

THE RUSSIAN HERALD



AN ENGLISH SUPPLEMENT TO THE GERBOVED
AN HERALDIC QUARTERLY MAGAZINE
PUBLISHED BY
THE RUSSIAN HERALDRY SOCIETY

THE RUSSIAN HERALD
AN ENGLISH SUPPLEMENT TO THE GERBOVED
AN HERALDIC QUARTERLY MAGAZINE
PUBLISHED BY
THE RUSSIAN HERALDRY SOCIETY

EDITORIAL

The heraldic quarterly magazine, we have the pleasure to offer today to our gentle and courteous readers, resumes publication of a pre-revolutionary magazine of the same title, published for the first time in 1913 by Russian heraldist S. N. Troynitsky.

The word "Gerboved" means "a specialist or an expert in heraldry". This is a combination of two words: "gerb" (coat of arms) and "ved" (wit).

We decided to unite both The Gerboved and The Russian Herald as to publish them separately would be at present impossible for us. But we hope that the magazines, being joined together, will only amplify each other well.

The principal topic which this first issue of the Russian Herald is given to is the full blazon of the Russian Imperial Arms. This translation into English has been done by myself at numerous requests of our foreign colleagues.

We will appreciate every proposal, advice, opinion or request of our readers. We are going also to publish your letters, articles and advertising. We shall do our best so that the readers would never feel disappointed.

Our foreign members and readers are reminded of that the Collegium Heraldicum of Russia is to design new coat of arms for individuals and corporations, and to register and publish the same. Our College is also to register and publish the coats of arms which were previously granted, registered, certified, or otherwise recognized by other officers of arms. In the near future we are planning to publish the first volume of our *Matricula Armorum* (or *Armorial Register*), which includes among the Russians also some foreign armigers. All of them are to receive from the Collegium Heraldicum a lovely Coloured Certificate.

Any one from any country is always welcome to register his personal arms at ours.

Now, I would like to add some words about the plight we are in. On the one hand, the economical situation in this country deteriorates rapidly, that cannot but interfere with our work. On the other hand, we now have to overcome the counteraction of our recent colleagues who, remaining at heart intrinsic communists, have wormed themselves even into the confidence of the present Government. All that causes considerable obstacles for revival of Russian heraldry. Nevertheless, we are full of enthusiasm to continue our work persistently. We shall overcome.

All correspondence, queries, and material submitted for publication should be sent to the Editor, Valery Yegorov Esq., Sanatorium-5, Monino, Moskovska obl., 141152, Russia.

The material published in The Russian Herald (as well as in The Gerboved) does not necessarily represent the views of the editor or the Collegium Heraldicum.

THE BLASON OF THE RUSSIAN IMPERIAL ARMS

(See front cover of the "Gerboved")

Or, a double-headed Imperial Eagle displayed Sable, twice imperially crowned proper, armed and membered of the field, langued Gules, grasping in his dexter claw an imperial Sceptre and in the sinister claw an Orb all proper. In chief another bigger imperial Crown with the ribbon of the Order of St. Andrew the First-Called issuant therefrom the latter proper (Sky-blue).

The Eagle is charged on the breast with an escutcheon: Gules, within a fillet-bordure Or, the image of St. George Martyr the Victorious in complete armour Argent, wearing a flying cloak Azure, and riding a Horse in full gallop of the third, covered with a house-cloth of the field, fringed, bridled and maned of the second, over a Dragon lying Or, winged Vert, the head of which he is piercing through with a spear terminating in the Orthodox cross (of eight points) Gold (for Moscow).

Upon the State Shield, which is surrounded by the collar and pendent therefrom the badge of the Order of St. Andrew the First-Called, is placed the helmet of St. Prince Alexander Nevsky. Mantling Sable doubled Or. And for the supporters are on the dexter side St. Archangel Michael in complete armour holding in his dexter hand a sword enflamed proper, and on the sinister side St. Archangel Gabriel habited proper holding in his sinister hand a long Cross Gold.

