

BANNERS OF THE BOLD



Banners of the Bold

*A Roll of Banners and Standards
of the Order of Saint John in England*

by

PETER DRUMMOND-MURRAY
OF MASTRICK

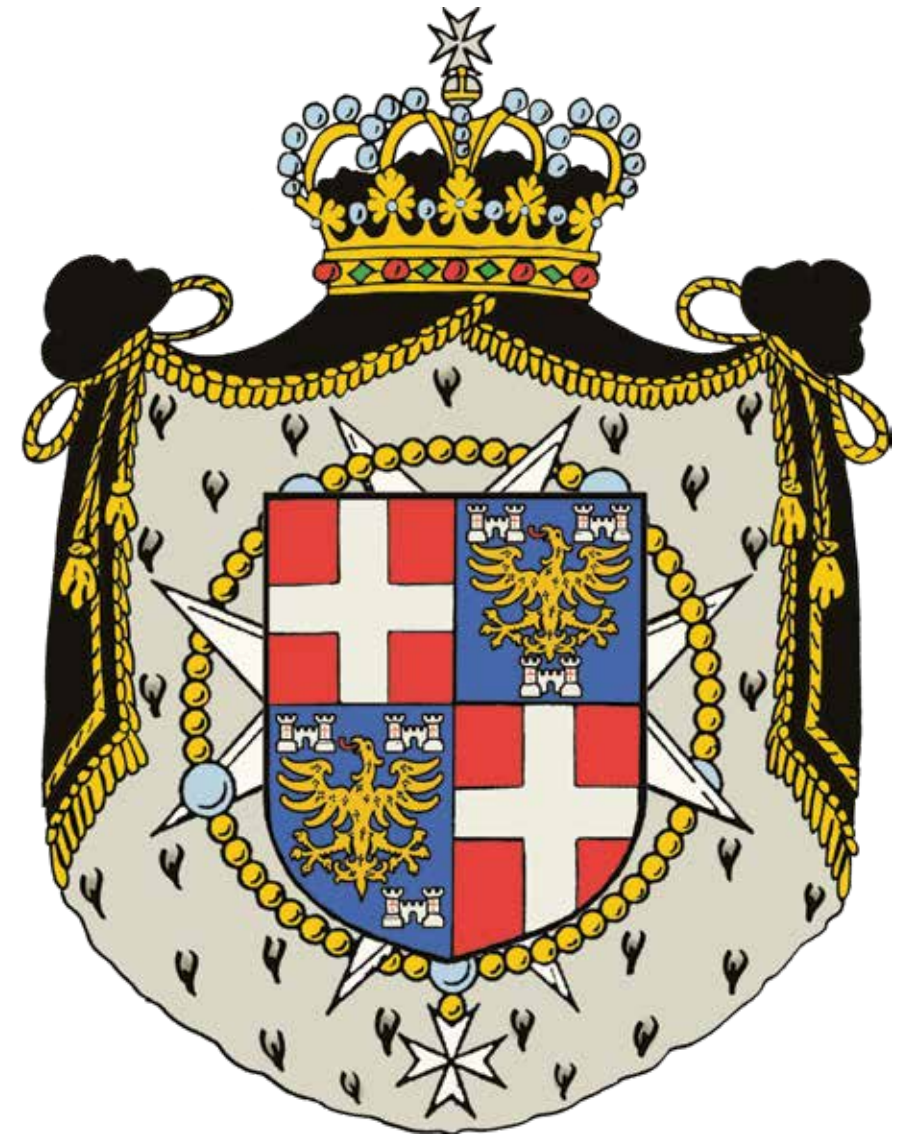
and

ANTHONY LOMBARDO
DELARUE



MMXVIII

DEDICATED WITH OUR GRATITUDE
TO HIS MOST EMINENT HIGHNESS
FRA' MATTHEW FESTING
SEVENTY-NINTH PRINCE AND
GRAND MASTER
THIRD ENGLISH MASTER OF
THE HOSPITAL OF THE ORDER
OF SAINT JOHN
FIFTY-FIFTH GRAND PRIOR
OF ENGLAND
AND FIRST OF THE
RESTORED GRAND PRIORY
MOST HUMBLE SERVANT OF THE
POOR OF CHRIST



BANNERS OF THE BOLD has been produced in two editions: firstly, a luxury boxed edition of 35 copies, numbered I–XXXV; secondly, the main edition comprising 500 copies, numbered 36–536.

