the most singular Populeon that ever was used in Surgerie."

FLOWER GENTIL. *Amaranthus purpureus*.

"Most attribute to floure gentil a binding faculty, they stop all kinds of bleeding."

—John Gerarde, *The Herball*. London, 1636, pp. 511 and 324.





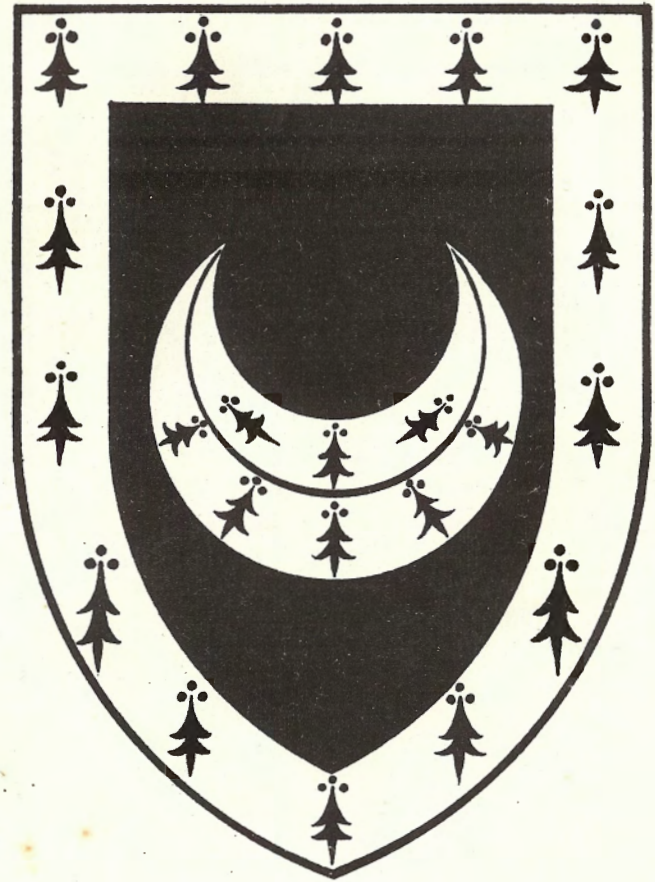
## Trinity Hall.

ARMS.—Sable a crescent within a border ermine.

CREST.—On a wreath sable and silver a lion sejant gules holding a book the cover sable the leaves gold.

MANTLING.—Gules doubled silver.

The College was founded by William Bateman, Bishop of Norwich in 1350. The original seal bore the Bishop's personal arms: *sable a crescent ermine within a border engrailed silver*. These arms occur on his own seals, he having followed the practice common among bishops of the fourteenth century of differencing his paternal arms with an engrailed border. In 1575 Robert Cooke, Clarendieux, "at the instance of Henry Hervey, Dr. of Law," set aside the ancient arms and granted the shield and crest described above. The patent is quoted in full in *Warren's Book*.



## Corpus Christi College.

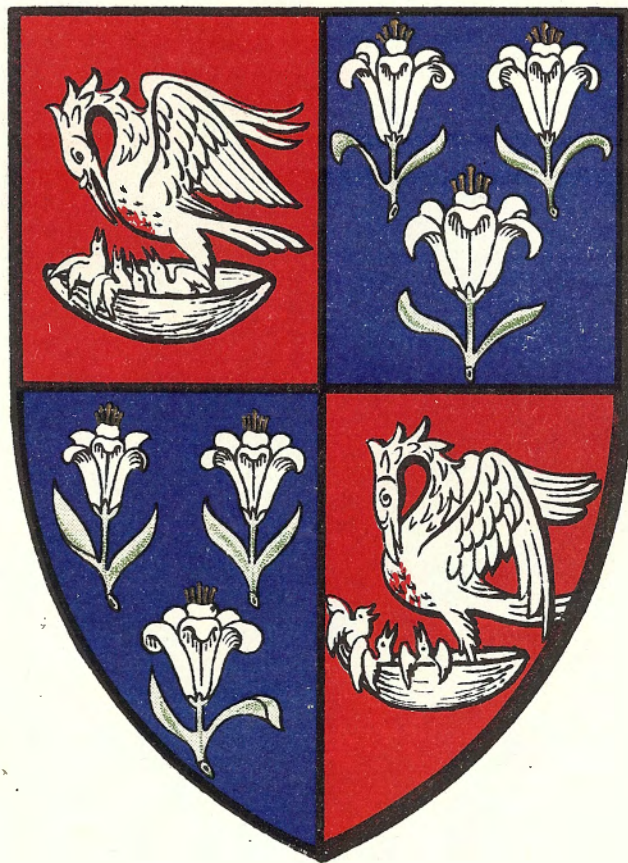
ARMS.—Quarterly: 1 and 4 gules a pelican in her piety silver; 2 and 3 azure three silver lily flowers.

This College has a unique foundation. It sprang from two guilds of the townfolk of Cambridge, the Guild of Corpus Christi and that of The Blessed Virgin. About the year 1350 these two united, "and thus being happily married were not long without issue,"<sup>(16)</sup> and under licence from King Edward III. founded a college called "Domus Scholarium Corporis Christi et Beatæ Mariæ Virginis." Until the Reformation the College used as arms the shields of the two guilds, that of Corpus Christi containing the Crown of Thorns and the other instruments of Our Lord's Passion, and that of Our Lady displaying the verbal emblem of the Holy Trinity. In 1570 Matthew Parker, Archbishop of Canterbury, Master of Corpus Christi from 1544 to 1553,

"Moved with honest zeal to the honour of the College, perceiving that the old arms gave offence to persons of his own time,"<sup>(17)</sup>

obtained from Robert Cooke, Clarencieux, a grant of the arms now borne. Underneath the shield in the margin of the patent is the following explanatory couplet:

"Signat avis Christum, qui sanguine pascit alumnos,  
Lilia Virgo parens intemerata refert."



