

Fig. 1. THE ACHIEVEMENT.

1. Crest. 2. Crown. 3. Mantling. 4. Helmet. 5. Garter. 6. Shield.
7. Lion. 8. Unicorn. 9. Badge (rose). 10. Badge (thistle).
11. Compartment. 12. Scroll and Motto.

The Royal Arms and Achievements in Somerset Churches

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IN the churches of Somerset as in other counties of England there are examples of the Royal Arms found sometimes over the chancel arch, the south or north door, the corresponding walls, on one of the walls of the ground floor or even higher, of the west tower, in the porch over the entrance door to the church or even over the entrance of the porch (from the outside), in the vestry or some other place. These Arms which take the form of Achievements are frequently mistaken for what are generally known as Hatchments—a corruption of Achievements—which were put up in churches a year after the death of some local magnate. The Achievements may be very elaborate carvings in wood, or castings in plaster or metal. More commonly they consist of canvas or wooden panels framed. In all cases they display the Heraldic bearings of the House to which the reigning monarch belongs. Unfortunately the significance and the identity of these objects are practically unknown to visitors, to vergers or even to many of the clergy. Even the fact that they are Royal Arms seems often unrecognized. The Royal House to which they do belong if not initialled or dated is not realized: furthermore they are not mentioned either in the various guide books or in the small descriptions obtainable in the churches themselves save in very exceptional circumstances. Even in the accounts of the visitation of churches by archæological societies the Royal Arms are generally ignored. As a result of the indifference either of clergy, churchwardens or architects many—in fact—the majority of the churches of Somerset lack any example of the Royal Arms.

In many cases the Arms though present have been allowed to fall into such decrepitude that they are almost undecipherable. In one case, *e.g.* Sampford Brett, there is an example so decrepit that it is only by the figures 43 and the presence of the Arms of Luneburg, one of the components of the electorate of Hanover that it is possible to assign this example to the House of Brunswick and to compute the date as 1743. At Dillington the writer found three loose boards doing duty as a fire-screen. Fortunately a fire had never been lighted in the vestry where they were. When turned round and cleaned they proved to be the Arms of the House of Hanover before 1801, and these arms had actually been painted over Stuart Arms. A word to the rector resulted in these arms being restored.

HISTORY AND SIGNIFICANCE OF ROYAL ARMS

Although there is no documentary evidence to prove it, it is generally assumed that when Henry VIII became Head of the Church in 1534 the Royal Arms took the place of the Rood on the Rood Loft in churches. It was definitely enacted in the reign of Charles II that Royal Arms were to be set up in all churches. Whether that was ever universally carried out will probably never be known as so many churchwardens' accounts have been lost, but what is certain is that in many instances Royal Arms which were in the churches have disappeared. At Chapel Allerton, for instance, there is a water-colour drawing of the church before restoration in which the Royal Arms are shown over the chancel arch. There are no Royal Arms now there.

As one of the chief objects which I had in mind when I undertook this task was to determine what Arms existed, what their condition was, and what was the case where they were absent from churches, it is hoped that sufficient interest will be aroused amongst those who read this to enquire into the question. Churchwardens' accounts when they exist ought to be very helpful. It will be found that the Arms of the House of Stuart and of Hanover (Brunswick) are common—especially the latter, the former no doubt because of the enactment above mentioned, the latter on account of the opposition of the

Jacobite clergy to the Hanoverian or Brunswickian House, who did their best to see that their Arms were set up in churches and thereby assert their authority. Since the time of the Georges the practice of putting up Royal Arms seems to have fallen into almost complete disuetude. Perhaps the renewed expression of loyalty to the Crown at the Coronation of King George VI may result in the new setting up of Arms of the House of Windsor. Moreover, it should be remembered that the Act of Charles II has never been repealed.

THE MEANING OF ROYAL ACHIEVEMENT OF ARMS

The word achievement was mentioned almost at the outset. What is an achievement? It consists of the following parts. The *shield* of arms, surrounded by the *garter* on which is the motto, *Honi soit qui mal y pense*. Upon the *shield* rests the *helmet* which is golden and has an eye-hole (ocularium); in front of it are vertical gold bars of variable number. Above the helmet is the *official crown* which, save in the cases of the achievements of James I and Charles I, who had a four-arched crown, should have two arches; at the intersection should be a ball called the *mound* on which there should be a band (the fillet), an arch and a *cross*. Above the official crown comes the *crest*, represented by a lion standing on four legs (statant) on the crown, with its face directed towards the observer (guardant), hence said to be statant guardant. The tail is arched over the back and the head is crowned. Spreading outwards from the helmet is the *mantling*, representing a garment to cover the armour as it was worn. It was protective against sword-cuts and against rust. As in battle such a garment was likely to become tattered through sword-cuts and thereby acquire honour, so it is represented much divided up at the edges in heraldry.