This copy is number

TABLE OF CONTENTS AND PLATES

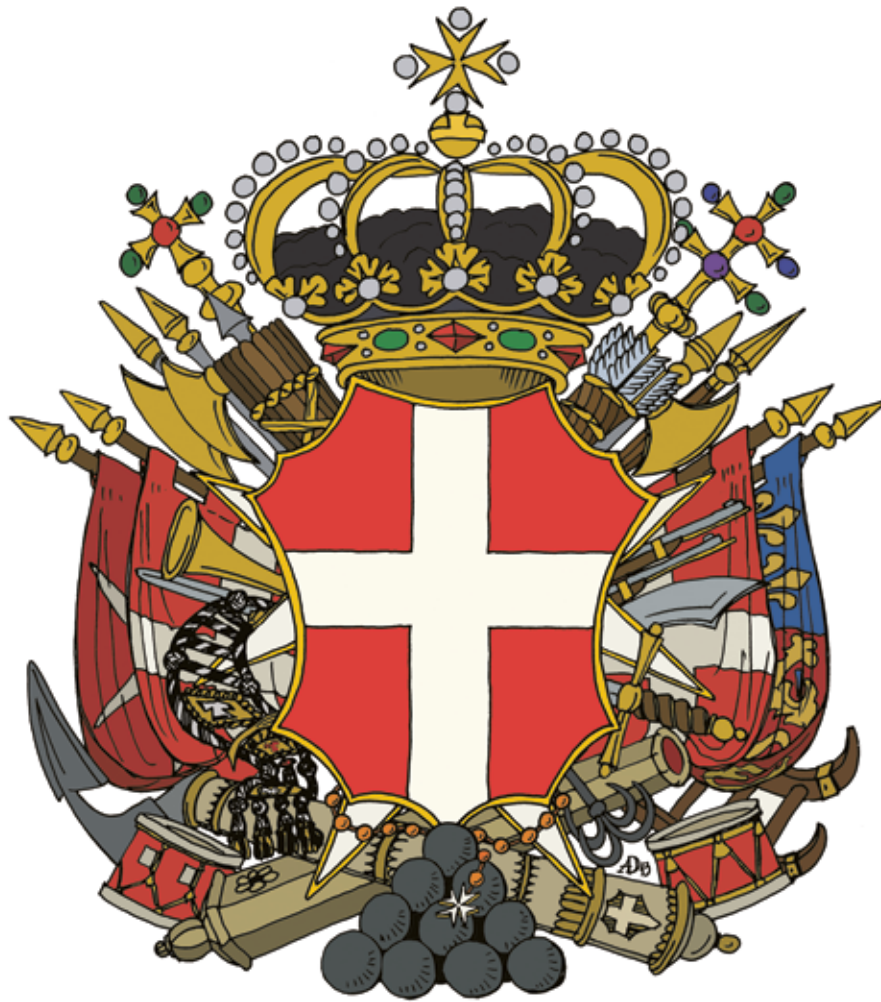
ii	FRONTISPIECE: LANGUE OF ENGLAND
viii	MARTIAL ARMS OF THE ORDER
ix	INTRODUCTION
xii	THE MANUSCRIPT TITLE OF THE TUDOR ROLL
xv	THE PLATES
PLATE NOS:	
i	THE PRINCE AND GRAND MASTER
2–31	HISTORICAL PLATES FROM THE TUDOR MANUSCRIPT
32–48	NEW PLATES OF HISTORICAL CHARACTERS
49	THE MODERN STANDARD OF THE ORDER IN SCOTLAND
50–141	PLATES OF A SELECTION OF NINETEENTH, TWENTIETH AND TWENTY-FIRST CENTURY MEMBERS OF THE ORDER
ccclxix	NOTES ON THE FRONTISPIECE AND THE ARMS OPPOSITE THE INTRODUCTION
ccclxxiii	INDEX OF BEASTS
ccclxxxvii	INDEX OF NAMES

