

PULVERTAFT PAPERS

A Newsletter on the Pulvertofts & Pulvertafts

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Editorial

This issue of Pulvertaft Papers is printed on a new press! Up to now they have been produced on an ancient Double Royal proofing press which has involved hand inking the type for each print; a time consuming process. The new addition to my print room is a treadle-operated Arab platen press - a beautiful old machine, all flywheels, pushrods and heavy moving parts. Once I have mastered some technicalities of the machine, it should enable me to provide a cleaner impression for future issues.

I have also introduced in this issue my first illustrations, produced on this occasion from photocopies of a British Library manuscript. The copies were transformed by a Hertfordshire firm into nylon line blocks, mounted to the height of printer's type so that they can be printed with text as they are on pages 60 and 61. As the firm also makes halftone blocks which are suitable for photographs, I may be able to include these in future issues. Watch these pages for the result of the trial.

Pulvertoft Heraldry

Several armorial bearings are attributed to the Pulvertoft family in the many reference books which are either devoted to or refer to heraldry, the two charges most regularly included being a mullet and three maces.

A "mullet" is the heraldic representation of a spur-wheel and is therefore normally shown with a hole in its centre (pierced). In most Pulvertoft arms it is described as being red (gules), it is surrounded by a border (orle) of blue (azure) fleurs-de-lis on a silver (argent) or gold (or) background. It is described in these terms in such books as *The General Armory* by Burke [Pulvertoft - Co. Lincoln 1640], *The History and Antiquities of Boston* by Pishey Thompson [Pulvertoft of Spalding 1641] and *Harleian Society Vol. LII*. A sketch of these arms is shown in the first quarter of the illustration on page 60 in which the Argent field is indicated by 'A', the gules mullet by 'g' and the Azure fleur-de-lis by 'B'.

The two sketches on pages 60 and 61 are reproduced from Harleian Manuscript No 1550 which is part of the British Library manuscript collection and one of the many documents which record the Heralds' Visitations of the 16th and 17th Centuries. A full description of the left hand illustration is given in *The Genealogist*, Vol. IV as:

"PULVERTOFTE - Quarterly,

1. Argent, a mullet pierced Gules an orle of eight fleurs-de-lis Azure (Pulvertoft);
2. Argent a lion rampant double queued Gules crowned Or. (St Paul);
3. Argent a fess between three (?) rooks sable (Snarford);
4. Argent a fess between three conies sable (Chambers)."

The Pulvertoft family tree drawn in Harleian MS

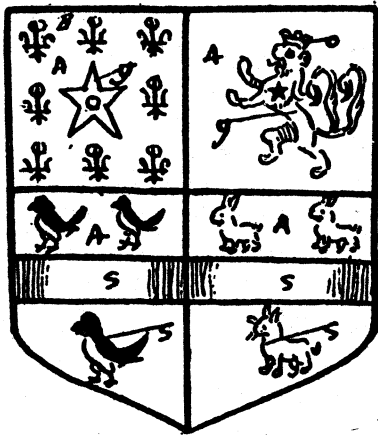
1550 and illustrated by the sketch on page 60, is that from which "The Pulvertofts of Boston and Whaplode" was developed. (Issue 1, pp 4 & 5) Robert Pulvertoft of Whaplode, gent. is credited with the quarterly arms in 1562 and the marriage of his father, Thomas, to Margaret St Paul of Snarford gives some indication of how such quarterly arms were created.

The illustration on page 61 is reproduced from the pedigree of the family of Bolle of Haugh which has in the third quarter: "Argent, three maces Sable - Pulvertoft" It appears from the associated pedigree to have been included in the Bolle arms as a result of the marriage between Raulph Bolle to Catherin dau. and heire of John Pulvertoft in the 14th century. Three maces sable have also been attributed to the Pulvertoft family in the parish church of St Mary Whaplode (*History of Boston* by Pishey Thompson and *St Mary Whaplode* by Foster), and in Algarkirk church between 1634 and 1642 (*Lincs. Record Soc. Vol 1*). They were also recorded in Boston church as the second quarter of 16 in the arms of Richard Bolle of Haugh who died in 1591 (*Lincs. Record Soc. Vol 31*)

While at first these may look like different branches of the family, Harleian MS 1484 suggests otherwise as it includes a sketch which is identical to the quarterly Pulvertoft arms shown overleaf, except that the mullet and fleurs-de-lis are replaced with "Argent, 3 maces sable"! The arms are again attributed to Robert Pulvertoft of Whaplode, 1562.

Heraldic confusion perhaps, but also an indicator for further work as it must point to a line from the 16th and 17th century Pulvertofts to those of 18th century Spalding (p 55).

Pulvertoft Heraldry



1. *Pulvertoft*
2. *St Paule*
3. *Snarford*
4. *Chambers*

(Both illustrations are reproduced by permission of the British Library.)



