

THE RUSSIAN HERALD



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EDITORIAL

If anyone of the readers could cast a glance at the enormous pile of letters coming from all over the world and dominating, over my desk like a model of an Egyptian pyramid, he would surely feel astonished. Especially taking into account that the letters to be replied are written in foreign languages. Since there is nobody else here, except me, to do this hard but pleasing job, it is rather difficult for me to maintain somewhat regular correspondence. Nevertheless, everybody must be confident in that I always remember all the friends and their patience will be rewarded. So I do hope and expect that our friends and colleagues would be indulgent to my being sometimes unable to reply soon. I regret to say also that from time to time some of the letters and parcels can run astray and never reach the addressee, while the others may be delivered too late. Turbulent time as it is!

I would like also to remind our readers about that the Collegium Heraldicum of Russia (CHR) was reestablished in April 1991 under the high patronage of H.I.H. The Grand Duke Vladimir (now late), and it was later reorganized and chartered as a non-profit corporate body. The CHR is fully independent organization and consists of a limited number of proficient in heraldic science and art. The CHR does not possess any special building of its own in Moscow, and we use, when necessary, the premises of the Russia's Nobility Assembly and those of the famous Russian Army Club, the windows of which face just the Red Square. To tell the truth I feel more comfortable working day and night at home.

We would like to make a statement that the CHR deals mainly with the coats of arms, both already existing and newly created. We can be also engaged, if necessary, in genealogical researches. But we give a special notice about that the CHR has never been authorized to grant or confer upon anybody any styles or titles. So all the responsibility for any possible falsity in this matter lies wholly on the impostors. God forbid them!

Many friends asked me to give some information about the members of the Collegium Heraldicum. So, for the beginning, let me introduce myself.

I was born 28 October 1950 in Sochi, in the Kuban Cossack Region of Russia. My grandfather was a Colonel of the Artillery, my father was a Major of the Air Force. I am a Captain of the Navy in reserve. Education: Navigator, Merchant Marine College in Rostov, 1973; English Instructor, Teachers' Training Institute, Taganrog, 1987. Appointments: Navigator, Chief Mate, Merchant Marine Fleet, visited 24 countries; Retired. English Instructor. Currently - Heraldic Artist (free lance), St. Andrew Principal Herald Master of the Collegium Heraldicum of Russia (full-time job). Married. One son Andrew, b. 1974; one daughter Anna, b. 1982. Arms:

Vair Azure and Argent, a dragon's sinister wing Gules, pierced through with a tilting spear in bend pointed upwards Or, and in a chief of the second, three escallops in fess of the third.

Above the shield is placed an helmet with a mantling Azure, doubled Or,



Valery Yegorov
St. Andrew Principal Herald Master
В. П. Егоров
Герольдмейстер Принципал св. Андрея



and on a wreath of the liveries (Argent, Azure, Gules) is set for crest a dolphin embowed with the tail elevated Azure. Supporters: dexter – a maiden habited Argent and wearing a cloak Gules, doubled Or, and holding in her dexter hand a spear Or; sinister – a griffin Or, armed and langued Gules. Motto: VIRTUTE, NON SANGUINE.

Symbolism. My surname – Yegorov – derives from the Russian first name "Yegor" which is a variant of "George". Hence the dragon's wing pierced though with the spear of St. George. The vair is chosen as most specific heraldic feature for Heraldry takes a great part in my life. The three escallops in the chief are the reminder of my past being a seaman and my long voyages overseas that time. The dolphin is taken as a token of my appreciate esteem and love of my faithful friend, irreplaceable assistant and beloved wife Natalie. The motto means that I have achieved a certain position in the society by the efforts of my own, by my hands and brains, but I have not inherited it. As to the supporters, I can hardly explain definitely my choice of a maiden and a griffin. They have been chosen out of a mere incentive of the soul.

SUMMARY OF THE GERBOVED—4 (1993)

- Editorial (Dedicated to Emperor Nicholas II)page 3
- State Heraldry
 - Presidential Ukase (Decree) of 30 November, 1993, on the new State Arms of Russian Federationpage 6
- Genealogy and Family Heraldry
 - Durov, V. A. Cand of Hist. Arms of the Russian Imperial Familypage 10

Eight very rare heraldic pictures are given. One of them is the Russian Imperial Greater Arms from the Manifesto of 16 Dec. 1800 by Emperor Paul I. It was the first appearance in the Russian State Arms of a complete set of such heraldic features as a shield quartered of 43 (sic!), a helmet with mantling, two supporters St. Archangels Michael and Gabriel and a robe of estate with a pavilion. The big shield is placed upon a Maltese Cross, for Emperor Paul I on 13 Nov., 1798, became a Grand Master of the Sovereign Military Hospitaller Order of St. John of Jerusalem, of Malta.

The second picture shows other type of the Russian Imperial Greater Arms approved by Emperor Alexander II on 8 December 1856, at the same time both Middle and Lesser State Arms being approved as well. We can notice that the numerous titular arms are now taken off the main shield, and placed around the robe of estate.

