

T. WOODCOCK
SOMERSET HERALD

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The College of Arms,
Queen Victoria Street,
London EC4V 4BT
Tel:- 01 236 3634

P. S. Perrett Esq.,
36 Elim Court Gardens,
Crowborough,
East Sussex,

Dear Mr Perrett,

Thank you for your letter of the 11th of October. I write to report the results of the search in our official records.

Since 1673 the complete text of every grant of arms has been recorded in a consecutive series of volumes now numbering 146, each containing between 100 and 200 grants of arms. This series commences with volume 3. In volumes 1 and 2 collections were made of all complete texts that could be found dating from before 1673. In all other cases for grants of arms made before 1673 reliance is placed on the notebooks of the Kings of Arms and Heralds which form part of our official records for this period. The various coats are, I think, best distinguished by numbers and are as follows:

No. 1. The Harleian Society Grantees of Arms, volume 66 published in 1915, on page 197 lists a George Perrott as a grantee. He is also listed in Grants and Certificates of Arms edited by A. J. Jewers, page 213, reprinted from The Genealogist. These two sources list references to the grant outside the College. An almost complete text of the grant is recorded here in a manuscript entitled Vincent volume 162 on page 143. It is as follows (the spelling is modernised as an exact transcript would take much longer and there is limited time available).
"To all and singular as well nobles and gentlemen as others to whom these presents shall come to be seen heard read or understood I Sir Gilbert Dethick Knight alias Garter Principal King of Arms send greeting in our Lord God everlasting forasmuch as anciently from the beginning of the valiant and virtuous arts of excellent persons have been recommended to the world and posterity with sundry monuments and remembrances of their good deserts amongst the which the chief and most usual hath been the bearing of signs in shields called arms being none other than demonstrations and tokens of prowess and valour diversely distributed according to the qualities and deserts of the persons meriting the same to the intent that such as by their virtues do add and show forth to the ^{advancement} of the commonwealth etcetera amongst the which number George Perrot is lawfully descended of Owen Perrot being the third brother of the house of Perrot in Pembrokeshire and that the said George Perrot had issue by his wife Isabell Langdall of Langdall Hall in Yorkshire John Perrot sometimes of the City of London and Robert Perrot now of the City of Oxford which Robert had issue Clement Symond, John and Leonard Perrot the which Robert not only by mine own knowledge in mine office but also by the laudable report of Sir John Perrot Knight that he is descended as is aforesaid is one of the bearers of the tokens of honour to wit etcetera and that the same arms of long time not being borne being almost gone out of use the said Robert Perrot hath required me the said King of Arms through confirmation under my hand and seal to ratify and confirm his said ancient arms and

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crest unto him and his posterity for ever in consideration whereof and for a further etcetera these arms and crest following viz Gules three pears gold on a chief Argent a demi lion rampant Sable and for a crest on a wreath Argent and Gules a parrot proper armed Gules holding in the right paw a pear gold mantled Gules doubled Argent as more plainly appeareth depicted in the margin which arms and crest and every part and parcel thereof etcetera dated the 4 of January in the third year of the reign of King Edward the Sixth by the Grace of God etcetera". Where the word etcetera has been placed in the text this is how it occurs in the copy here and probably relates to the recitation of standard words. The painting shows a mullet Gules in dexter chief in the arms as a cadency mark for a third son or house, and there is a mullet on the breast of the parrot tricked Or. The immediate conclusion from this text is that it is a confirmation of both arms and a crest and that it was made to George Perrott's son Robert and not to George Perrott himself as suggested in the printed sources which also state that the arms were confirmed and a crest granted. There is a briefer record of the grant in College of Arms Dethick's Gifts 31. This states These arms and crest were confirmed to George Perrott. The evidence of the text suggests that this is a misinterpretation. The grant is also recorded under the reference N.G.30.

There are several pedigrees of the family recorded in the Heralds' Visitations. There are three copies of the 1574 Visitation of Oxfordshire: these are numbered G3/35b and 59, G14/179 and F1/102. I enclose a photocopy of the Harleian Society printed version of this Visitation. G3/35b shows the pedigree as on pages 128 and 129 taking the descent through Leonard Perrott and not showing Simon Perrott's issue which appear on G3/59. On G3/35b the arms are tricked with arms and crest alone as blazoned in the enclosed photocopy. There is also a trick of the arms impaling a coat of eight quarters as blazoned on page 130 though the 2nd quarter is shown as Gules on a chevron coisid Argent three lions rampant Gules, and the 6th quarter as Gules on a fess Or between three birds Argent three fleur de lis Azure, and the Perrott arms are charged with a mullet thereon a crescent signifying the second son of a third son. The pedigree in G.14 on folio 179 is the same as in G3 on folio 35b but no armorial bearings are shown.