All displayed within the Robe of Estate with Pavilion Gold, semé of imperial eagles; doubled Ermine, ensigned by the Imperial Crown. On the Pavilion is an inscription «СЪ НАМИ БОГЪ» which means «God with us» as the State motto. And above all the State Gonfannon Or, fimbriated of the armorial colours and emblazoned with the Middle State Arms, but without the nine titular shields, issuant from behind the Pavilion.

The Robe of Estate is accompanied by shield for titular Kingdoms (Tsardoms) and Principalities of Russian Empire. Namely:

I. Argent, a Wyvern Sable, crowned with an open crown and armed Or, winged, langued and tailed Gules (for Kingdom of Kazan).

II. Azure, a royal-like Crown of eight arches (five visible) Or, doubled Vert, accompanied beneath with a Sabre curved in fess point to the dexter proper, hilted and pommelled of the Second (for Kingdom of Astrakhan).

III. Gules, an Eagle displayed Argent, royally crowned proper, armed and membered Or (for Kingdom of Poland).

IV. Ermine, two Sables rampant combattant Sable, supporting an ancient Crown Or, and a Bow in fess with two arrows points baseward in saltire all Gules (for Kingdom of Siberia).

V. Or, a double-headed Byzantine Eagle displayed Sable, twice royally crowned and armed of the field, charged on his breast with an escutcheon: Azure, an Orthodox Cross within a bordure all Or (for Kingdom of the Taurian Chersonesus).

VI. Quarterly, also with an escutcheon and a chevron-like base (for the Caucasus):

The escutcheon: Or, the image of St. George Martyr the Victorious in complete armour Azure with a Cross on his breast, wearing a flying cloak Gules, and riding a Horse in full gallop Sable, covered with a horse-cloth of the third, fringed Gold, over a Dragon lying Vert, winged of the fourth eyed and langued of the third, the head of which he is piercing through with a spear of the third (for Kingdom of Georgia or Gruzia).

1. Gules, between in sinister chief and dexter base two Mulletts of eight points, a house in full gallop all Argent (for Iveria or Iberia).

2. Or, a Mount fumant Vert pierced through by two Arrows saltirewise points upwards Sable (for Kartalinia).

3. Azure, between in chief and at either side three Mulletts of six points Argent, two Arrows saltirewise points upwards of the same, debruised by an inescutcheon Or, charged with an Increscent Gules (for Kabarda).

4. Or, a crowned Lion rampant Gules (for Armenia).

And in the chevron-like base: Or, a Chercassian Warrior in complete armour Argent, habited Gules and wearing a fur cloak Sable, holding a spear of the latter on his dexter shoulder, and riding a Horse in full gallop Sable (for Chercassian and Mountaineer Princes).

VII. Tierced per chevron (for the united old principal Grand Duchies):

1. Azure, the image of St. Archangel Michael in complete armour with his wings inverted all Argent, holding in his dexter hand a sword enflamed proper, and in his sinister hand a shield of the second (for Grand Duchy of Kiev).

2. Gules, a Lion rampant guardant Or, crowned with an iron crown proper, holding in his dexter forepaw a long Cross Argent (for Grand Duchy of Vladimir).

3. Argent, two Bears rampant combattant Sable, supporting an Arm-chair-like Throne Or, cushioned Gules, on wich a Sceptre and a long Cross in saltire both of the third. On the back of the Throne a triple

candle-stick Gold with three lighted candles proper. In base Azure, two Fish in fess respectant naiant counter-naiant Argent (for Grand Duchy of Novgorod).

VIII. Gules, between eight Roses Argent, barbed and seeded proper, a Lion rampant Or, ducally crowned proper, holding in his dexter vambraced forepaw a straight-bladed sword proper, hilted and pommelled of the third, and resting his sinister forepaw on a curved Sabre proper, hilted and pommelled as the latter, upon the blade of which he is treading with his dexter hindpaw (for Grand Duchy of Finland).