The third type of the Greater Arms, approved by Emperor Alexander III on 24 July 1882, can be found on the front cover of the Gerboved-1 (1992). The translation into English of the full blazon given there was accomplished by V. Yegorov, St. Andrew.

The rest of the pictures featured in this article represents different kinds of personal arms of the Russian Imperial Family. Every member of the House of Romanov bore his (or her) arms displayed in two species: – Greater and Lesser. As principal cadency marks in Greater personal arms served different supporters.

The Emperor, Empress, Tsesarevich (Heir Apparent) and the elder son of Tsesarevich had as supporters St. Archangels Michael and Gabriel. The Empress had two shields placed side by side, the dexter shield being used to display her August spouse's arms and the sinister those of her father's family. The same method was used in all arms borne by other wives of the Imperials.

The Greater arms of the Tsesarevich coincided entirely with the Middle State Arms, i. e. they were displayed without six smaller titular shields over the robe of estate. His elder son had also for difference in the main shield a double-headed eagle gorged with a crown.

Their Imperial Highnesses, Grand Dukes, younger sons of Emperor, used as supporters two Varangians.

So did their wives.

Their Imperial Highnesses, Grand Dukes, grandsons of Emperor (children of His younger sons) used as supporters two unicorns Or, eyed and langued

Gules.

Their Highnesses, Dukes of Imperial Blood, great-grandsons of Emperor used as supporters two unicorns Sable, corned and hooved Or, eyed and langued Gules.

Their Highnesses and Their Serenities (sic!), Dukes of Imperial Blood, great-great-grandsons of Emperor used as supporters two griffins Or, eyed and langued Gules.

Their Highnesses and Their Serenities, Dukes of Imperial Blood, sons of great-great-grandsons of Emperor used as supporters two griffins Sable, armed Or, eyed and langued Gules.

The Lesser Arms of all the said persons differ each from other by gradual disappearing of the titular little shields, first from the Imperial eagle in the crest, and then from his wings and breast in the shield.

The female descendants of Emperor when unmarried used the corresponding coats of arms similar to those of their brothers, but for difference displayed on lozenges and ensigned by Imperial crown instead of helmet and encircled with a sash and badge of the Order of St. Catherine.

In 1997 we shall celebrate the quincentenary of the Russian double-headed eagle as the State emblem. As is known, during all that long space of time the eagle was always Sable. Now unfortunately, he suddenly has changed his tinctures according to the presidential decree in spite of the opinion expressed unanimously by the experts of the Collegium Heraldicum and by those of the Russian Nobility Assembly.

– Yegorov, V. P. **Tsesarevich Alexis' Heraldic Pedigree** page 15

This is the first work of the kind, comprising 63 persons with their coats of arms, all illustrations being made by the author. The contents of the article are self-apparent.

– Dumin, S. V. **Cand. of Hist. Arms of Their Royal Highnesses Princes Bagration-Mukhransky** page 26

H. I. H. The Grand Duchess-Dowager Leonida Georgievna descends from the ancient Royal family of the Kings of Georgia, which was independent Realm before 1801, when the country voluntarily joined the Russian Empire.

– Bychkova, M. E. **Cand. of Hist. The First Coat of Arms of Untitled Nobility in Russia** page 33

Recently was found an interesting manuscript dated back to the middle of the 16th century describing in verse the heroic deeds of a Dmitry Chuvash Narbekov shown by him in the course of the military campaigns against Kazan. He was badly injured first with a spear at the back, then he got an arrow hit just at his eye, and then, (what a fate!) when he tried to extract the arrow his arm was torn off with a cannon-ball. The hero was afterwards rewarded by the Tsar. The naive picture of his arms depicting his exploits is supposed to be the first coat of arms of untitled nobility in Russia.

- Borisov, I. V. **Cand. of Hist. At the Cradle of the Russian Patrimonial Heraldry** page 43

The author of the article, a known specialist in the field of Patrimonial Heraldry, used to work for a long time with valuable heraldic heritage in different archives. He tells the readers about how the heraldic authorities functioned in the course of history, and shows some interesting examples of the kind. For example, Empress Catherine the Great once granted nobility and a coat of arms to a 7-years-old boy who was the first person to be vaccinated against the smallpox.

- Kulakov, V. I. **Cand. of Hist. The Origin of the Coats of Arms of the Families "departed from the Prussians"** page 50

A considerable part of Russian Nobles used to point out Prussia as the native land of their remote ancestors. Many genealogists, however, were sceptical towards such kind of statements. But the recent researches proved rather definitely that they were true in most cases. The author shows some interesting archeological findings connected with the early heraldry, which were excavated in the Kaliningrad region, former East Prussia.