<sup>(16)</sup> Fuller, *History of the University*, p. 98.

<sup>(17)</sup> Josselin, *Historiola Collegii Corporis Christi*, p. 38.



## King's College.

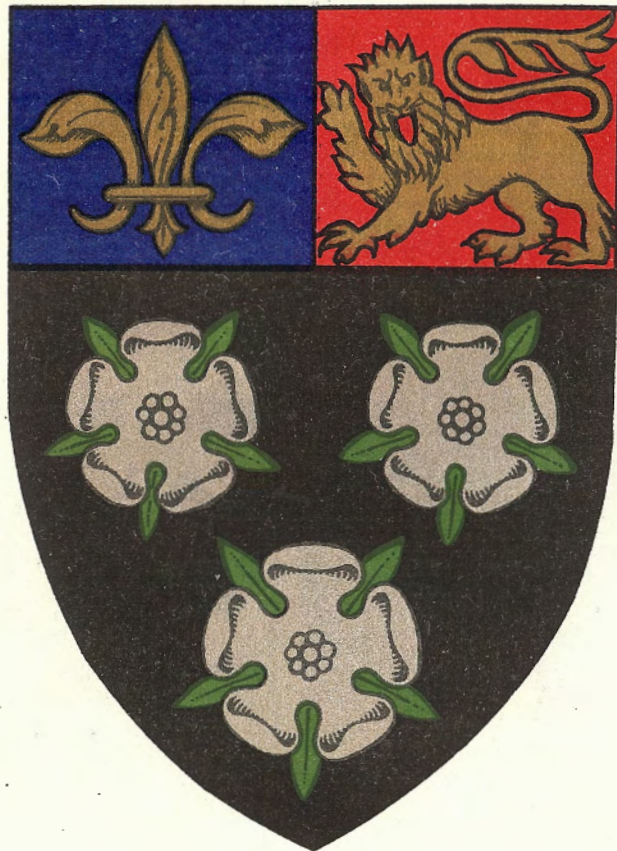
ARMS.—Sable three roses silver on a chief party azure a gold lily of France and gules a leopard of England.

This noble foundation was the work of King Henry VI. :

“ It is our fixed and unalterable purpose, being moved thereto, as we trust, by the inspiration of the Holy Spirit, that our poor scholars of our Royal foundation of St. Mary of Eton, after they have been sufficiently taught the rudiments of grammar, shall be transferred to our aforesaid College of Cambridge, which we will shall be henceforward denominated our College Royal of St. Mary and St. Nicholas. There to be more thoroughly instructed in a liberal course of study, in other branches of knowledge and other professions.”<sup>(18)</sup>

By letters patent, dated January 1st, 1449, arms were granted to the College :

“ Therefore we assign for arms and ensigns of arms in a field sable three silver roses having in mind that our newly founded College to last for ages to come whose perpetuity we wish to be signified by the stability of the black colour, may bring forth the brightest flowers redolent of every kind of knowledge to the honour and most devout worship of Almighty God and the Spotless Virgin and Glorious Mother to whom as in other things especially in this our foundation with ardent mind we offer our heartfelt and most earnest devotion. To which also that we may impart something of Royal nobility which may declare the work truly Royal and illustrious, portions of the arms which by Royal right belong to us in the Kingdoms of England and France, we having appointed to be placed in the chief of the shield party per pale of azure with a flower of the French and of gules with a leopard passant gold.”<sup>(19)</sup>



<sup>(18)</sup> Charter to King's College, dated 10th July 1443, quoted Stubbs' *Cambridge*, p. 146.

<sup>(19)</sup> Translation of original grant, quoted in *Proceedings of Cambridge Antiquarian Society*, 1894, p. 120.

## Queens' College.

ARMS.—Quarterly: 1. Barry of eight pieces silver and gules (for HUNGARY); 2. Azure sown with fleurs-de-lis gold a label of three pieces gules (for NAPLES); 3. Silver a cross potent between four similar crosslets gold (for JERUSALEM); 4. Azure sown with fleurs-de-lis gold a border gules (for ANJOU); 5. Azure sown with crosses crosslet fitchy two barbels haurient back to back all gold (for BARR); 6. Gold on a bend gules three alerions silver (for LORRAINE); all within a border vert.

CREST.—A black eagle with gold wings issuing from a coronet of the same.

MANTLING.—Gules doubled silver.

