XXIII. *Description of the Great Seal of Queen Catherine Parr, the sixth Wife of Henry VIII. from an Impression in the Collection of Gustavus Brander, Esq; F. R. and A. S. S. By Mr. Brooke of the Herald's College, F. S. A.*

Read May 15, 1777.

DEAR SIR,

THE extreme elegance of the sculpture of the royal seal*, the impression of which you favoured me with a sight of, joined to the circumstance of its being as yet unpublished, has induced me to cause a drawing to be made of it, which, with the following description, you may probably think worth communicating to the Society of Antiquaries.

It belonged to Queen *Katherine Parr*[a], the sixth and last wife of King Henry VIII. and is thus described: “ MAG-
“ NUM SIGILLŪ DNE KATHERINÆ REGIÆ AGLIÆ,
“ FRANCIÆ et HERBINIÆ;” and represents only one armorial ensigns of that lady, with supporters, and surmounted with the imperial diadem.

* Pl. XIX.

[a] There is a print of her by Vermeulen, from a portrait by Vanderwerff, Granger I. 58.

THIS

Great Seal of Q. Catharine Parr.

p. 367.

Great Seal of Q. Mary d Este 2^d Wife of James II.

THIS Queen, whose history had no inconsiderable share in the annals of her time, was born at Kendal Castle in Westmoreland, and was the daughter of Sir Thomas Parr, of Kendal, knight, by Maud his wife, daughter and coheir of Sir Thomas Green, of Green's Norton in Northamptonshire. She was first married to Edward Borough, eldest son and heir-apparent of Thomas, Lord Borough [*b*], 2dly, to John Nevile, Lord Latimer, 3dly, at Hampton Court, July 12, 1543, to King Henry VIII. and lastly, to Thomas Lord Seymour, of Sudley [*c*]. She has been described by our historians, as a woman of great beauty, adorned with many excellent virtues, especially humility, the beauty of all others [*d*], and though twice a widow, retained so many charms, as captivated the fickle Henry, who advanced her to the highest rank a woman could enjoy in this kingdom; and as his wife she conducted herself with such uncommon prudence as saved her from the unhappy fate which befel several of her predecessors. After the death of this prince she became the wife of Thomas Lord Seymour, of Sudley, brother of Edward Duke of Somerset, Lord Protector to Edward VI. whose second wife being of a subtle, haughty disposition, was highly offended that the wife of her husband's younger brother, though the Queen-Dowager, should precede her, which occasioned much trouble to the state in general, and to this family in particular. This Queen, having made her will, dated Sept. 5,

[*b*] Almost all other writers concur in the mistake of calling this person Edward Lord Borough, or Burgh. But the fact is that this title was first bestowed on his father Thomas, who died 1550, 20 H. VI. I.

[*c*] Sandford's Geneal. History by Stebbing, p. 440.

[*d*] Hayward's life of Edw. VI.

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1541, 2 Edw. VI. [*e*] in which she bequeathed all her goods and chattels to her husband, died shortly after in child-bed at Sudley castle in Gloucestershire, not without suspicion of having been poisoned, to make room for her husband's intended second marriage with the princess Elizabeth, afterwards Queen. She lies buried in Sudley church, where, I am informed, not the least memorial was placed over her.

ON the baron side of the escutcheon are the arms of Henry VIII. France quartering England, and the royal supporter, the lion guardant crowned; on the femme side, the arms of Katherine Parr, quarterly of six, the augmentation granted by Henry to this Queen, Argent on a pile between six red roses, three others white [*f*]. Henry was exceeding kind in giving arms to his wives, though he deprived them of their heads, and we find four of them particularly distinguished in this manner; Anne Bulleyn, Jane Seymour, Katherine Howard, and Katherine Parr. These augmentations were granted as an especial mark of favour to those families which the King had honoured with his alliance, and were composed of some of his royal ensigns, as this to Queen Katherine, of red and white roses, the badges of the houses of York and Lancaster, and they were always marshalled in the first place, before the paternal coat, as in this seal, *ob reverentiam munificentiae regalis*. The Seymour family have continued to quarter their augmentation to the present time, and it is now borne by the Duke of Somerset, and the Earl of Hertford; but the noble house of Howard, whether from their having a right to quarter the royal arms, prior to the marriage of Henry, with the female of their family, or, from the ill usage she received at his hands, did not continue theirs.

[*e*] Test. Probat. Dec. 6, 1548.

[*f*] 2 G. 4-99 in Collegio Armor.

THE 2d quartering of two barrs, and a bordure ingrailed, is the paternal coat of *Parr*. The 3d, three water-bougets, *Rofs* of *Kendal*. Sir William Parr, an ancestor of the family, married Elizabeth, daughter and heir of John, son and heir-apparent of Thomas, Lord Rofs of Kendal[g], with whom he had the barony and castle of Kendal in Westmoreland, afterwards made the chief seat of the family, and where Queen Katherine was born, as has been observed. The 4th quartering is *Marmion*, the 5th *Fitz-Hugh*; Sir William Parr, of Kendal, knight of the garter, grandfather to Katherine, married Elizabeth, daughter to Henry, and aunt and coheir to George, Lords Fitz-Hugh of Ravenfworth, by which the family came into a moiety of the large estate of that name; Alice her sister, wife of Sir John Fines, knight, ancestor of Thomas, now Lord Dacre, having the other; and Henry Lord Fitz-Hugh, an ancestor of the family had married Elizabeth, daughter and heir of Robert Grey, Lord Marmion [b]. The 6th quartering, three bucks at gaze, is *Green*, the mother of Katherine being Maud, daughter and coheir of Sir Thomas Green, of Green's-Norton in Northamptonshire, knight.