At the Visitation of 1634 (College of Arms MS C29/55) the two pedigrees which appear in the Harleian Society printed version of the 1634 and 1669 Visitations on pages 244 and 245 as enclosed are shown as one. Elizabeth, wife of Richard Roberts, and her brother Richard are shown as children of Clement Perrott and grandchildren of Leonard Perrott. The arms and crests are shown with a cadency mark of a crescent on a mullet. The pedigree is signed Edwarde Parrott (This is Edward Parrott or Perrott who married Elizabeth Stonehouse). In the 1669 Visitation (D25, 2, 41b) no arms or crest are shown. Robert Perrot (the spelling used in this Visitation) who was aged 10 in 1634 is shown as married to Susanna daughter of Thomas Conningsby of North Mimms, Hertfordshire with issue Edward son and heir, aged 22 in 1675 (sic) with a second son Robert, third son Charles and daughters Martha, Susanna and Anne. The pedigree is signed Robert Perrott.

A further pedigree was recorded at the Heralds' Visitation of London in 1687 (K9/307). Robert Perrot of Northleigh is then stated to be aged 63 and married with issue, though in this Visitation they are not named. His brother Charles is described as Fellow of Oriel College, died unmarried; the third brother Edward, a merchant, died unmarried in Portugal; the fourth brother William, a draper, died unmarried, as did Simon a grocer shown as fifth brother, and the sixth brother John Perrot, citizen and fishmonger aged 50 in 1687 and married to Anne daughter of John Devell of Eynsham living without

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issue who signed the pedigree John Perrott. The four sisters Elizabeth, Anne, Mary and Ursula are shown.

No. 2. A confirmation was made of the arms and crest to another member of the family in much the same circumstances as the mid 16th century confirmation to Robert Perrot. This is recorded under the reference MG 2/93 and was to James Perrott of Amersham in December 1664 (the exact date is not given) by Sir Edward Bysse, Clarenceux King of Arms. The text of what appears to be a memorial requesting a confirmation or grant of the arms is preserved. James Perrott was the man of the name who married Anne Dale, being shown on the pedigree enclosed by you as a grandson of Leonard Perrott. The text of the petition is "I James Perrott of Northleigh and Fawler in the County of Oxon gent descended from the 4th house of the Perrotts of Pembrokehire as was delivered by the testimony of several of my ancestors but by the length of time the numerousness of the families with the distractions of the late times have made them and me uncapable of preserving so exact an account of the descent and pedigree as is requisite Yet upon the confidence of my predecessors reports have always made use of the arms pertaining to the family aforesaid and being employed in several public offices since His Majesty's restoration do desire the same coat of arms may be confirmed to me and my posterity". Beneath this is the blazon "The bearing is Gules three pears Or on a chief Argent a demi lion rampant Sable armed of the field and for the crest a parrett proper holding in the right foot a peare Or". There is a brief pedigree recorded commencing with James Perrott and his wife Anne Dale and showing their three sons. The lack of attention paid to spelling is shown by the fact that the first son is called William Perrott, barrister at law; the second son James Perox, of the Middle Temple; and the third son Charles Perrot, batchor (sic) at law. There is a much briefer record of this grant in another pre 1673 notebook entitled Bysse's Grants on folio 6 which makes the pears Argent rather than Or. I favour the blazon which accompanies the text of the memorial though a pedigree recorded at the 1669 Visitation of Buckinghamshire (D25, 1, 33) gives the pears as Argent and is signed James Perrott which would be a good reason for favouring the Argent variation. The parrot is given a plain silver collar in Bysse's Grants 6, as it is in MG 293, though in the latter it is not blazoned as being collared. James Perrott's father is stated to have been Robert Perrott of Ingram, Buckinghamshire and his mother Elizabeth Rawlins of Warwickshire. This disagrees with the printed pedigree supplied by you which makes his father Richard and his mother Winifred Luxford. The marriage of James's son James to Anne Dautrey of Petworth is shown.

No. 3. On the 18th of September 1911 (Grants 80/292) Sir Herbert Charles Perrott of Onslow Gardens, Kensington, eldest son of Sir Edward George Lambert Perrott had a grant of Gules three pears Or issuant from a chief Argent a demi lion sable between two roses Gules with a crest of On a wreath of the colours Or and Gules upon a mount a parrot Vert holding in the dexter claw a pear slipped and leaved Or. I enclose the pedigree of this family from Burke's Peerage 1921. The text of the patent states "That being desirous of having the arms hitherto used by his family viz. three pears on a chief a demi lion issuant with a crest of A parrot holding a pear duly registered as of right belonging to them he therefore requested the favour of the Earl Marshal's Warrant for our confirming the said armorial ensigns with such differences as might be found to be necessary to be borne and used by him and his descendants". This means that the family of baronets used these arms though I do not consider that it was on the basis of any descent. The family is described in detail in the Complete Baronetage by G.E.C., volume 5 pages 33 to 38. A Royal Warrant was obtained