All the above mentioned shields are ensigned by the proper crowns belonging to respective provinces.

Beneath all is placed the shield, ensigned by the Royal Crown, containing the Ancestral Arms of his Imperial Majesty Lord Emperor and Autocrat of All Russias:

Per pale 1. Argent, a Griffin segreant Gules, holding a sword proper and a circular shield ensigned upon its upper verge by a little eagle, within a bordure Sable, charged with eight Lion's heads erased Or and Argent alternately (for House of Romanov).

2. Quarterly, also with an escutcheon and a chevron-like base i. Gules, a Lion rampant crowned Or, holding in his paws a long-handled Axe (of St. Olaf) blade Argent, handle Or (for Norway); ii. Or, two Lions passant Azure (for Schleswig); iii. Gules, an escutcheon per fess Argent and of the field, between three demi-nettle leaves and as many passion nails in pairle of the second (for Holstein); iv. Gules, a Swan Argent, beaked, membered and royally gorged Or (for Stormarn); enté en pointe, Gules, a Knight in armour Or, on a Horse Argent, and holding a sword Argent and a shield Azure charged with a cross patée of the second (for Ditmarsen); over all, an escutcheon of pretence, per pale; Or, two bars Gules (for Oldenburg); Azure, a Cross pattée fitchy Or (for Delmenhorst). The said escutcheon is ensigned by a ducal crown.

Above the Pavilion are placed six shields belonging to titular provinces and lands:

1. The united arms of Principalities and Provinces of Great Russia. Twice per fess and twice per pale, with a base quarter.

1. Azure, a Snow Leopard Or, and above him an Arm issuant down from chief out of clouds Argent (for Pskov).

2. Argent, a Cannon Sable, its carriage and wheels gilt, with on the fuse a Paradise Bird proper (for Smolensk).

3. Gules, a Throne Or, cushioned Vert, on which is placed a Royal

(Tsar's) Crown (for Tver).

4. Argent, two Arms vested Gules, issuant from either side out of Clouds Azure, and holding in arms two spears of the second saltirwise (for Yugora).

5. Argent, a Stag trippant Gules, unguled and attired of twelve tynes Sable (for Nizhny Novgorod).

6. Or, a Prince vested Vert, with a fur hat on, wearing a cloak and booted Gules, holding in his dexter hand a sword proper and in his sinister hand a scabbard Sable (for Ryazan).

7. Gules, a Stag statant Argent, gorged Or (for Rostov).

8. Argent, a Bear passant erect guardant Sable, holding in his sinister paw a long-handled Axe Or (for Yaroslavl).

9. Azure, two Fish posed in saltire Argent, with above them a Crescent of the second, accompanied in the dexter chief with a Cross pommelled Or (for Belozero).

10. In base Sable, a Fox argent, langued and eyed Gules (for Udora).

II. The united arms of South-Western Principalities and Provinces. Tierced per chevron:

1. Gules, a Cross formy Argent (for Volyn);

2. Azure, a Sun in splendour accompanied in chief with a Cross coupé all Or (for Podolsk);

3. Argent, a crowned Eagle displayed Sable, langued Gules and armed Or, and holding behind his back in his sinister claw a long Cross of the fourth inclined bendwise (for Chernigov).

III. The united arms of White Russian and Lithuanian Principalities and Provinces. Quarterly, also with an escutcheon and chevron-like base:

The escutcheon: Gules, a Knight (Pogon) in complete armour Argent, holding a sword proper and a shield of the second, charged with a cross Lorraine (both traverses equal) of the field, riding a Horse of the second, covered with a three-tailed horse-cloth of the field, fringed Or (for Grand Duchy of Lithuania).

1. Per fess. Gules, an Eagle displayed Argent. Or, a Knight (Pogon) in complete armour Azure, holding a sword proper and a shield Argent, charged with a cross Lorraine Gules, riding a Horse Sable, covered with a three-tailed horse-cloth of the fourth, fringed of the field (for Belostock).