INTRODUCTION

THIS BOOK IS BASED on a Tudor manuscript in the College of Arms in London, which contains many standards and banners connected with the Order of Saint John. These we have reproduced, and added those of significance to the Order in Tudor times, and also the banners of some contemporary members of the Order. Selection was a difficult business, and many others might have been included. This volume makes no pretence to be a complete record, nor to make any new contribution to the history of the Order.

The Tudor manuscript is based upon the slightly earlier 'Prince Arthur's Book', also held in the College of Arms. This was produced to teach heraldry to the elder brother of King Henry VIII, who was to destroy the Church and the Order in this land a few years later. Further plates were added during the reign of Queen Mary Tudor. Both documents contain an interesting feature: the use of the special finial of the double-traversed Cross, for the banner pole of the Grand Priors of Saint John, which from the earliest times has been used as a symbol of authority in the Order. We have retained this use in the present work.

Thomas Willement F.S.A. traced the arms from this Roll between 1829 and 1831. These were published in a book a century ago by the 8th Lord Howard de Walden. Anthony Delarue coloured one of these for his own amusement. He took little persuasion from Peter Drummond-Murray to colour a few others, and then to undertake the new drawings, and so become a joint editor of this book. With each drawing has been given a brief note on the individual, except in instances that seemed to warrant greater detail,



in general giving just enough to place them, although we departed from this rule where it seemed appropriate, particularly where cross-referencing to other plates provides additional interest. The shield of arms accompanying the standards from the historical plates has been newly drawn, as Lord Howard de Walden's book provides only the written blazons.

The full name of the Order is The Sovereign Military Hospitaller Order of Saint John of Jerusalem of Rhodes and of Malta. It is commonly known as the Order of Malta. Only "Hospitaller" is an essential qualification, and Knights were also known as the Hospitallers. In the Tudor book, the Order is referred to exclusively as the Knights of Saint John; we have adhered to this practice. At the time that the Order was founded, the Latin *militēs* (frequently qualified by *auratus*, the golden spurs that indicated a knight) referred not to a soldier, but to a knight who was expected to follow the Code of Chivalry. This character of the golden spurs is referred to in the present ritual for the conferring of knighthood in the solemn profession of a Knight of Justice in the Order.

We have followed more recent practice, quartering the Arms of Grand Masters with those of the Order, and allowing Bailiffs the Chief of Religion. Until the early 19th century, all Knights of Justice bore the Chief of Religion, and thus these are shown in the Tudor plates. A recent innovation is to allow Knights Grand Cross of Justice who are not Bailiffs to place the Arms of the Order on a canton or inescutcheon and this will be found, for example, on the banner of Fra' Matthew Festing when he was Grand Prior of the restored Grand Priory of England (it is an anachronism to qualify Master, Prior or Priory with the word Grand).

Only in Britain are supporters restricted to peers and certain armigers given them by warrant of the monarch. We have felt that we can follow the example of our Tudor predecessors and assign a supporter to those not entitled to them by modern rules. Where possible, the drawings used for supporters for new banners have been taken from other plates in the Tudor manuscript, and the source is noted. Generally the beast is taken from the supporters or crest; although in some instances licence has been used to refer either to the crest or to sporting or social interests, in a tradition with which our Tudor forebears would have been familiar. Where a particular selection is unclear or amusing, this has been noted in the text.

Scotland and Ireland were both included in the Grand Priory of England before the Reformation. The Grand Prior of Kilmainham and the Commander of Torphichen both sat in their national Parliaments as Lords of Saint John. Entries have been given for knights of both jurisdictions.

The use of banners is not some sort of historical curio, but, as with national flags, a living science. The banners of senior members of the Order are carried in procession on Saint John's Day and displayed at funerals. Many of the recent banners in this book have been painted or embroidered based on drawings by the present authors. Any armiger has a right to a banner of his Arms. Standards and guidons may only be borne by a grant from the Sovereign through the relevant heraldic authority.