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dated the 3rd of January 1767 registered here under the reference I volume 32 page 58, to confirm a supposed baronetcy with precedence of the 1st of July 1716. Sir Richard Perrott who obtained the Royal Warrant was described by J.G. Nichols as one of the most daring pretenders to title and pedigree in the last (i.e. 18th) century. A pedigree of this family is registered here under the reference Surrey 6 page 203. It is headed by Sir Richard Perrott who obtained the 1767 Warrant.

No. 4. An apparently unrelated family of Perrott recorded arms and a pedigree at the Heralds' Visitation of London in 1633/4 (C24/323). I enclose a photocopy of a printed version of the pedigree which agrees with the original. The arms claimed are those confirmed to the Northleigh family and which are attributed to the Pembroke family. The crescent is a cadency mark and the immediate conclusion is that this claim should not have been allowed without further evidence showing the descent. The pedigree is continued at the Heralds' Visitation of Herefordshire in 1683 (K6/36) where Richard Perrott's son Robert is shown with a wife Fortune Tomkins, as on your printed enclosure, and sons Sir Herbert Perrott who died on the 1st of August 1683 aged 67, with two younger brothers James and Francis who both died unmarried. Sir Herbert Perrott's son by his first marriage, Herbert Perrott, died at London in about 1677 aged 34 having had issue a daughter who died an infant. Sir Herbert's daughter Hester is described as daughter and sole heir and was aged 14 in 1683.

No. 5. There is a funeral certificate for Roger Perot of London, gentleman, who married Elizabeth daughter of John Brand of St. Martyr's in London and by her had issue living at his death three sons and one daughter namely Nathaniel aged about 13; John and Simon aged about 12, and Anne aged about 7. He died at his house on Tuesday the 27th of March 1599. The funeral certificate is recorded under the reference I16/415 and shows arms but no crest of Gules three pears Or on a chief Argent a demi lion rampant Sable. This family subsequently recorded a pedigree at the 1633/4 Visitation of London (C24, 24) though their right to the arms was respited indicating that they should not have been allowed to use them in 1599.

No. 6. There is a funeral certificate for Sir James Perrott recorded under the reference I24/102. He died on the 4th of February 1636 and was interred at St. Mary's in the town and county of Haverfordwest. He is described as the natural son of Sir John Perrott, Knight, sometime Lord Deputy of the Kingdom of Ireland. He married Mary, daughter of Robert Ashfield at Elsham, Buckinghamshire, and died without issue. There is a pen and ink sketch of the arms without any tinctures indicated showing three pears and on a chief a demi lion rampant with overall a baton sinister as a mark of illegitimacy. Sir John Perrott and his father Sir Thomas Perrott do occur on a pedigree registered in 1743 by the Pryce family of Gogerthan under the reference 3D14/239.

No. 7. At the Heralds' Visitation of Wales in 1530 (118/21b) there is a trick, that is a pen and ink sketch with the colours indicated, of Ermine on a bend Gules three escallops with the name Parrott written next to it. This coat is not attributed to the Pembroke family, recent pedigrees of which appear in Peter C. Bartrum's 'Welsh Genealogies', 1400-1500, published at Aberystwyth in 1983, pages 1435 to 1437. At the Heralds' Visitation of London of 1634 (C24/29) a pedigree was recorded by Abraham Perrott. There is a note that the arms were recited though there is no indication of what coat was claimed. I enclose a photocopy of the pedigree annotated to agree with

the original....

the original on the same printed page as the pedigree of Perrott of Morton. Twelve years later on the 10th of September 1646 Abraham Perrott, described as out of North Wales, had a grant by William Riley, Norroy, of Ermine on a bend sinister Gules three escallops Or with a crest of A parrot Vert beaked and legged Sable resting its right claw on an escallop Or. The problem with this grant is that it was made under Parliament and all such grants made by the Kings of Arms who supported Parliament were appointed by Parliament were declared void at the Restoration. The family claimed the arms at the Heralds' Visitation of London in 1687 (K9/267). The pedigree recorded shows that the grantee Abraham Perrott died in about 1662 aged 74. His third son Lionel had died on the 22nd of September 1658, aged 33, leaving by his wife Sarah his only child Abraham who was aged 29 on the 17th of June 1687 and unmarried. Abraham's fifth son, Lancelot Perrott, weigher and teller in The Mint in the Tower of London died in 1686 aged about 49 without issue. Sarah Perrott, widow, claimed the arms in the 1646 grant and signed the pedigree at the College of Arms on Wednesday the 24th of August 1687. It is not clear whether the claim was allowed but there is no reason why it should have been, though two years later Henry St. George, Clarenceux King of Arms, compared the College record of the grant in MG5 on page 286 with the original patent and made a note in MG5 to this effect on the 19th of June 1689.