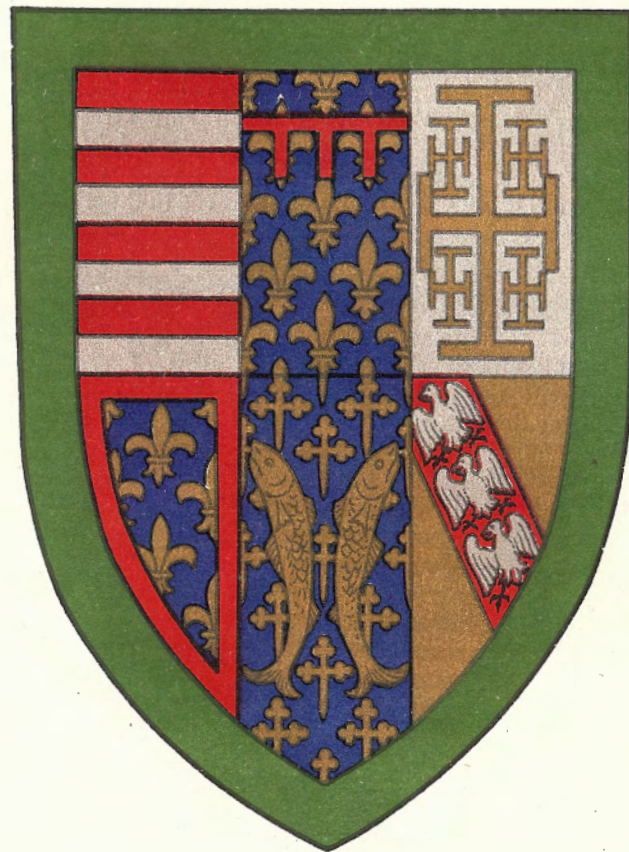
These arms, without the crest and green border, were those of the first foundress, Margaret of Anjou, consort of King Henry VI., who:

“ beholding her husband’s bounty in building King’s College was restless in herself with holy emulation until she had produced something of like nature,”<sup>(20)</sup>

obtained in 1448 the grant of St. Bernard’s College,<sup>(21)</sup> and refounded it under the name of “ The Queen’s College of St. Margaret and St. Bernard.” The College bore the arms of Queen Margaret until 1465, when it came under the patronage of Elisabeth Widville, Queen of Edward IV. The second foundress changed the name to Queens’ College, and for some reason not yet explained it assumed new arms identical with those of the City of London: *silver a cross of St. George with a sword palewise gules in the first quarter.* For how long these arms continued to be borne is not known, and next the College took the arms shown in the *Catalogus* of 1572: *sable a cross and crosier in saltire or surmounted by a boar’s head argent.* The cross is that generally borne by St. Margaret, and the crosier of St. Bernard, and the boar’s head Richard III.’s badge of a white boar. Finally, in 1575 Robert Cooke, Clarencieux, regranted the original arms of Queen Margaret with the addition of the green border and crest described above.

<sup>(20)</sup> Fuller, *History of the University*, p. 161.

<sup>(21)</sup> The College of St. Bernard was a hostel established in 1446 by Andrew Dokett, Rector of St. Botolph’s Church.





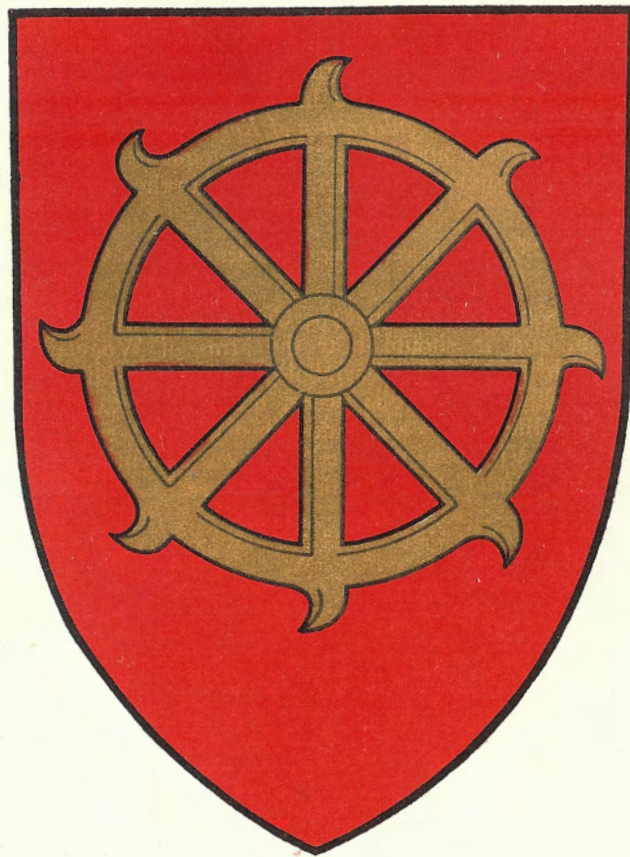
## St. Catharine's College.

ARMS.—Gules a catherine wheel gold.

In 1473, Robert Woodlarke, Provost of King's College, founded a small "house of learning," which he called St. Catharine's Hall. Woodlarke himself bore arms: *parti per bend indented dexter gules a lion of England sinister azure a fleur-de-lis gold*; and these "arms eloquent of Royal favour;"<sup>(22)</sup> together with a letter preserved in the Treasury, beginning:

"Edwardus D.G. cum delectus clericus noster Robertus Woodlark S.T.P."<sup>(23)</sup>,

have caused some to assert that the College is really a Royal foundation, and it should bear the arms of Woodlarke impaled with the traditional symbol of the Saint of dedication. The heralds of 1684 were, however, not of this opinion, and the simple arms, described above, were confirmed in the Visitation as "having been anciently borne by the Master and Fellows of the said House."



<sup>(22)</sup> The King was Edward IV. Browne, *History of St. Catharine's College*, p. 9.

<sup>(23)</sup> Quoted, *Publications of the Cambridge Antiquarian Society*, 1840, p. 56.

## Jesus College.

ARMS.—Silver a fess and three cocks' heads erased sable combed and wattled a border gules sown of golden crowns.