We are grateful to Thomas Woodcock, Garter Principal King of Arms, for explaining the background of the original Tudor manuscript in the College of Arms; to Elizabeth Roads, Lyon Clerk and Snawdoun Herald of Arms; to Pamela Willis, Curator of the Museum of the Order of Saint John

in Clerkenwell; and to the Count of Evora, for their advice on various blazons; and to many friends for their support and help; to Desmond Seward for many helpful suggestions and encouragement; to Fra' Richard Berkley-Matthews for additional historical information and proof-reading, to Dr Serenhedd James and Damian Riddle for proof-reading the text; and to James Drummond-Murray for help in the production of this book.

We offer this book for the amusement of members and friends of the Order of Saint John, in the hope that it will make a small contribution to the 900th anniversary celebrations. The profits from its sale, if any, will be devoted to the charities of the Order.

PDM

AMJLD

2014

*Sexilla Regia aliq̄: Confiliarij
Regenz octavi et aliqua alia =
nobilm*

ADDENDUM

In the early hours of Palm Sunday, 13th April 2014, Peter Drummond-Murray died, surrounded by his family, exactly as he had begun his earthly life, suddenly, and fortified with a dram of whisky. He had completed most of the biographical texts he had planned to write himself including all the historical ones, and many of the modern ones. The rest I have completed, mainly from his notes, and have amused myself in trying to match Peter's clear and often irreverent style. I am grateful to those subjects who have provided me with further detail of their families, especially when it has been colourful.

The drawings were all finished, so, with one or two later corrections, Peter had seen them all. I was working on the blazons at the time of his death.

We had corresponded about the Bestiary Index a couple of weeks earlier (A: "I think I shall also write a Bestiary Index, as the animals are fun, and it will teach people's children." P: "Teach them what?!" Which, to those who knew Peter, was firm encouragement). I have therefore added this index, and I hope it will widen the appeal of this book to younger heralds. Any mistakes in it are entirely mine.

I am greatly indebted to my friend Fra' Richard Berkley-Matthews for much additional help pulling it all together. His diligent and pedantic obsession with cross-references has done much to add to the interest of this book; the many hours he has given have gone far beyond the obligations of his distant kinship with Peter.

During the final editing stages, I have been very sad to learn of the untimely death of Julian Allason, a close friend of Peter's and an invaluable support to us throughout the

THE PLATES

work on this book. He had written to me at the time he was working on Peter's obituary for *The Daily Telegraph*, with the opinion that our planned title ('A Roll of Banners and Standards of the Order of Saint John in England') was boring, and we should call it instead 'Banners of the Bold', as snappier and likely to double sales. I had rejected this, as Peter and I had agreed the title, but in the light of Julian's death I know Peter would have changed his mind, so I have adopted this proposal. Our original title remains the subtitle.

The most cursory inspection of the dates of the introductions will make clear how long I have taken to bring this work to fruition. I am extremely grateful to all who encouraged me, and to Anthony Eyre for the final design of the book. All those who have been involved in the production of this book are indebted to Susie Buchan, granddaughter of the 8th Lord Howard de Walden, whose kindness has enabled us to bring it to publication.

Lastly, of course, this book, the last in a succession of his historical and heraldic publications, stands as a monument to Peter. It was an unexpected joy to deepen our friendship in his last years, and I lay before our readers my own contribution in his memory.

May he rest in peace.

AMJLD

2017

FRA' MATTHEW FESTING
79TH PRINCE AND GRAND MASTER

Joined Order 1977

Obedience 1988

Solemnly professed 1991

Prince and Grand Master 2008

During the last quarter of the 18th century, the Grand Masters abandoned the use of the mantle behind their Arms and placed their shield on the double-headed eagle of the Holy Roman Empire. This was consequent to the suppression of the Order of Saint Anthony, whose privilege it was, and its merger with the Order of Saint John.

