

PERROT v PERROCKE ALIAS PERROT.

I have been sent the following which has some bearing on the article concerning the Perrotts of Bell Broughton that is currently appearing in the Journal. It shows how jealously people guarded their right to coats of arms. I reproduce it verbatim.

" This was a cause of instance, promoted by Thomas Perrot of London, Esq, against Robert Perrocke alias Perrot of Moreton, Co Hereford; Herbert Perrocke of Grays Inn, gent., and Francis Perrocke alias Perrot of All Hallowes, London Wall, Merchant."

7th December 1639. The petition alleged the Plaintiff to be son of Thomas Perrot of The Brooke, Co Carmarthen, son of John Perrot, second son of Sir Owen Perrot, and the only living issue male then living of the family of Sir Owen Perrot. The defendants, Robert Perrocke, a clerk in the Exchequer, Herbert Perrock his son, a student in Grays Inn, and Francis Perrock, a merchant of London, assumed the name of Perrot and gave the coat of Sir Owen Perrot and his family without any distinction and pretended to be the next issue male of the Blood of Sir Owen Perrot and his family.

The libel alleged as follows:-

1. Sir Owen Perrot of Haroldston, Co Pembroke, knight, had four sons - Robert, Thomas, Richard and John.
2. Robert the eldest son died without issue.
3. Thomas, the second son, had one son Sir John Perrot, knight, who had four sons - Sir Thomas, and Robert (?) legitimate (who had no issue.) and John and Sir James illegitimate.
4. Richard, the third son of Sir Owen, had an illegitimate son Richard,
5. John, the fourth son of Sir Owen, had a son Thomas Perrot of Brooke, Co Carmarthen.
6. The Plaintiff is son of Thomas Perrot of Brooke.
7. The Plaintiffs arms are - Gules, 3 pears or, and on a chief argent a demi-lion rampant sable, armed and langued of the first and his crest is On a wreath argent and gules a parrot proper, holding in her foot a pear or, stalked and leaved vert, mantled gules, doubled argent.
8. The Defendants are not of the family of Sir Owen Perrot, but they have used the arms and crest and pretended to be of his blood.

Dr. Duck and Dr. Hart for the Plaintiff.

Dr. Eden for the defendants, Herbert and Francis Perrocke alias Perrot.

The following witnesses gave evidence on behalf of the Plaintiff -

1. Thomas Palmer of Llansaduren, Co Carmarthen, gent, aged 72, born there. (He said.) John Perrot, son of Sir Owen Perrot, lived at the Brooke in the parish of Llansaduren, and had issue Thomas Perrot of the Brooke, father of Plaintiff. John Perrot was buried in Llansaduren church. James Perrot died possessed of the manor of Haroldston. Deponent is 'kindred a farr off' to Plaintiff.
2. Henry Vaughan of Carmarthe, esq, aged 57. (he said) Sir James Perrot, knight, was the illegitimate son of Sir John Perrot, son of Thomas, second son of Sir Owen Perrot. Deponent had known Plaintiffs father for about 40 years and Plaintiff for 37 years. Plaintiff is reputed to be 'sole and next of kindred of the masculine line now living descended out of the stock & family of ye sd Owen Perrot'. Deponent is the son of Walter Vaughan of Golden Grove, Co Carmarthen, Esq, and a deputy lieutenant of the county, living for the most part at Derwith in that county, where he has lived for 37 years. Deponent has heard that the manor of Haroldston, co Pembroke, lately possessed by Sir James Perrott, is now possessed by Herbert Perrott. Plaintiff was placed in the Inns of Court by Sir James Perrott. Plaintiff was born in Bristol. Deponent is 'of kindred a farr off' to Plaintiff.
3. Lady Dorothy Mauncell (signs Mansell) of Olber Cover, Co. Carmarthen, Widow, 60. Deponent places another Thomas in Plaintiffs pedigree between Sir Owen Perrott and John Perrott, Plaintiff's grandfather. Deponent's mother was daughter of Jane Perrott, sister of Sir John Perrott of Haroldstone, Knight, deceased.



Deponent knew Plaintiff when he was at school in Haverfordwest with her brother. Deponent is daughter of Alban Stepney of Prendergast, Co Pembroke, Esq, Deceased, and widow of Sir Francis Mauncell of Mudleskoone, Baronet.