2. Or, a Bear statant erect Sable, langued and eyed Gules (for

Samogitia).

3. Argent, a Knight (Pogon) in complete armour Sable, holding a scimitar proper and a circular shield Gules, charged with a cross Lorraine of the field, riding a Horse of the second, bridled of the field and of the third (for Polotsk).

4. Gules, a Knight (Pogon) in complete armour Argent, holding a sword proper and a circular shield of the second charged with a cross Lorraine of the field, riding a Horse of the second with a saddle of the field, covered with a three-tailed horse-cloth Or, fringed Azure (for Vitebsk).

In base: Argent a Wolf passant regardant Gules (for Mstislav).

IV. The united arms of the Baltic Provinces:

Quarterly. 1. Or, three Lions passant Azure (for Estland)

2. Gules, a Griffin segreant Argent, holding a sword Or, and charged on his breast with a cypher ПВ ИВ (Peter the Second, Emperor of All Russia) of the field, which is ensigned by an imperial crown (for Liefland)

3. Quarterly. i and iv: Argent, a Lion rampant crowned Gules (for Kurland). ii and iii: Azure, a demi Stag trippant ducally crowned Argent, attired of twelve tynes, issuant from the side of the shield (for Semigalia). The charges of 1st and 3rd quarters are faced to the sinister.

4. Gules, two Arms embowed vambraced combattant Argent, holding in each hand a scimitar proper, and accompanied in chief with a Crown Or (for Korelia).

V. The united arms of the Northern-Eastern Provinces:

Quarterly, with an escutcheon.

The escutcheon: Gules, a Bear passant Argent, carrying on his back a Gospel Or, ensigned with a cross formy rayonnant of four rays of the second (for Perm).

1. Or, an Arm vested Gules, issuant from the sinister side out of Clouds Azure, holding a Bow and Arrow in full draught, and accompanied in dexter chief with a Cross pommelled, all of the second (for Vyatka).

2. Vert, an Agnus Dei Argent carrying a gonfannon Gules, charged with a cross of the second, staffed Or (for Bulgaria).

3. Argent, a Fox passant Sable, langued and eyed Gules (for Obdora).

4. Vert, a Savage wreathed with oak foliage both about his temples and loins, and holding a club Argent on his dexter shoulder (for Kondia).

VI. The arms of Turkestan: Or, a Unicorn passant Sable, langued, eyed and horned Gules.

The Russian Great Imperial Arms was Imperially approved on 24th July, 1882.

Translated into English by St. Andrew Principal Herald Master, Vice President of the Russian Heraldry Society Valery Yegorov.

A Concise Summary of the Gerboved

– Foreword by Troynitsky, taken from the Gerboved No 1, 1913 (p. 3).
– Foreword by the Editorial Staff (p. 4).
– **"The Lakiers"** by Prof. N. Soboleva (p. 6). The author, Doc. of Sc. (Hist), retraces the family history of a distinguished Russian heraldist Alexander Lakier whose work "Russian Heraldry" (first published in 1855) was reprinted in 1990 by Dr. Nadezhda Soboleva. She is an eminent scholar also in the field of heraldry.

– **"The Mystery of Hamayun Paradise Bird"** (p. 13) by G. Razhnyov, Cand. of Philosophy, Docent. The article tells us about the origin of an interesting charge of the Smolensk arms: Argent, a Cannon Sable, its carriage and wheels gilt, with on the fuse a Paradise Bird proper.

A propos, a number of Russian noble families descendant of ancient Prince (Knyaz) Rostislav Mstislavovich still bear the Smolensk arms as part of their arms. The author retraces the history of the mythical Paradise Bird, Hamayun, and finds its origin in Old China and the Middle East. Recently the Uzbekistan Parliament, that of one of those new limitrophe formations that have been mushrooming out innumerable, approved the new state arms the principal charge of which is the Bird Humo (hoo-moh), as the name of Hamayun sounds in the autochthonal language.