The eagle of the Holy Roman Empire had haloes, or glories, behind its heads, while those of its successor, the Austrian Empire, had closed crowns. This distinction, however, has not always been observed. Titled nobility of neither empire had the right to the Imperial Eagle as a supporter: this was a separate concession.

The Grand Masters were created Princes of the Holy Roman Empire in 1607 and 1620.

The earliest instance of Grand Masters quartering the Arms of the Order was in the last quarter of the 14th century.

See also Plates 54 and 73.

Arms : Quarterly 1&4. Gules a cross Argent (Saint John); 2&3. Azure, an eagle displayed Erminois between three castles Argent (Festing). The banner is borne by a golden eagle, based upon that from the banner of Prince Arthur, for whom the original Tudor book was written. The banner is surmounted by a crown based upon that of King Henry VIII, adapted with the fleurs-de-lys sometimes used for the crown of the Order.



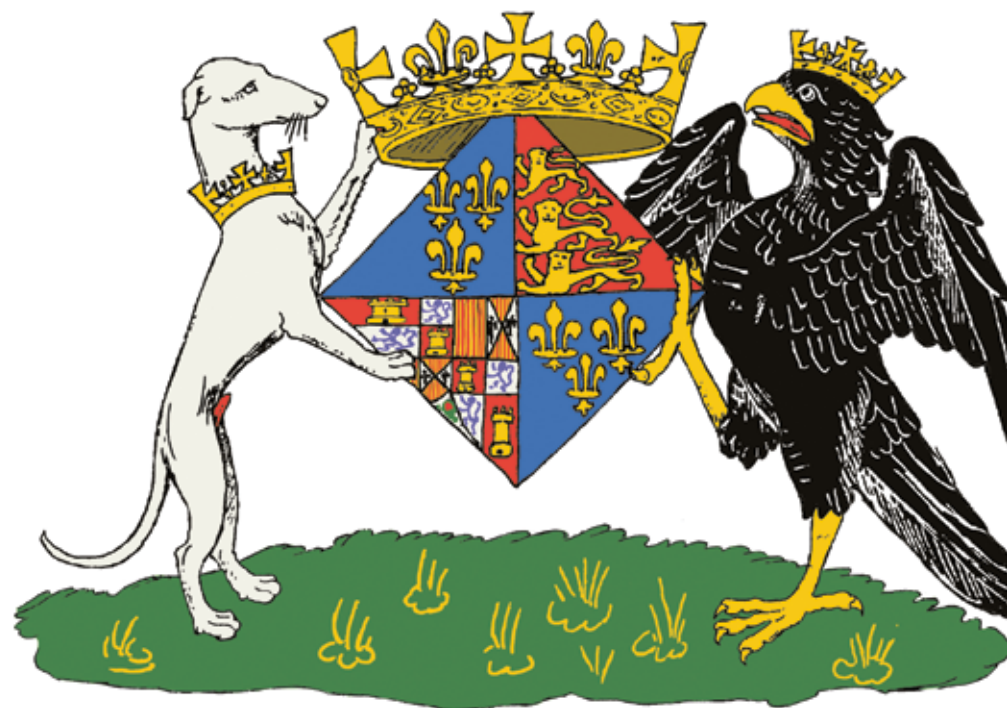
Fra' Matthew Festing
79th Prince and Grand Master

HISTORICAL PLATES FROM THE
TUDOR MANUSCRIPT

QUEEN MARY TUDOR

Joint sovereign of England, and nominally of France, with her husband, later Philip II of Spain. All laws were promulgated in both their names, and to make Philip equal in rank to his wife, his father, the Holy Roman Emperor Charles V, had given him the throne of Naples and the titular Kingdom of Jerusalem. These arms show Queen Mary as Princess before her accession; with the arms of her mother, Queen Katharine of Aragon, in the third quarter.

Arms : on a lozenge quarterly 1&4. France; 2. England; 3. Aragon – I&IV. Castile quarterly with Leon; II&III. Aragon impaling Sicily, surmounted by a regal crown. Supporters : Dexter, the white greyhound of Richmond regally gorged; Sinister, the black eagle regally crowned (refers to her husband). [Blazon from Howard de Walden]



Queen Mary Tudor