Supporters. Supporting the shield on either side is some sort of animal. Generally on the right (dexter) side there is a golden lion standing on its hind legs on what is called the *compartment*. This lion has its face directed to the observer and it supports the shield by its forepaws. It is said to be *rampant guardant*. On the left (sinister) side of the shield, since the time of the Stuart accession, is a unicorn of silver

with a necklet and chain of gold, likewise a horn, and hair-tufts of gold on tail and chin and neck, the tail usually being erect behind the back. The unicorn does not face the observer but looks towards the lion supporter; it is therefore *rampant*, not *rampant guardant*. In Tudor times the sinister supporter was a red dragon, but Elizabeth adopted a golden dragon towards the end of her reign. Henry VIII sometimes replaced the dragon by a golden cock. Whatever the supporters were, they were *rampant* and stood on their hind legs on the compartment, and on this is generally a *motto* which tends to vary somewhat. Usually it was *Dieu et mon droit* or *Semper eadem*. James I used *Beati pacifici*, though in all the Somerset examples *Dieu et mon droit* is given. Anne frequently used *Semper eadem*. William III used *Je main tendrai* sometimes. Since the time of Queen Anne the motto has always been *Dieu et mon droit*.

Badges. The royal badges varied somewhat. That of England is the Rose, of Scotland the Thistle and of Ireland the Shamrock. Naturally before the accession of James I the rose alone appeared, with James I the thistle, and after 1801, when the Act of Union with Ireland was passed, the shamrock was added. It is a remarkable fact that no badges appear on the carved Stuart arms, save at St. Mary's, Taunton, and North Petherton.

The *Royal Initials* may appear and they may be crowned (royal cypher) and a date may accompany them. Neither one nor other is to be relied upon absolutely as C may have had II or 2 added, and more particularly in the case of the Georges, II, III, and VIII may be added to save the trouble and expense of providing new arms. Here a knowledge of the heraldry may clear up matters, especially in the Georgian period.

The above is a brief account of the achievement which will be simplified by a glance at Fig. 1.

The Royal Houses whose achievements appear in Churches are—

THE HOUSE OF TUDOR

comprising for this paper, Henry VIII, Edward VI, Mary I, and Elizabeth. The shield of arms of the Tudors was divided

into four grand quarters ; 1 and 4, being modern France, are blazoned *azure, three fleur-de-lis or* : 2 and 3, being England, *gules, three lions rampant passant guardant or*.

HENRY VIII. There are no achievements of this monarch in Somerset. On the rood-screen at Banwell the shield of Henry VIII appears, but as that screen dates from 1521, this example does not come within the category here dealt with.

EDWARD VI and MARY I are not represented.

ELIZABETH. There is an achievement at Beckington.

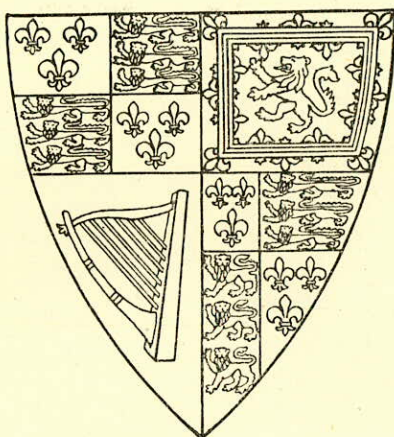


Fig. 2. Arms of the House of Stuart.

THE HOUSE OF STUART

Shield. No. 1 and 4 quarterly, France and England : 2 Scotland *or, within a double tressure flory counter flory a lion rampant gules* : 3 Ireland, *azure, a harp or stringed argent*. The flowers along the double border or tressure are arranged so that the stalks are directed inwards, then outwards in alternating fashion as seen in Fig. 2. They should be either eight or sixteen in number. Many mistakes are made here. The usual one being to have all the stalks directed inwards, *i.e.* flory instead of counter flory. Occasionally the tressure instead of being represented double is shown single.