CREST.—A cock sable membered gules issuing from a coronet gold.

MANTLING.—Gules doubled silver.

These are the arms granted by Robert Cooke, Clarendieux, in 1575. Cooke's words in the patent are :

" At the request of Thomas Ishell, Dr. of the Civil Lawe, now Master of the College, I have granted and given to these their arms, which they have longtime borne ; . . . "

Then follow the arms blazoned above, but they are new and not " longtime borne."

The College was founded in 1496 by John Alcock, Bishop of Ely, as " The College of Jesus Mary and John the Evangelist." For the accommodation of the Fellows and Scholars he used the Priory of St. Rhadegund, which had :

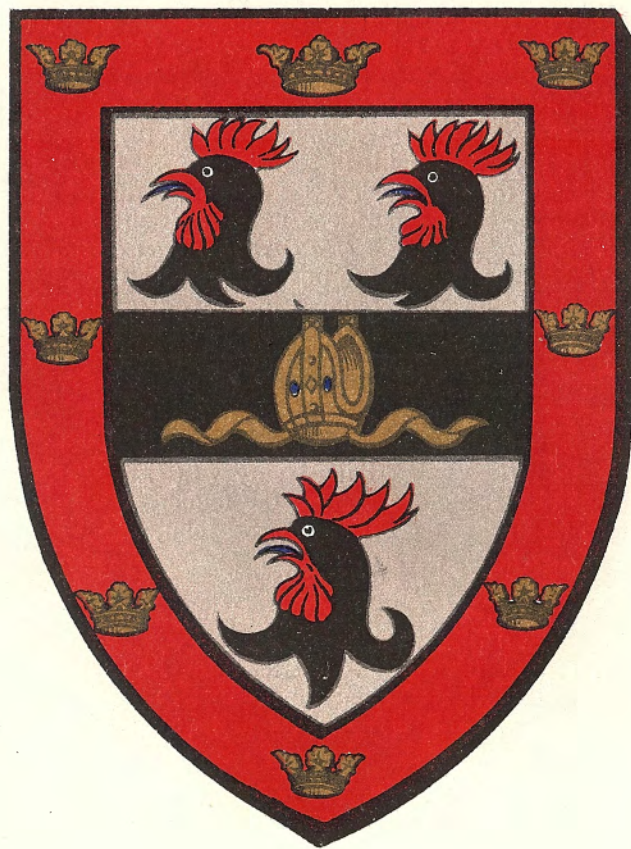
" become dilapidated and wasted owing to the improvidence, extravagance and incontinence of the nuns resulting from their proximity to the University." <sup>(24)</sup>

On its first seal the College shows the Five Wounds.<sup>(25)</sup> These arms were probably set aside at the Reformation as " giving offence," as did the arms of Corpus Christi (*q.v.*), and in the *Catalogus* of 1572 the College bears the canting arms of the founder, *silver a fess between three cocks' heads erased sable combed and wattled gules*, with the additions of *a mitre or in fess point*, and a border of the See of Ely, *gules sown of crowns gold*.

That these arms of Bishop Alcock were in common use in the sixteenth century is attested by the decorations of the College buildings and its plate. In the arms newly made authoritative by Cooke, however, the mitre is omitted and the uneclesiastical ornaments of helm, crest, and mantling are added.

<sup>(21)</sup> Letters patent, incorporating the College, quoted Stubbs, *Cambridge*, p. 200.

<sup>(25)</sup> The Five Wounds : the pierced heart, hands, and feet of Christ displayed on a shield.





## Christ's and St. John's Colleges.

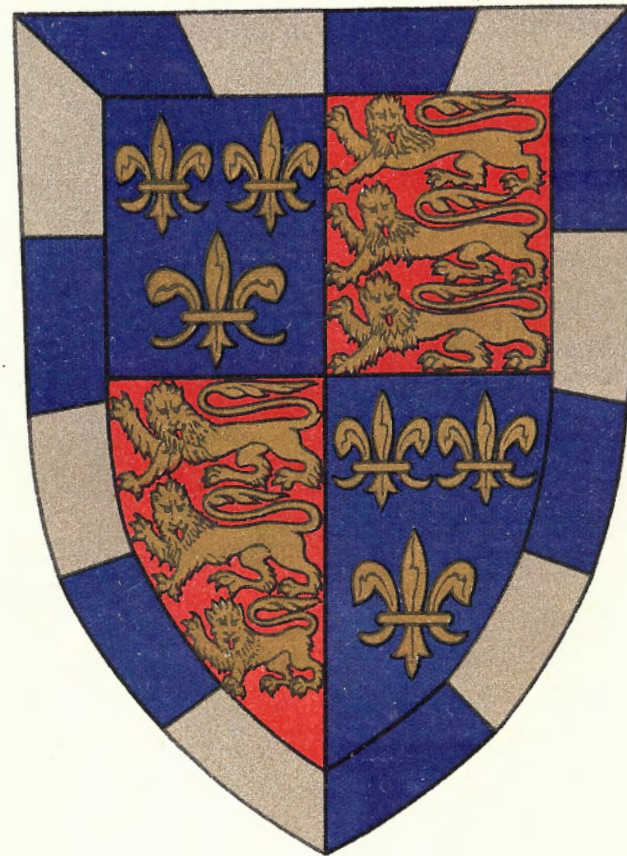
ARMS.—Quarterly: 1 and 4 azure three fleurs-de-lis gold (FRANCE, Modern); 2 and 3 gules three lions passant gardant or (ENGLAND); all within a border compony silver and azure.