No. 8. On the 6th of June 1946 (Grants 109/64) the following armorial bearings were granted to Herbert Edwin Parratt of Clos du Perroux, Mont Cochon, Jersey, sometime engineer on the service of the Travancore State Government, J.P. and a Special Magistrate for that State, son of William Parratt of Dulwich in the Metropolitan Borough of Camberwell, and to the descendants of his said father. Arms, Ermine on pile Gules three pears slipped and leaved Or a chief Argent thereon a demi lion guardant erased Sable: crest, a parrot Vert collared Or resting the dexter claw on a pear slipped and leaved proper. A pedigree is recorded under the reference Surrey 17, 15 which commences with the grantee's grandfather William Parratt of London who died on the 16th of January 1845 in Clerkenwell.

No. 9. On the 25th of May 1976 (Grants 138/320) the following armorial bearings were granted to Anthony James Perrett of Shouldham Street, Westminster, Barrister at Law. Arms, Quarterly per fess enarched and indented and per pale wavy the 1st quarter Gules the 2nd and 3rd quarters Or the 4th quarter Vert in chief two martlets respectant and in base two pears counterchanged: crest, a pear Vert between two ears of barley erect Or.

No. 10. A grant of arms made in 1983 recorded here under the reference Grants 146/47 (the office copy is not available at present so I cannot give an exact date) made to John Perrett of Lichfield, Staffordshire, sometime one of Her Majesty's Circuit Judges. The armorial bearings granted were arms, Per fess Ermings and Ermine a chevronnel in base Sable and in chief Argent interlaced with two chevronnels in base sable in chief between two roses Argent barbed and seeded proper two leopards' faces passant guardant the dexter Argent with a crest, Upon a helm with a wreath Argent and Sable a popinjay Argent beaked and legged Or supporting with the dexter talon a ragged staff bendwise Sable.

No. 11. In a pedigree of Savage recorded in about 1797 registered under the reference 8DI4/10 Elizabeth, daughter of William Byrch of Leacroft, Staffordshire, is shown as married to John Perrott of the Inner Temple with issue George and Elizabeth who died as infants, Mary wife of James Bosquet of Loxton, clerk, and Thomas Perrott Lieutenant in the Oxford Militia aged 26 in 1797.

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No. 12. In a pedigree recorded on the 25th of February 1805 under the reference Baronets 2/562 of the family of Burroughs, baronets, there are three generations of Parrott commencing with Humphrey Parrott and his wife Elizabeth daughter and co-heir of Brockhill Taylor, parents of Brockhill Parrott whose daughter Letitia married William Newburgh and had a daughter Letitia who married William Burroughs, created Baronet in 1804.

No. 13. With regard to the coat of arms you sent, there has not been the time available to undertake detailed research as regards this but it appears to be a coat of arms attributed in printed sources to a family of Wickham. However, in a pedigree recorded here under the reference Norfolk 2/46 and 120 William Perrott who married Alice Champneis, daughter of William Champneis by his wife Agnes sister of William of Wickham, had a son Sir Thomas Perrot, alias Wickham, Knight living in 1433 who by his wife Elizabeth, daughter and co-heir of William Willcotes had a son William Wickham aged 20 in 1442.

The College's records are not indexed before 1530 so that this report does not cover any entries of the arms in medieval rolls of arms, the best catalogue of which was published in 1950 by the Society of Antiquaries as *Aspilogia I*. Work could be done in these sources. Similarly no research has been done in the records of the former Ulster Office of Arms which had jurisdiction over the whole of Ireland. Photopgraphs of these records are kept here though the originals are in Dublin.

For the College to recognise the right of someone to a particular coat of arms evidence needs to be provided in the form of certificates of birth, marriage and death, and earlier copies of wills, parish register extracts, etc., to prove descent in an unbroken male line from someone registered here as entitled to arms. One officer is responsible for drafting a pedigree in the form required by the College and this is handed in at one of the monthly meetings of the Chapter of the College when two other officers, namely one herald and one pursuivant, are appointed examiners of the pedigree. If the examiners are satisfied with the descent it is then ordered to be registered in the College records and forms further addition to the official records. A fee is charged by the scribes depending on the number of generations to be recorded and there are further fees for drafting and examination of the pedigree.

If you would like me to undertake any further work I should be pleased to do so.

Yours sincerely,

T. Woodcock.

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