The Stuart shield remained unchanged from 1603 until the

Accession of William and Mary, when William placed over his half of the shield a smaller one (inescutcheon) of the Arms of Nassau, *viz.* a blue ground (field), numerous billets and a rampant lion gold. His shield was joined side by side (impaled) with that of Mary II his wife. On her death in 1694 Mary's shield disappeared and William bore till his death the Stuart shield augmented by the inescutcheon of Nassau (Fig. 3). Anne on her accession reverted to the Stuart coat without the Nassau augmentation, but in 1707, when the Act of Union with

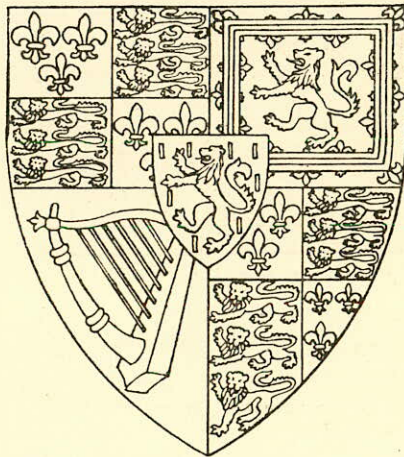


Fig. 3. Arms of William III
after the death of Mary II.

Scotland came into force, the following alterations took place. Instead of 1 and 4 being France and England quarterly, England was impaled with Scotland. Now when a coat like Scotland which is charged with a double tressure is impaled with another that part of the tressure immediately adjacent to the coat with which Scotland is impaled is omitted. In this respect many mistakes are made: the whole coat of Scotland being represented and at Brislington, Scotland is actually impaled with France!

JAMES I. Unless the State Crown is represented as four-arched and unless the Royal Initials and motto *Beati pacifici*,

or date accompany the achievement it is not possible to identify the Arms of James I. Examples occur at Winsford, 1609, and at Wyke Champflower, 1624; Bishops Hull, 1617.

CHARLES I. Brent Knoll; Cameley; Creech St. Michael, 1636; Crocombe?, 1616; Hardington, Keynsham, Kilve?, Kingston Seymour?, North Petherton?, Rowberrow, 1637; Swainswick, 1647; Wells, St. Cuthbert's; Wincanton, 1637.

CHARLES II. Long Ashton; Bruton; Cannington, 1661 (date at back); Chinnoek, Middle, 1660; Churchill, 1663;

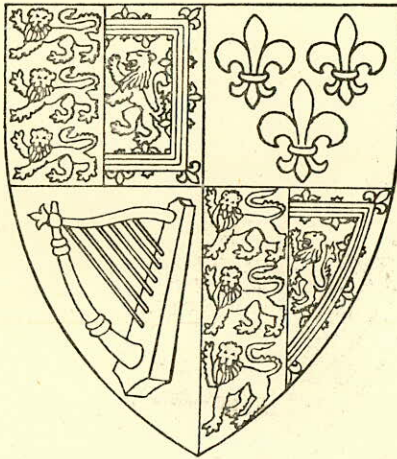


Fig. 4. Royal Arms after 1707.

Corston, 1660; Cucklington, 1660; Curry Rivel, C.R.¹¹; Downside, C¹¹R.; Dunster, C.R.¹¹; Ham, Low, C¹¹; Huish Episcopi; Huntspill, C.R.²; Isle Brewers, C.R. 1660; Mark C.R.¹¹ 1660; Milborne Port, 6² 1662 R.; Norton St. Philip, C.R. 1660; Nunney, C¹¹ 1660; Sampford Brett, C.R.¹¹; Seavington, St. Michael, C¹¹; Shepton Montague, C.R. 1672; Stowey, C.R. 1660; Swell, C.R.¹¹ 1683; Wells, St. Cuthbert's; Witham, C¹¹ 1660.

JAMES II. No examples.

WILLIAM AND MARY. Coker, East, 1690. This is really a Charles II coat, dated 1690, and Initials are W.R.; Minehead, initialled C.R. but dated 1695; Misterton W¹¹¹R¹¹¹ 1695; Misterton bears the Nassau augmentation.

ANNE. No dated or initialled examples before 1707 (Fig. 4). Bridgwater, 1712; Broomfield, 1714, A.R.; Creech St. Michael, 1707; Minehead, dated 1704, but the Arms are 1707, A.R.; Pawlett, A.R. 1708; Nether Stowey, 1707.