Both Colleges were founded by the Lady Margaret Beaufort, Countess of Richmond and Derby, mother of King Henry VII.; and both bear her arms. The arms are recorded in the College of Arms as being borne with right. In addition, both foundations use the Beaufort crest, *an eagle displayed arising out of a coronet of roses and fleurs-de-lis all gold*, but their title to this is more doubtful.

Christ's College was founded in 1505, absorbing a small early foundation of King Henry VI. known as God's House. In the Royal Charter for the foundation of the College it is notified that King Henry VII., at the representation of his mother and other noble and trustworthy persons, has conceded to her permission to carry into full effect the designs of her illustrious uncle, King Henry VI.<sup>(26)</sup>

Meanwhile, the attention of the foundress was directed to the Hospital of the Brethren of St. John, which had now "become grievously delapidated, destroyed, alienated and diminished."<sup>(27)</sup>

After tedious legal formalities it was "utterly extinguished," but before this the queen had died. Her executor, however, John Fisher, Bishop of Rochester and Chancellor of the University, by his exertion and munificence completed her design, and in 1511 was incorporated the College of St. John the Evangelist.



<sup>(26)</sup> Mullinger, *History of the University*, i. p. 44.

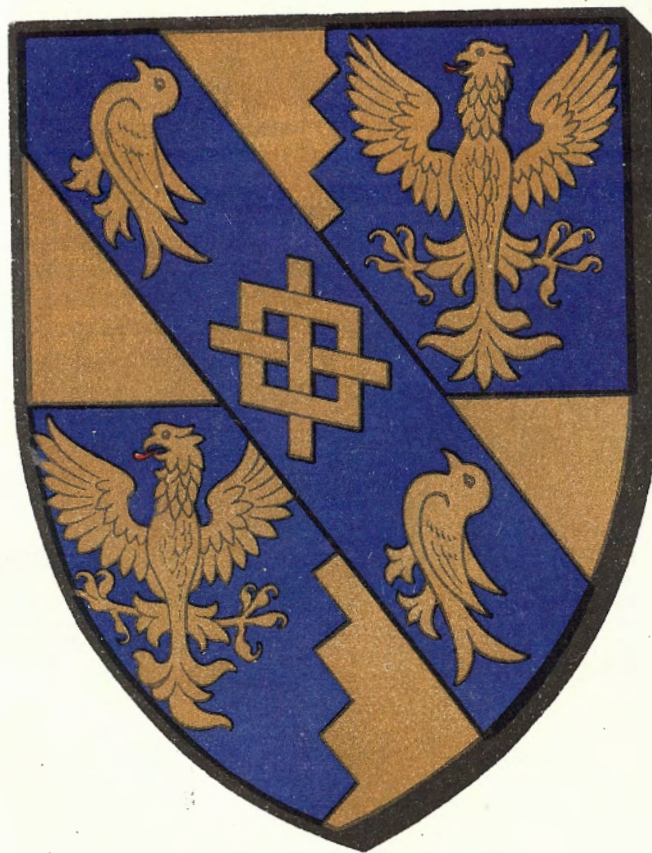
<sup>(27)</sup> St. John's College Charter; quoted Stubbs, *Cambridge*, p. 233.

## *Magdalene College.*

ARMS.—Quarterly per pale indented or and azure in the second and third quarters an eagle displayed gold over all on a bend azure a fret between two martlets or.

This College, originally a hostel for Benedictine students, was incorporated in 1542 by Thomas, Baron Audley of Walden.

The arms are those of the founder, to whom they were granted in 1538, and are ascribed to the College in Hammond's Map<sup>(28)</sup> and by all later authorities. There is, however, no record in the College of Arms that they were ever allowed to the Master and Fellows of Magdalene, and strictly, therefore, they must be considered as being borne by custom rather than by right.



<sup>(28)</sup> See Note 10 on p. 8.

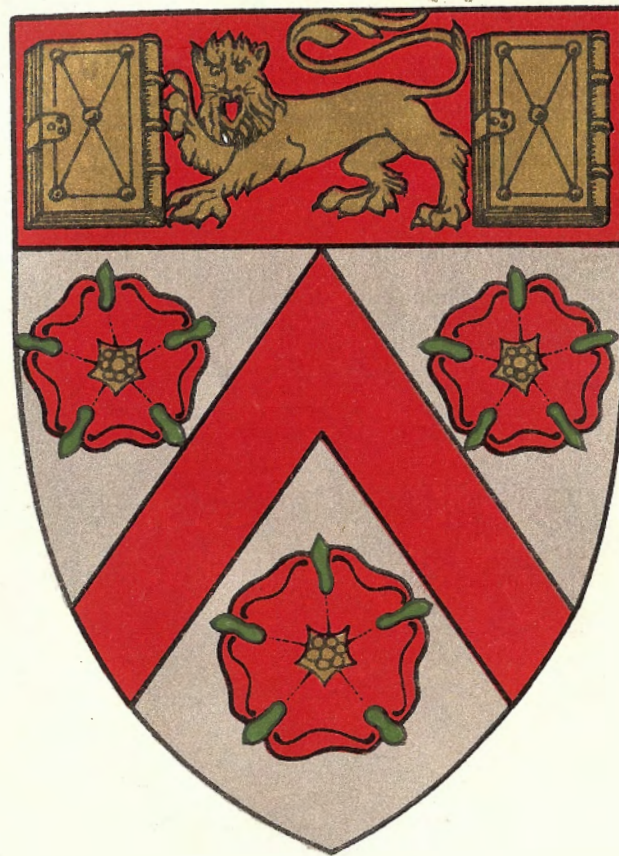


## Trinity College.

ARMS.—Silver a chevron gules and three red roses on a chief of the same a lion passant gardant between two books all gold.