4. James Perrott of Moorton, Co Hereford, Gent, aged 19. (He said.) Deponent is son of defendant Robert Perrott, who uses in his arms three pears, a half lion and a parrot.
5. John Canon of Blackdon, Co Somerset, gent., lived there for 20 years; aged 70 and born at Haverfordwest in the said county (sic) Plaintiff's father, Thomas Perrot of the Brooke, was son of John Perrot, who was fourth son of Sir Owen Perrott. Sir Owen Perrot (The difference in 'ot' and 'ott' is as shown in the proceedings and not typing errors.) had four sons - Robert, Thomas, Richard and John. Deponent never heard that Robert had any issue. He knew Sir John Perrott for ten years before his death. He was only son of Thomas, the second son of Sir Owen Perrot and Sir John had issue Sir Thomas Perrot and William Perrot, his lawful sons, and John Perrot and Sir James Perrot, his bastard sons, who all died without issue.

Plaintiff is the only son of Thomas Perrot of the Brooke, and now the next male heir of Sir Owen Perrot. Deponent has seen the servants of Sir Thomas Perrot & Sir John Perrot wearing a parrot on their sleeves. Deponent has never heard that Herbert Perrot, Robert Perrot or Francis Perrot were descended of the family Sir Owen Perrot.

Interrogatories on behalf of Defendants Herbert Perrott and Francis Perrott -

Did not Sir Owen Perrott have an uncle or brother named John Perrott, from whom these Defendants are lineally descended? Are not the heirs of the families of Lotchett of Bylas, Hopwood of Milton, Berrington of Cowarne, Monington of Sarnesfield, Scudamore of Treworgan, Co Hereford, the Lord Tenham of Kent, Southcott of Essex, Wells of Hampshire, Cassey of Casseycompton, Co Gloucester, Wignore of Lucton, Co Hereford, lineally descended from the said John Perrott. ?

Was not a daughter of the said John Perrott married to John Sebrond of Sutton, Co Hereford, Esq. ? Did not John Perrott marry one of the daughters and heiresses of Thomas ap John, Lord of Winforton, brothers son to Sir Rice ap Thomas of Newton, Co Carmarthen, K.G. in the time of Henry VII ? Have not the arms described in the libel been set up in a house in Marton upon Lugg, Co Hereford, ever since it was built ? And did not Richard Perrott, grandfather of Defendant Herbert Perrott, live there.?

Is not Defendant Herbert Perrott possessed of the manor of Harolstonn, Co Pembroke, and was it not formerly the manor of James Perrott, knight, son of Sir John Perrott. ? Did not Richard Perrott of Moreton upon Lugg marry the daughter of Thomas Bromwich, Esq, son to Richard Bromwich, one of the Esquires of the body of Prince Arthur. ? And are not the families of Croft of Croft, Wignore of Sh. Lord Scudamore of Holmlacey, Rudhall of Rudhall ( See Perrotts of Bell Broom Harley of Brompton, Co. Herford, Cornwall Barron of Burford, Nanfan of Co. Minors of Triags, Blunt of Eye, Berrington of Winsley, Baron Bullingham, Kyrie of Walford, descended from Ann Bromwich, sister to the said Thomas. ?

Did not Thomas Perrott (of Brooke,) live as a servant to Dr. Jordan, M.D. of Bristol. ?

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The report of the case ended here with no details of the outcome. However the arms were allowed for the Herefordshire Perrotts which tends to show that the Defendants case was true as they claimed descent via this line.

In addition the Northleigh Perrotts of Oxfordshire also were granted the Perrot arms which means that Sir Owen Perrott did have other sons than stated in the court case as George is shown 'of the third brother' (See Spring/Autumn Journal.) Perrot Notes only shows Owen as having Thomas and Robert, the court case says Robert, Thomas, Richard and John. Sir John Perrot had obviously confirmed that George was of the Pembroke family according to the College of Arms, and was of Sir Owen. Were there other brothers. ? Again Perrot Notes says Sir Owen had only one brother - Jankyn, but if he - Sir Owen - was a 'third brother' then one assumes the 'other' brother to be John in the court case. Did Owen have other brothers as well ?

When we purchase the pre - 1550 genealogies from the College of Arms we may find out.