STUART. Not really assignable to any particular Stuart monarch, but probably C¹¹ or Restoration Arms. Bishops Hull; Bruton; Charlton Musgrove; Chew Magna; Glastonbury, St. John's; Isle Abbots; Ruishton.

Baltonsborough, West; really a Stuart coat but the Initials are G.R.: no doubt the C has been changed to G.

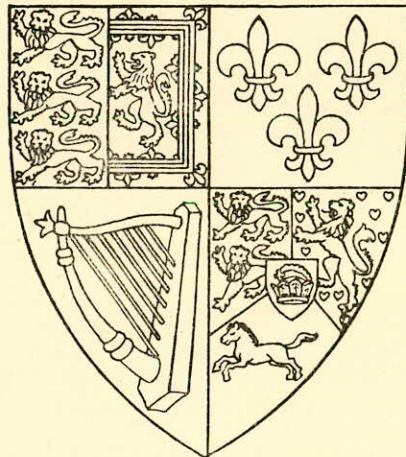


Fig. 5. Arms of House of Hanover
1714-1801.

THE HOUSE OF HANOVER

Here the shield of Arms was altered, by removing the impaled England and Scotland from the 4th quarter and substituting therefor the Arms of Hanover. Hanover was not a kingdom but an Electorate when George the First who succeeded Anne came to the throne. He was then Elector of Hanover. This electorate comprised Brunswick, Luneberg and Westphalia. The shield of Arms (Fig. 5) was therefore divided into three parts, *viz.* dexter, *Brunswick* a red field and two golden lions passant guardant. This was the Coat of

England before the marriage of Henry II with Eleanor of Aquitaine whose arms are known to have been a single golden lion on a red field. On the sinister side of the shield are the Arms of *Luneberg* which read gold, semée of hearts red, and a lion rampant red or blue; below these came *Westphalia* with a red field and a galloping white horse. In the centre of the whole Hanoverian shield was an inescutcheon with red field and the Crown of Charlemagne gold.

Such was the Shield of England until 1801 when the Act of Union with Ireland came into force. Now it has been stated

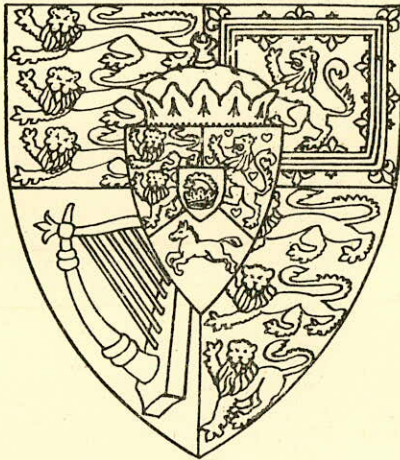


Fig. 6. Arms of House of Hanover, 1801-1816.

in some books that this complicated Shield of Hanover was too much for country artists and that much of it was 'scamped', perhaps reduced to the Coat of Saxony or Westphalia. Wedmore, Muchelney and North Wootton are curious.

The following examples of the House of Hanover before 1801 exist :

Babington, G.R.²; Bagborough, G.R.²¹ (this is a palimpsest the Arms are really Stuart); Baltonsborough; Batcombe, G.^{111d}R. 1773; Beer Crocombe, G.R.¹¹¹ 1762; Bleadon; Brislington; Buckland Dinham, 1781 (according to typed note in

porch); Catcott, G³R. 1792; Clevedon, G.R. 1726; Cossington; Ditchat (probably C.R.); Dulverton; Dillington, G.R. (probably a palimpsest over Stuart arms); Holcombe; Ilminster, G.R. 1825,—the arms are before 1801; Keinton Mandeville, 1719; Kewstoke, dated 1831, but arms are before 1801; Lambrook, East; Littleton, High; Lyng (probably converted Anne shield); Maperton, G¹¹R. 1738; Minehead, G.R. 1743; Muchelney, G¹¹¹ 1796—an extraordinary coat; Nailsea (probably a palimpsest); Pennard, West; Podimore;

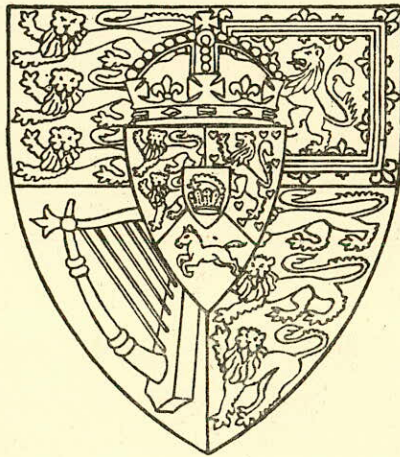


Fig. 7. Arms of House of Hanover,
1816-1837.