“ This noble and magnificent college, the mastership of which is in the appointment of the Crown, was formed by the consolidation and extension of the earlier foundations of Michaelhouse, founded in 1324 by Hervey of Stanton, Chancellor of the Exchequer in the reign of Edward II., and of King’s Hall founded in 1337 by Edward III., in pursuance of an uncompleted plan of his father. Henry VIII. took these into his own hands, and from the revenues of the above Societies, very largely increased by himself, he founded in 1546 one spacious College, for the maintenance of a Master and sixty Fellows and Scholars, dedicating it to the Holy and Undivided Trinity.”<sup>(29)</sup>

Exhaustive researches by the Cambridge Antiquarian Society and others have failed to trace the original letters patent granting the College arms. In the Visitation of 1575 they were duly confirmed, and in 1684 they were produced and entered as “ arms as usual.” The design of the coat and the nature of the charges conform to the heraldic fashions of the mid-sixteenth century, and it seems hardly likely that the Visitors of 1575 would have confirmed the arms of a recent foundation unless some evidence of grant had been brought before them. It is probable, therefore, that the arms described above were granted to the College shortly after its foundation, and that the grant has since been mislaid.



<sup>(29)</sup> *Cambridge University Calendar*, 1930-31, p. 727.

## *Emmanuel College.*

ARMS.—Silver a lion rampant azure armed and langued gules holding in his dexter paw a wreath of laurel proper and with a scroll issuing from his mouth with the word EMMANUEL.

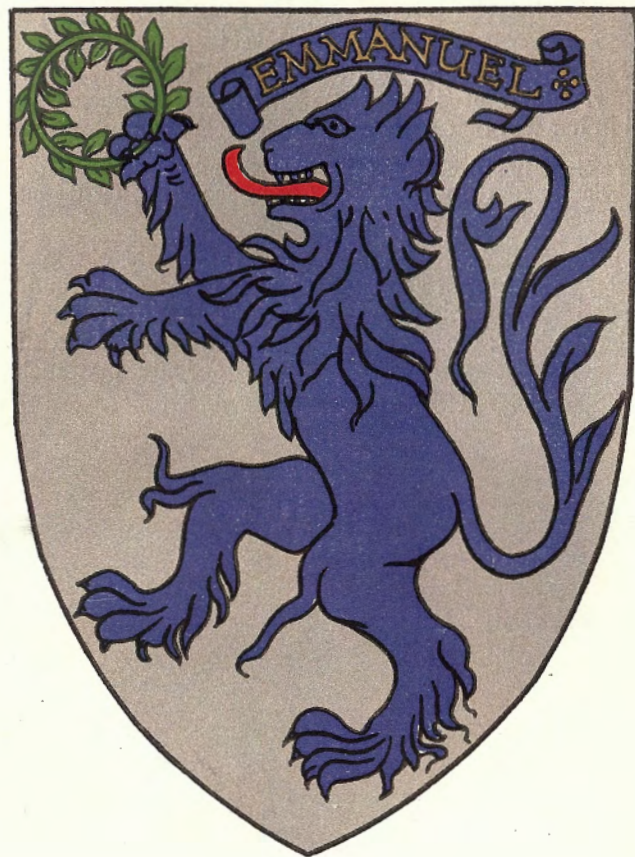
This College was founded in 1584 by Sir Walter Mildmay, Chancellor of the Exchequer in the reign of Queen Elizabeth. It was the first Protestant foundation and, as such, gave offence to some :

“ First for a prognostication of disorder, whereas all the chappells in y<sup>e</sup> University are built with y<sup>e</sup> chancell eastwarde, according to y<sup>e</sup> uniform order of all Christendome. The chancell in y<sup>e</sup> colledge standeth north and their kitchen eastwarde.”<sup>(30)</sup>

To the essentially Puritan tone of the College may be traced its influence in the New World. It has been said :

“ if New England hath been in some respect Immanuel's Land it is well ; but this I am sure of, that Immanuel College contributed more than a little to make it so.”<sup>(31)</sup>

The arms, derived from the personal arms of the founder, who bore *argent three lions rampant azure*, were granted by Robert Cooke, Clarencieux, in a patent dated 1588, which is preserved in the College treasury.



<sup>(30)</sup> MSS. Baker, vi. 85, quoted Willis and Clark, *Architectural History of the University and Colleges of Cambridge*, ii. p. 700.

<sup>(31)</sup> Cotton Mather, *Ecclesiastical History of New England*; quoted Stubbs, *Cambridge*, p. 284.