WITH regard to the sinister supporter on the seal, I must profess myself absolutely at a loss either to discover what animal it is designed for, or how it comes to be used there. It does not appear to have been any of the royal badges, or the *beast* (for so supporters were anciently called) of the Parr family; William, Marquis of Northampton, brother of Queen Katherine, used on the dexter side a buck, on the sinister a wyvern [i], both extremely different from this animal. It may probably

[g] V. 212. 123. and 369. in Colleg. Armor.

[b] Dugd. Baron. vol. I. p. 405. and 724.

[i] 2 H. 6—19. in Colleg. Armor.

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afford amusement to such members of the Society as are
skilled in Zoology to discover it.

As the funeral of this princess has been hitherto unpublished,
I have sent, for your entertainment, the procession, from my col-
lection of ceremonials, N^o VI. originally copied from a book in
the Cotton library.

FUNERAL of QUEEN KATHERINE PARR.

“ A BREVIA TE of th’entirement of the Ladye Katheryn Parre,
“ Quene Dowager, late wife to Kinge Henrye theight, and afte
“ wiefe to Sir Thomas Lord Seymer of Sudeley, and highe Ad-
“ myrall of Englund.

“ ITEM, on Wenysdaye the vth of Septembre, between ij and iij
“ of the Clocke in the morninge died the aforesaid Ladye, late
“ Quene Dowager at the Castle of Sudley in Glocestreshyre, 1548,
“ and lyeth buried in the Chapell of the seid Castle.

“ ITEM, she was cearid and cheftid in leade accordinglie, and
“ so remaynid in her pryvie Chambre untill things were in a
“ redyness.

“ Herafter followethe the pvision in the Chappell.

“ ITEM, hit was hangid with blacke clothe garnishid with
“ Schoocheons of maryagys, viez, Kinge Henrye th’eight and her
“ in payle undre the Crowne, her owne in lozenge undre the
“ Crowne, also tharmes of the Lorde Admyrall and hers in pale
“ without Crowne.

“ ITEM, Rayles covered withe blacke clothe for the mourners
“ to fytt in with stooles and cufsheons accordinglie, without eyther
“ Herffe mat^{ie}, valence, or tapres, savinge ij tapres wheron were ij
“ Scoocheons w^{ch} stode uppon the Corps duringe the Servyce.

“ Th’ordre

“ Th’ordre in proceadinge to the Chappell.

- “ Fyrst ij conductors in blacke with blacke staves.
“ Then Gentlemen and Esquiers.
“ Then Knights.
“ Then Offycers of Houshold with their whyte Staves.
“ Then the Gentlemen Huifshers.
“ Then Somersfet Heralde in the K’s Cote.
“ Then the Corps borne by vi Gentlemen in blacke Gownes with
“ their Hodes on their Heades.
“ Then xl staffe Torches borne on eche side by yeomen rounde
“ aboute the corps, and at eche corner a Knyght for assistance
“ with their hodes on theyre heades.
“ Then the Ladye Jane, Daughter to the Lorde Marquis of Dor-
“ sett, Chiefe Mourner, led by an estate, her trayne borne uppe
“ by a yonge Ladye[k].
“ Then vi other Ladie Mourners, ij and ij.
“ Then all Ladies and Gentlemen, ij and ij.
“ Then Yeomen, iij and iij in a ranke.
“ Then all other followinge.

“ The Manner of the Service in the Church.

“ ITEM, when the Corps was sett within the Rayles and the
“ mourners placid, the hole Quere began and sange certain Salmes
“ in Englishe and reade iij lessons; and aftre the iij^{de} lesson the
“ mourners accordinge to theyre degrees, and as yt ys accustomed,
“ offerid into the Almes boxe, and when they hadde don, all other,
“ as Gentlemen, or Gentlewomen, that wolde.

[k] This was the unfortunate Lady Jane Grey, daughter of Henry Grey, Marquis of Dorset, afterwards Duke of Suffolk, beheaded in the reign of Queen Mary.

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“ THE Offeringe don, Doctor Coverdall, the Quene’s Almner,
“ began his Sermonde, whiche was verie good and godlie, and in
“ one place therof he took an occasion to declare unto the people
“ howe that there shulde none there thinke, feye, nor spreade
“ abroad, that the offeringe which was there don, was don anye
“ thing to pffytt the deade, but for the poore onelye ; And also the
“ lights which were caried and stode abowt the Corps, were for
“ honnour of the parsson, and for none other entente, nor purpose ;
“ And so wente thorowghe with hys Sermonde and made a god-
“ lye prayer ; And th’ole Church aunsfwerid and praied the fame
“ with hym in th’ende.

“ THE Sermonde don, the Corps was buried, duringe which
“ tyme the Quere songe Te Deum in Englishe.

“ AND this don, afre dynner, the mourners and the rest that
“ wolde returnid homewarde agayne, all which aforefaid was don
“ in a mornynge.”

I am, Sir,

Your most obedient humble Servant,

J. C. BROOKE.

Herald’s College, 29th April, 1777.

XXIV. *A De-*