Puxton, G¹¹¹ 1775; Sampford Brett, 1743 (only 43 being left); Stawley, 1795; Stogumber, 1741; Stoke-sub-Hamdon, G¹¹¹R. 1797; Tintinhull, G.R.; Winford, G.R¹¹¹; Wayford.

House of Hanover between 1801-1816.

The union with Ireland brought about a rearrangement of the Royal Shield, which now read England 1 and 4, Scotland 2, and Ireland 3. Hanover was now transferred to the centre of the shield as an Inescutcheon, and above it was an Electoral bonnet which was a velvet cap with an ermine rim whose upper edge was zigzag or toothed as represented in the paintings

(Fig. 6). To this period belong Banwell, G.R. 1805 ; Blagdon, dated 1826 but between 1801-16 ; Brent, East, G⁴ 1825 ; Chard ; Chilthorne Domer ; Corfe, G.R. ; Emborrow, dated 1817 but arms are 1801-16, G¹¹¹R. ; Hinton St. George, 1812 ; Newton St. Loe ; Penselwood ; Stanton Drew, dated 1818 but arms are between 1801-16 ; Stoke St. Gregory, on a pediment over arms initials V.R., actually arms are between 1801-16 ; Stratton-on-the-Fosse, G^{111d} 1805 ; Sutton Montis, 1805 ; Wanstrow ; Wedmore.

House of Hanover from 1816 till 1837.

In 1816 Hanover became a Kingdom.* Henceforth the inescutcheon of Hanover was ensigned with a Royal (golden) Crown. The Royal Arms otherwise were not changed (Fig. 7). The following belong to that period : Chinnock, West, G^{1v}R. 1825 ; Chiselborough, G^{1v}R. 1820 ; Crewkerne, G¹¹¹R. 1819 ; Godney ; Theale, G^{1v} ; Whatley ; Wiveliscombe ; Wootton, North, G¹¹¹¹R¹¹¹¹ 1826.

House of Hanover from 1837 to 1901.

The accession of VICTORIA required the cession of Hanover as by the Salic Law no woman could occupy the throne of Hanover. The inescutcheon of Hanover was therefore removed and the arms now read 1 and 4 England, 2 Scotland, 3 Ireland. Examples are : Berkley ; Brockley, V.R. 1842 ; Burnham ; Burrington ; Churchill, 1887 ; Freshford ; Hutton ; Kelston ; Meare, V. 1840 R. ; Muchelney ; Norton Malreward ; Norton St. Philip ; Paulton ; Pendermer ; Saltford ; Shepton Mallet, V.R. ; Stoke, South ; Swainswick, 1887 ; Tatworth ; Upton Noble ; Weston-super-Mare, V.R. 1847 ; Wookey, Q.V. 1st R. 1837 ; Wellington.

It is not easy, in fact it is impossible, to assign a Royal Achievement of the House of Hanover to any given monarch unless the initials and date are given, and even these cannot be relied on for that purpose, for as we have seen above, *e.g.* Stanton Drew, the arms are dated 1818 yet the heraldry shows they are of the period between 1801-16.

* It would appear that Hanover really became a Kingdom in 1814, but the Arms were not altered until 6 June 1816 (Order of Council, 6 June 1816). It is curious that there was such a delay.

The question of reference of a Hanoverian Achievement to a given period, *i.e.* before 1801, between 1801–16 and 1816–1837 is simple. Before 1801 the Hanoverian Arms occupy the fourth quarter of the Royal Shield. After 1801 and before 1816 the Hanoverian Arms are represented on an inescutcheon over the centre of the Royal shield and are ensigned with the electoral bonnet. From 1816 to 1837 the Hanoverian inescutcheon is ensigned with a Royal crown. After 1837 the Hanoverian inescutcheon disappears altogether.

THE HOUSE OF SAXE-COBURG

EDWARD VII. No Royal Achievement is known to me in Somerset.

THE HOUSE OF WINDSOR

GEORGE V, EDWARD VIII, GEORGE VI. There are no examples.

It is interesting that there are a fair number of Victorian Achievements. They are in several instances of the cast metal variety. They are in striking contrast with the splendid specimens of Stuart times.