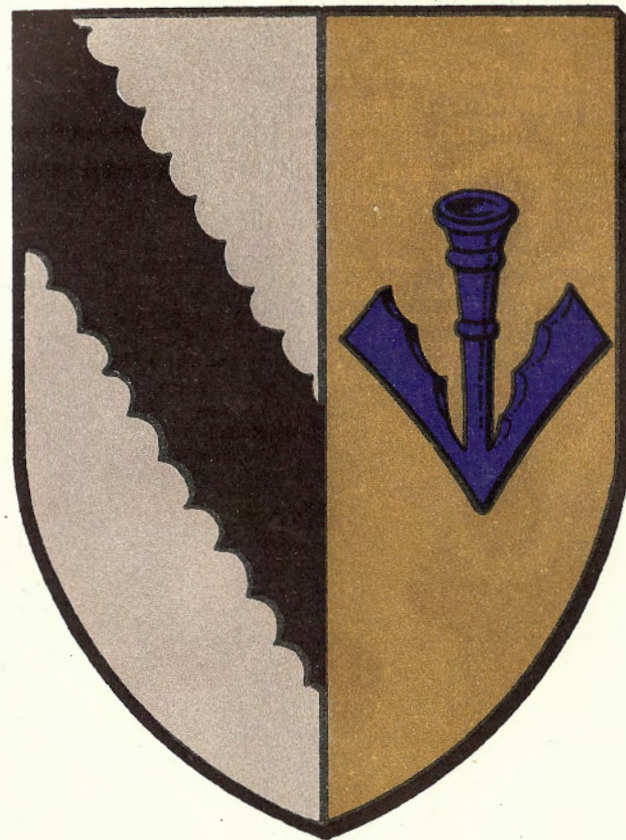
## Sidney Sussex College.

ARMS.—Silver a bend engrailed sable (for RADCLIFFE), gold a pheon azure (for SIDNEY).<sup>(32)</sup>

These are the arms of the foundress, the Lady Frances Sidney, widow of Thomas Radcliffe, Earl of Sussex, who said in her will that :

“ she had yearly gathered out of her revenues as she conveniently could, purposing to erect some goodly and godly monument for the maintenance of good learning.”

In performance of her wishes, her executors obtained a charter from Queen Elizabeth and the College was founded in 1596. The Society no longer possess the patent granting it the Lady Frances' arms, but from the records existing in the College of Arms there is little doubt that such a document existed.<sup>(33)</sup>



<sup>(32)</sup> The *pheon* of Sidney is said to be the origin of the *broad arrow*, and to have been introduced into His Majesty's Ordnance by Henry, Viscount Sidney, Master General, 1693 to 1702.

<sup>(33)</sup> Edmondson, *Complete Body of Heraldry*, vol. i., unpagged: “These are the arms of the Foundress & were granted to the College in 1675 by Clarendon King at Arms at the request of Dr. Chalderton”; but Fox Davies, *The Book of Public Arms*, p. 726, says: “Arms, etc., granted by Sir Edward Walker, Garter, 1675.”

## *Downing College.*

ARMS.—Barry of eight pieces silver and vert a griffin gold and a border azure with eight silver roses.

The sole founder of the College was Sir George Downing, Bart, K.B., of Gamlingay Park, who by will devised his estates to various relatives in succession, and in failure thereof to found a College in the University of Cambridge. Sir George died in 1745, but it was not until 1800 that the College obtained a Charter from the Crown.

The arms are those of the founder, with a border for difference, and were granted in 1801 by Isaac Heard, Garter, Thomas Locke, Clarencieux, and George Harrison, Norroy<sup>(34)</sup>, and form in their boldness and simplicity one of the more satisfying examples of academic heraldry.



<sup>(34)</sup> The original grant is in possession of the College.

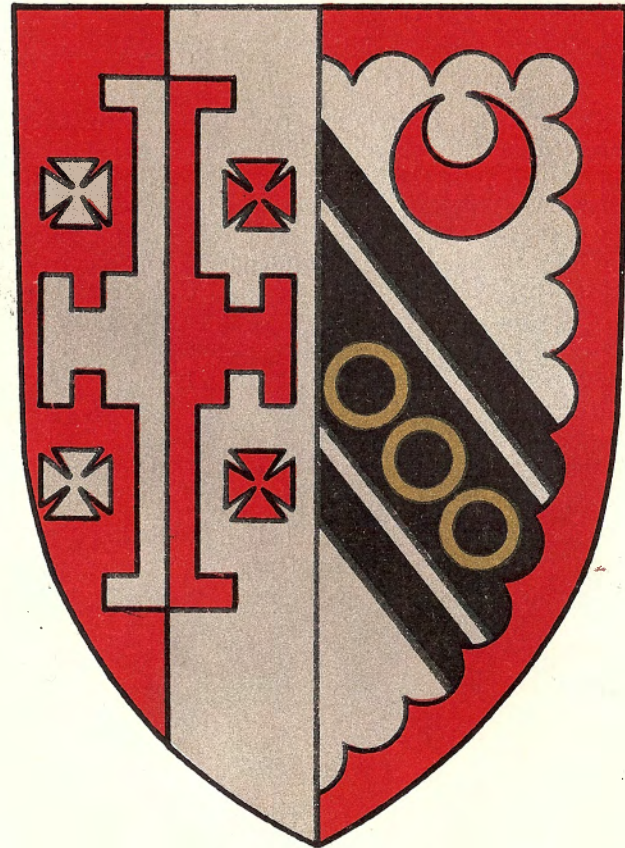


*Selwyn College.*

*(Approved Foundation.)*

ARMS.—Party gules and silver a cross potent and quadrate between four crosses formy all counter-coloured (for the SEE OF LICHFIELD) impaling silver a bend and two cotises sable with three gold rings and a crescent in chief for difference and a border gules (for SELWYN).

These are the arms of George Augustus Selwyn, Bishop of Lichfield, who died in 1879. He was not the founder of the College, which came into being in 1882 as the result of public subscription. In that year it obtained a Royal Charter incorporating it as Selwyn College, and in 1883, by grace of the Senate, the University recognized it as a public hostel. No authority can be traced confirming the assumption of the arms described above.