1. *Boll*
2. *Goddard*
3. *Pulvertofte*
4. *Angevayne*
5. *Alderby*
6. *Haugh*
7. *Bell*
8. *Holland*
9. *Harte of London*

The Pulvertafts of South Africa

Three generations of Pulvertafts live in South Africa, all descended from Herbert Adams Pulvertaft (M84Q) and shown in Issue 4 of Pulvertaft Papers. Most of the information on this branch of the family has been provided by his son, Arthur Stanley Pulvertaft who lives in Florida, Transvaal and who has been a regular correspondent since receiving the early copies of this newsletter.

Herbert Adams Pulvertaft was born on 23 Jan. 1878, the eldest son of James Pulvertaft (M08P) of 64 South Main St., Cork and was baptised at St Nicholas, Cork. He joined the Irish Fusiliers and went with them to South Africa during the Anglo-Boer War. He bought his discharge there and entered the mining industry, for two years with the East Rand Mine and then the Robinson Central Deep Gold Mine between 1903 and 1909 when it became No 1 Shaft, Crown Mines. He was married in 1910 at Fordsbury, Johannesburg to Eliza Johnson, a widow (nee Hosking, born in Cumberland). He worked in the cyanide plant until he retired in 1938. He died 8 November 1948.

They had only one child, Arthur Stanley Pulvertaft (M94R) who was born and baptised in 1910 at Fordsbury. Stanley served his apprenticeship in the Crown Mines and worked there as an electrical engineer and an official until his retirement in 1962. When 26 years old he married Annie Roux, a widow (nee Alexander and born in Cape Province) at the same church in Fordsbury. Annie suffered from poor health for a number of years before she died on 1 April 1984 as was recorded in Issue 6 of these Papers.

Stanley & Annie had 3 children, Herbert Alexander - born 9 August 1938, Neville Stanley - born 30 January 1940 and Cynthia Ann - born 6 May 1942. Herbert, who

also served an electrical apprenticeship at Crown Mines, married Carol Osborne on 4 April 1964, Cynthia married Graham Douglas Hargrave Wagner on 11 July 1964, while Neville has a disability which will not allow him to marry.

Herbert and Carol have three children; Lesley Jean - born 16 April 1966, Karen Louise - born 3 October 1968 and Sandra Colleen - born 13 March 1970 who comprise the fourth and final generation of South African Pulvertafts.

Apart from his many informative and supportive letters, Stanley Pulvertaft has sent me copies of a number of the records of his family, including:

Birth Certificates for: Annie Alexander, daughter of Robert Alexander (diamond miner, born in England) & Jane Bowes (born in England) born 5 June 1904 at 33 Merriman St, Kimberley, Cape of Good Hope. Neville Stanley Pulvertaft, born 30 Jan. 1940 at the Florence Nightingale Nursing Home, Johannesburg.

Baptism Certificates for: Herbert Adams Pulvertaft, son of James & Agnes Pulvertaft of 64 South Main St, Cork, born 23 Jan., bapt. 28 Feb. 1878 at St Nicholas Cork. Annie Alexander 14 Jan. 1909 at the Baptist Union Ch. Kimberley. Arthur Stanley Pulvertaft, son of Herbert Adams & Eliza born 1 Nov. & bapt. 18 Dec. 1910 at the Wesleyan Methodist Church, Fordsbury, Johannesburg.

Marriage Certificates for: Herbert Adams Pulvertaft & Eliza Johnson, 5 March 1910 at Fordsbury, both said to be of the Robinson Central Deep Gold Mine. Arthur Stanley Pulvertaft & Annie Roux, 10 July 1937 at the Methodist Church of South Africa, Fordsbury.

Stanley has also sent portrait photographs of his father - Herbert Adams, his grandfather - James and "The Pulvertaft Sisters", a group of six of his aunts!

Notes and Queries

Several readers have asked about the Almen Rivetts which were said to be carried by Rob Pulvertopp in the muster roll of Iwerne Minster (Issue 7, page 51). A most useful booklet - 'A Glossary of Household, Family and Trade Terms from Probate Inventories' published by the Derbyshire Record Society includes "Almayne Rivettes - light armour made flexible by overlapping plates sliding on rivets. Invented in Germany during the reign of Henry VIII and imported into England by German armourers."

Errata and Additions

My thanks to Richard Hillier, Local Studies Librarian at Peterborough for pointing out that the church at Peterborough in which the monument to Ann, John and Mary Pulvertoft may be found is dedicated to St John the Baptist and not St Margaret as was stated on page 55 of the last issue.

Further work on the Bishop's Transcripts for Swineshead has provided extra information to that shown on pages 44 & 45 of Issue 6. Two of the children of Simon and Cicelie were buried at Swineshead; Harry on 2 Feb 1619, Toby on 17 April 1619, and Harry's wife Rachell on 29 Oct 1620. In the final generation, Ann married Francis Reade, labourer, on 26 Nov 1612, Rose married Christopher Tarry in June 1606, Mary married Eustes Lincoln on 25 June 1620 and it was not Elizabeth who married Miles Melton but a fourth sister, Ellen in 1612.

Obituary

It is with deep regret that the death is recorded of Vera Gertrude Gosnell, nee Pulvertaft, on 1st March 1984 in Cork.