None have been put up since Victoria's reign, yet the Act of the reign of Charles II has never been repealed so far as I know.

KEY TO TEXT

dext.	=	dexter	az.	=	azure (<i>i.e.</i> blue)
sin.	=	sinister	gu.	=	gules (<i>i.e.</i> red)
ramp.	=	rampant	R.	=	rose
stat.	=	statant	T.	=	thistle
guard.	=	guardant	S.	=	shamrock
a.	=	ante	Rd.	=	rose dexter
acc.	=	accurate	Ts.	=	thistle sinister
arg.	=	argent (<i>i.e.</i> silver)	Sm.	=	shamrock
or	=	or (<i>i.e.</i> gold)			in middle

Ashton, Long.

House, Stuart. Site, above exit arch of n. porch. Material, canvas framed. Size, c. 6 ft. 4 in. high by 5 ft. wide. Shield, acc. for Stuart, i.e. 1 and 4 France (mod.) and England quarterly, 2 Scotland, 3 Ireland. Helmet, Mantling, Crown, Crest, not visible. Supporters, lion, not visible; unicorn, acc. but chain black. Badges, none visible. Mottoes, garter and scroll (Dieu et mon droit). Initials, none visible. Date, not visible. Condition, very much faded. Should be placed where it can be seen.

Babington.

House, Hanover a. 1801 ; full achievement. *Site*, w. wall over w. door. *Material*, plaster. *Size*, c. 4 ft. high by 5 ft. wide. *Shield*, 1 England and Scotland impaled, 2 France, 3 Ireland, 4 Hanover. *Shield*, not tinctured but 'hatched' and very well done ; acc. save Scotland which has single tressure and no fleurs-de-lis. *Helmet*, four vertical bars. *Mantling*, not tinctured. *Crown*, two arched. *Crest*, lion's tail hanging down. *Supporters*, dext., lion ramp. guard., two-arched crown ; sin., unicorn, no horn and lower part of the chain missing. *Badges*, rose dext., thistle sin. *Mottoes*, garter (Honi soit qui mal y pense) ; scroll (Dieu et mon droit).

Comments.—Right foreleg of lion supporter broken off, unicorn's horn missing, and lower part of chain has gone. *Initials*, G.R.².

Bagborough, West.

House, Stuart, but initialled G.R.^{2d} each initial having a crown over it ; full achievement. *Site*, w. end of n. aisle. *Material*, canvas not framed. *Size*, c. 5 ft. high by 3 ft. wide. *Shield*, 1 France and England quarterly, 2 Scotland, 3 Ireland, 4, 1 and 4 France, 2 England, 3 Westphalia. *Helmet*, gold, red-lined, five bars gold. *Mantling*, gold, doubled ermine. *Crown*, gold, red-lined, four-arched. *Crest*, lion stat. guard., gold, with four-arched crown. *Supporters*, dext., lion ramp. guard., gold ; red tongue, white claws and teeth (langued and armed), with four-arched crown ; unicorn, white (arg.), garnished gold, chain turns over back to left side of body. *Badges*, rose, dext. ; thistle, sin. *Mottoes*, garter (Honi, etc.) ; scroll (Dieu, etc.). Scroll motto very difficult to make out.

Comments.—This coat is obviously a Stuart coat although initialled G.R.^{2d}. There is little difficulty in converting a C into a G then adding 2nd instead of repainting the shield. No. 3 of the 4th grand quarter has been replaced by a sorry-looking horse to represent that of Westphalia and so hint that Hanover is now represented. It is a very interesting example of palimpsest.

Baltonsborough.

House, Hanover, a. 1801 ; full achievement. *Site*, n. wall of w. tower (ringing chamber). *Material*, canvas framed. *Size*, c. 6 ft. high by 6 ft. wide. *Shield*, 1 England impaling Scotland, 2 France, 3 Ireland, 4 Hanover, are acc. save Hanover in which Charlemagne's inescutcheon is a little doubtful. *Helmet*, gold, red-lined, with six gold bars. *Mantling*, gold, doubled green (not ermine). *Crown*, four-arched, gold, red-lined. *Crest*, lion stat. guard., two-arched crown. *Supporters*, lion ramp. guard., gold, four-arched crown ; unicorn acc. *Badges*, white rose, dext. ; thistle sin. *Mottoes*, Honi soit qui mal y pense, and Dieu et mon droit. *Initials*, G^{III}R, not dated, but the shield is clearly 1714–1801.