– **"The Arms of Count Bruce"** (p. 26) by Valery Yegorov. The author, St. Andrew Principal Herald Master of the Collegium Heraldicum, found in the Bruce Memorial Museum, near Monino, a copy of MS of the Letters Patent given to count Jacob (James) Bruce by Emperor Peter the Great in 1721. The Letters Patent, written in Latin, were translated into Russian by the author himself. The MS is an important and interesting source for every historian.

– **"The Origin of the Russian Bedaux Arms"** (p. 38). By V. von Rickman, the Deputy Herald Master of the Russian Nobility Assembly. The author tells us about his ancestors and their arms which came from Switzerland.

– **"Old Symbols of Lvov Revival"** (p. 41) by Andrew Gretchilo, President of the Ukrainian Heraldry Society.

– **"The Arms of a Poet"** (p. 43) by V. Motsok, correspondent to the "Heraldic Messenger". The article runs about the coat of arms produced by

the Collegium Heraldicum for poet and writer Vladimir Gerasimov of Moscow. The arms are included in the *Matricula Armorum* under No 12: Azure, a Pegasus rampant Argent, winged Or, striking at a Bell of the third with an inscription "РУСЬ" (Russia). In dexter base a Sun rising proper. Crest: a figure of Muse Erato vested Argent, carrying in her dexter hand a lamp. Motto: "Love is the Wings of a Poet".

– "Old Russian Heraldic Emblems" (p. 45) by A. Yablokov, an icon-painter, a member of RHS.

– "The History of (so called) Standard Arms" (p. 48) by Igor Smetannikov, President of the Russian Heraldry Society. The article tells us about the famous and very dear for collectors pin-badges with Civic coat of arms that first were produced in 1968. After five years the series of badges were prohibited by then communist authorities owing to the ideological ground. Nowadays the famous series is to be revived by the Russian Heraldry Society (RHS).

– "The RHS Best Arms Competition" (p. 62).

The Staff of the RHS and the Collegium Heraldicum decided to announce a competition to select the better project of the RHS coat of arms out of a number of those presented by member of the Society.

– No. One Project is proposed by the Collegium Heraldicum itself: a double-headed Eagle Sable, crowned with the Monomakh Crown proper, charged on the breast with an escutcheon of Moscow, i. e. Gules, the image of St. George Martyr the Victorious in complete armour Argent, wearing a flying cloak Azure, and riding a horse in full gallop of the second, covered with a horse-cloth of the field, fringed, bridled and maned Or, over a Dragon lying Or, winged Vert, the head of which he is piercing through with a spear terminating in the Orthodox cross (of eight points) Gold. The escutcheon is surrounded by the collar and pendent therefrom the badge of the Order of St. Andrew the First-Called, Patron Saint of Russia. The Eagle is charged on its wings with eight golden escutcheons of different types with various tinctured ordinaries, viz. bend, bend sinister, fess and pale. The Eagle is holding a scroll with an inscription "Societas Heraldica Russica".

– No. Two Project is based upon the previous, but the inscription is written in Russian and the Eagle is holding in his claws a long cross and a flaming heart.

-- No. Three is based on No. Two, but the Eagle is charged on the breast with an escutcheon with Phoenix, instead of St. George.

– No. Four is based on No. Two, but St. George is replaced by the image of a Herald, taken out from the arms the Collegium Heraldicum.

– No. Five is based on No. One, but the Monomakh Crown is replaced by the special "Armorial Crown" consisting of small double-headed eaglets.

And other variations are quite comprehensible from the illustrations.

The rest space of the Gerboved is filled with miscellaneous material, advertising, announcements, etc.

Every reader, both Russian and foreign, is asked to contribute the magazine with his articles, thoughts and opinions. Everybody is welcome.

Note: Perhaps, some of our foreign readers will appreciate that the Russian texts are written according to genuine and correct orthography which was spoiled by communists in 1918. We shall revive also our letters and spelling.