- Agafonova, E. A., M. D. Ivanova and V. K. Kazankov. **The Last Arms of the Russian Nobility** page 62

The authors are the honoured archivists, heads of different departments of the Russian State Historical Archives in St. Petersburg. I must admit that I was much impressed when reading their account which is written in a very lively language and featured with some interesting original sketch designs dated back to 1910s. From the article one can learn about the grants of arms made during the last few years of the monarchy and even during the short period from the February abdication of the Tsar till the Bolshevik October Revolution, when 61 coats of arms were produced and granted by the Department of Heraldry of the Senat. For example, Colonel Nicholas Kovalevsky applied for a grant of arms when he was in action at the German front line in 1917. As Colonel Kovalevsky was a Russian pioneer-aviator, so his arms were: Gules, a gerfalcon flying Argent, carrying in his claws an anchor Or. Crest: out of a ducal coronet a dexter arm vambraced proper, holding in the hand a sword Argent, hilted and pommelled Or. Mantling Gules, doubled Argent. Motto: UNFAILING.

By the way, the air cruiser under his command had the name "Gerfalcon".

The other examples shown are interesting as well.

- von Rickman, V. Y. **New Nobility Coats of Arms** page 78

An account about the activities of the Heraldry Department of the Russian Nobility Assembly under the high patronage of Her Imperial Highness The Grand Duchess Maria Vladimirovna at present.

- Civic Heraldry

- Naumov, K. V. **New Civic Coats of Arms in Russia** page 83

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The issue is dedicated to the Memory of Emperor-Martyr Nicholas II and his August Family.

TOWN OF BALGONIE
by Stuart G. C. Morris of Balgonie, Ygr., of Scotland

One of Scotland's greatest exports has been her people. Throughout the world the Scots have left their mark, by founding new settlements named after those that they had left bening. The Province of Saskatchewan, Canada, was clearly a favoured destination for Fifers. In one small corner (by Canadian standards) one will find a Fife Lake, and the Towns of Fife Lake, Marinch, Cupar, Dysart, Melville, Bethune, Balcarres, Abernethy and Balgonie.

The Town of Balgonie is situated fifteen miles to the east of the Provincial capital Regina. The exact date of the foundation of the settelement is uncertain, but the first Station Master was appointed in 1884. On the first of September 1907 the settlement was incorporated as a Town. The Town's administration were so proud of their Scottish links, that they used, as a logo, a Scottish thistle Imperially crowned and for a motto *Semper Vigilo*. However, after discovering that this was the badge of the Scottish Police Force, they decided to settle the matter. After taking advice from interested parties on both sides of the Atlantic, they approached the Chief Herald of Canada for a grant of Arms befitting their status. On the twentieth of January 1993 a Warrant was signed granting authority to the Chief Herald of Canada to grant Armorial bearings and a flag to the Town of Balgonie. The Letters Patent were signed on the fourth of June 1993, and entered in Volume II, page 248, of the Public Register of Arms, Flags and Badges of Canada.

Blazon; Quarterly first Vert a garb Or, second Argent a prairie lily Proper, third Argent a cross moline Gules quarter pierced, fourth Vert on a chevron Argent three roses Gules seeded Or between three swords (skeens or dirks) in pale Argent hilts in base Or, all within a bordure quarterly counter-changed. And for a crest upon a helmet mantled Vert doubled Argent within a wreath of these colours issuant from a mural crown Or masoned Vert bearing a freize of thistles Purpure and prairie lilies Proper a demi lion Gules holding a scythe Or. For supporters; on a field of grain Or, dexter a mare Argent seme of prairie lily flowers Proper, sinister a stallion Argent seme of crosses moline Gules quarter pierced. And for a motto *People Progress Prosperity*. And for a flag, Quarterly Vert and Argent at the centre the shield of the Arms of the Town of Balgonie.

The garb in the first quarter is taken from the Arms of the Province of Saskatchewan; Vert three garbs Or, on a chief of the Second a lion passant Gules. The Prairie Lily (Western Red Lily) in the second quarter is one of the Provincial badges or emblems. The thrid quarter is the Arms of Sibbald of Balgonie, and the fourth quarter is Morris of Balgonie and Eddergoll. These are the first recorded and the present Lairds of Balgonie, thus giving the Town of Balgonie over six hundred years of history. The lion in the crest comes from the Arms of the Province, as above, and the Kingdom of Scotland. This represents the Town's ties with Saskatchewan and Scotland. The scythe



Герб Канадского города Балгони,
основанного переселенцами из Шотландии

held by the lion illustrates the agricultural origins of the town. The colours of the mural crown, in itself representing a municipal body, are the Provincial livery colours of Or and Vert. The freize of thistles and lilies also show the town's allegiances to Saskatchewan and Scotland. The Town livery colours are also those of Morris of Balgonie and Eddergoll. The supporters and compartment are representations of the agricultural foundations of the town. The gender of the horses also loosely represent the men and women of Balgonie working together side by side for the benefit of the community. The motto is self explanatory.

The design of the flag is an unusual departure to what is normally used on this side of the Atlantic. The Arms in the centre fit neatly in to the counter-changed field of the town's liveries.

A full colour representation of these Arms are already used on the town administration's letter heads and envelopes, and a metal lapel badge, for the citizens of Balgonie to wear in demonstration of their civic pride.



Герб Стюарта Гордона К. Морриса Балгони Младшего
Arms of Stuart Gordon C. Morris of Balgonie, Ygr.