It is unfortunate that such a good specimen should be more or less hidden away in the ringing-chamber.

Banwell.

Here are two Royal coats, one on the screen, a Tudor shield, but not a full achievement; moreover the screen being known to be 1521 this does not come into the category here being described.

The second is a full achievement of the House of Hanover. *Site*, on s. wall of s. aisle. *Material*, canvas framed, frame elaborate. *Size*, excluding frame, c. 4 ft. 6 in. high and 4 ft. broad. *Shield*, 1801-16, ensigned qua Hanoverian inescutcheon with an electoral bonnet; this bonnet bears a mound and cross pattée. Otherwise the shield is correct in all details, and can be described as 1 and 4 England, 2 Scotland, 3 Ireland, over all the Hanoverian inescutcheon ensigned with an electoral bonnet. *Helmet*, steel, garnished gold, and with six gold bars over occularium. *Mantling*, red, doubled green ermine. *Crown*, red-lined, two-arched. *Crest*, acc., two-arched crown. *Supporters*, lion gold, ramp. guard., teeth white, claws gold, two-arched crown not red-lined; unicorn, white garnished gold, chain ending to left of body. *Badges*, dext. and sin., rose, thistle and shamrock, each bunch from a common stem. *Mottoes*, garter (Honi, etc.); scroll (Dieu, etc.). Initialled in top corners G.R., and dated 1805. Condition very good.

Batcombe.

House, Hanover, 1714-1801. *Site*, over s. door. *Material*, canvas framed. *Size*, c. 4 ft. high by 5 ft. wide. *Shield*, acc., save Scotland with single tressure and no fleurs-de-lis, and the inescutcheon of Charlemagne in the Hanoverian coat has for a charge a gold mitre, between the cusps of which is a gold cross (this is unique for Somerset). *Helmet*, gold, red-lined, with six gold bars. *Mantling*, red, doubled gold. *Crown*, two-arched, gold, red-lined. *Supporters*, lion, ramp. guard., gold, two-arched crown, red-lined; unicorn, acc. in all details. *Badges*, rose dext., thistle sin. *Mottoes*, garter acc.; scroll (Dieu, etc.). Initialled G^{III}R. and dated 1773. Frame elaborate. Condition fair; might with advantage be cleaned and varnished.

Bath.

St. Mark's, Lyncombe.

House, Hanover, 1816-37; w. gallery. *Material*, cast iron on black board; c. 18 in. sq. *Shield*, acc. and ensigned (Hanoverian inescutcheon) with crown. *Helmet*, gold, six bars gold, red-lined. *Mantling*, gold, doubled black. *Crown*, two-arched, red-lined. *Crest*, lion with two-arched crown. *Supporters*, lion ramp., not ramp. guard.; unicorn, arg., garnished gold, chain to right of body. *Badges*, rose dext., shamrock in middle, thistle sin., all from common stem. *Mottoes*, garter and scroll (Dieu, etc.). No date, no initials. One of the cast-iron wholesale type.

St. Matthew's, Widcombe.

House, Hanover, 1837; on gallery, n. transept. *Material*, cast metal; c. 1 ft. sq. *Shield*, Scotland's double tressure flory, not counter flory; Ireland, harpstrings gold. *Helmet*, grey, six gold bars, garnished gold at shoulder. *Mantling*, gold, doubled black. *Crown*, two-arched, red-lined. *Crest*, gold, two-arched, not red-lined. *Supporters*, lion ramp., not guard., crown two-arched, not red-lined; unicorn, chain ends to right. *Badges*, Rd, S, median T s., all from common stem. *Mottoes*, garter and scroll (Dieu, etc.). This is another wholesale example, and agrees with others described in having the lion supporters ramp., not ramp. guard.

St. Thomas à Becket, Widcombe.

House, Stuart; over chancel-arch, nave side. *Material*, canvas framed; c. 5 ft. high by 4 ft. 6 in. wide. *Shield*, acc. in all details, even Scotland whose fleurs-de-lis are flory counter flory and eight in number. *Helmet*, steel, seven bars, gold, red-lined, garnished gold at shoulder and neck. *Mantling*, gold, doubled green-ermine. *Crown*, gold, four-arched, red-lined. *Crest*, lion gold, crowned, two arches. *Supporters*, lion, gold, four-arched crown, lined red; unicorn, grey, chain ends to right of body; garnished gold in usual places. *Badges*, absent. *Mottoes*, garter and scroll (Dieu, etc.). At each end of a typical compartment is a head. It is possible that this is an example of C¹, judging by the ermine of the mantling and the four-arched crowns. Initialled C.R. Dated 1660.