## *Non-Collegiate Students.*

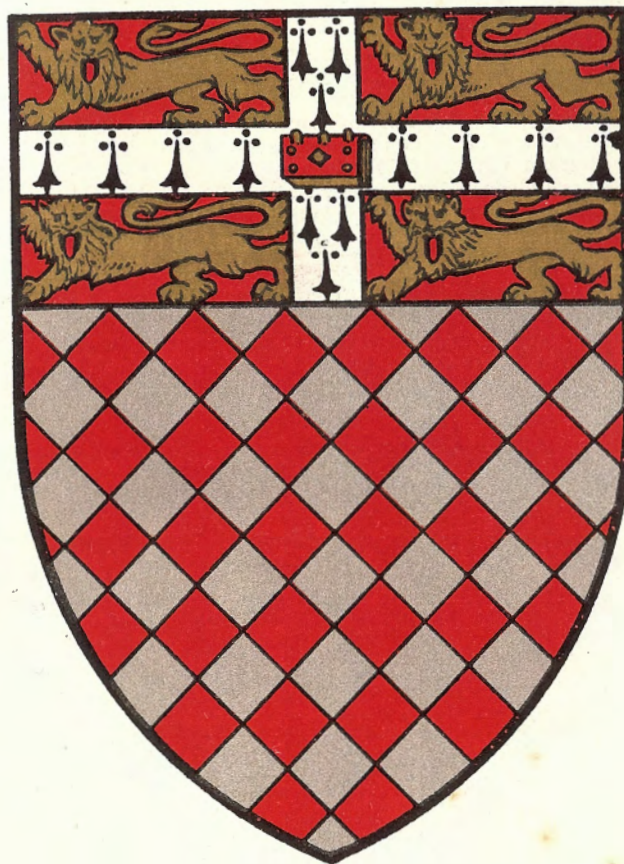
*(Fitzwilliam House.)*

ARMS.—Lozengy silver and gules (the arms of FITZWILLIAM), in chief the arms of the University (*q.v.*).

These arms are entirely apocryphal, but the manner of their invention is of sufficient interest to be recorded. In 1869, by reversion to the original practice of the University, undergraduates were again admitted who were unattached to any of the seventeen endowed colleges. To accommodate a body "for the admission, superintendence, and regulation" of these non-collegiate students the University bought one of the historic residences of Cambridge, Fitzwilliam House. By degrees the non-collegiate students established a form of corporate life which centred round this house, and in 1887 their boat club

"by permission of the Earl Fitzwilliam adopted his arms with those of the University in chief as the badge to be worn on their uniform." <sup>(35)</sup>

Gradually this badge came to be considered as the "arms" of the whole body, and as such is now displayed in the *University Calendar*, on their notepaper, and on the appointments of their common table.



<sup>(35)</sup> Minutes of the Fitzwilliam House Boat Club, 1887.



## The Regius Professors.

Besides the arms of the University and of the Colleges, there is a curious series of arms granted by Thomas Cooke, Clarencieux, in 1590:

"Being required by Thomas Lorkin Esq. Dr of Physicke and Publicke Reader of the Kings Physicke in the said University to appoint and grant unto the said five Readers, (Physicke, Lawe, Divinitye, Hebrew and Greke) arms . . . etc. . . . considering his request to be very reasonable and required seinge in all Universities Publicke Professors and Readers being the chief number chosen as the worthiest fit for their professions . . . have assigned, given and granted . . .

"First to the Reader of Physicke that he may beare :

"Azure a fess ermines between three losinges gold on a chiffe gules a Lyon passant gardant gold marked on his syde with the letter M sables and to the crest on the hearme a wreath gold and azure a quinquangle silver called *simbolium sanitas* mantled gules doubled silver.

"Secondly to the Lawe Reader :

"The field purple a cross molem gold on a chiffe gules a Lyon passant gardant gold marked on his syde with a letter L sables and to the crest on the hearme on a wreath purple and gold a bee volant gold mantled gules doubled silver.

"Thirdly to the Divinitye Reader :

"The field gules a cross ermen between four doves silver a boke of the first leaves gold clasped noted in the midst with the Greke letter Θ sables and to the crest on the hearme a dove volant silver with an olive branch vert in his beke mantled gules doubled silver.

"Fourthly to the Hebrew Reader :

"Silver the Hebrew letter Π sables on a chiffe gules a Lyon passant gardant gold marked on his syde with the letter H sables and to the crest on the hearme a turtle dove azure mantled gules doubled silver.

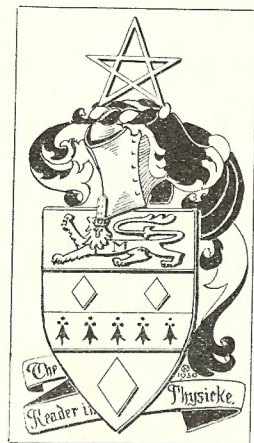
"Fifthly to the Greke Reader :

"The field silver and sables and party per chevron in the first these two Greke letters A and Ω and in the second a grasshopper silver on a chiffe gules a Lyon passant gardant gold marked on his syde with the letter G sables and to the crest on the hearme on a wreath silver and sables an owel silver legs beke and eres gold mantled gules doubled silver."<sup>(36)</sup>

<sup>(36)</sup> Full text of the grant in Baker MSS. xxvi. pp. 27, 28.

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