Weston.

House, Hanover, 1816-37; w. gallery. *Material*, carved wood; 2 ft. high by 18 in. wide. *Shield*, oval, acc., save Scotland's tressures which are flory not counter flory and the fleurs-de-lis are too few in number; Ireland's harpstrings are gold; Hanoverian inescutcheon shows Luneberg with arg. field; otherwise acc., and ensigned with a crown. *Helmet*, absent, but mantling present. *Crown*, two-arched. *Crest*, absent. *Supporters*, lion and unicorn, as at Paulton; lion stalking terrified unicorn. Lion not crowned, and unicorn which is not horned looks like a horse. *Badges*, Rd. T s. *Mottoes*, garter and scroll (Dieu, etc.). Inscribed with, 'the gift of J. Jones, carver of this parish'.

Beckington.

House, Tudor. *Site*, s. wall, s. aisle. *Material*, carved stone; not a full achievement. *Size*, c. 3 ft. sq. *Shield*, acc., i.e. quarterly France (mod.) and England. *Helmet*, absent. *Mantling*, absent. *Crown*, rests on shield, has one transverse arch. *Crest*, absent. *Supporters*, lion, dext. gold, ramp. guard. A splendid heraldic specimen; dragon, sin., gold with green wings, perhaps originally

all gold. *Badges*, rose on side pillars of frame. *Mottoes*, God save the Queen ; dated Anno 1574. Condition excellent. Initials E.R. in respective upper corners.

Beer Crocombe.

House, Hanover, full achievement. *Site*, n. wall, w. tower. *Material*, wood panels, framed. *Size*, c. 4 ft. sq., with frame c. 4 ft. 8 in. *Shield*, acc., save Scotland with single complete tressure, *i.e.* not impaled, no fleurs-de-lis. Harpstrings of the Irish harp are gold instead of silver. The Hanoverian quarter shows Luneberg without *semée* of hearts, but the lion is acc. The horse of Westphalia is gold instead of silver. *Helmet*, steel, garnished gold, red-lined, six bars gold. *Mantling*, very dark but may be gold, doubled dark green. *Crown*, four-arched, no mound, but has cross pattée. *Crest*, acc., two-arched crown. *Supporters*, dext., lion gold, ramp. guard., four-arched crown with cross pattée, no mound. Teeth and claws red ; sin., unicorn, greyish-yellow, garnished gold, chain ends to left of body. *Badges*, rose, dext., thistle sin. *Mottoes*, garter (Honi, etc.) ; scroll (Dieu, etc.). The spacing of the words of the scroll motto is bad, so that the letter 't' in droit has been put above. Initials are G.R.¹¹¹. Date 1762.

An interesting achievement.

Berkley.

House, Hanover, p. 1816. *Site*, over exit door at w. end, nave aspect. *Material*, apparently metal sheet framed. *Size*, c. 1 ft. 6 in. high by 1 ft. 9 in. wide ; not full achievement, and not tinctured. *Shield* bears accurate charges, and is blazoned, 1 and 4 England, 2 Scotland, 3 Ireland ; over all the inescutcheon of Hanover ensigned with an Imperial crown. *Helmet*, absent. *Mantling*, absent. *Crown*, two-arched. *Crest*, acc. *Supporters*, lion ramp., not guard. ; unicorn, chain passes to right of body. *Badges*, rose, thistle and shamrock on dext. and sin. sides in each case from a common stem. *Mottoes* (Honi, etc.) and (Dieu, etc.). No date and no initials. Ought to be tinctured.

Berrow.

House, Stuart ; *Site*, on a cupboard n. wall, w. tower. *Material*, boards framed and painted. *Shield*, the usual Stuart. *Size*, c. 4½ ft. sq. *Helmet*, *Mantling*, *Crown*, *Crest* and *Supporters* too faded to describe. *Badges*, rose dext., thistle sin. *Mottoes*, garter and scroll (Dieu et mon droit). *Condition*, presents a very poor appearance ; is so much faded that it is difficult to recognize much less blazon, and is actually at present placed wrong side up. It should be repaired and properly hung.

