

hidden him in a church steeple, from which it was difficult to induce the animal to come down, until left to take his own time. Another legend says that the monkey rescued the heir at a time when the house was on fire. The arms of Sir John Herschell were a telescope and a terrestrial sphere, indicative of their derivation. The arms and motto of the Torrance family (that of two oars, crossed, and the words : "I have saved the King!"), refer to the incident in the life of Robert Bruce, when, at a time when he was pursued by his enemies, he was rescued by two men of the above name, who rowed him across a river in their boat. The bearings of the Marquis of Lansdowne are in evidence of the arctic explorations of his celebrated ancestor, Sir William Petty. And thus it is with many other escutcheons of old families in Great Britain and in Ireland.

Still, there are instances when the crest or arms are bestowed by the Herald's College without much regard to the appropriateness thereof, so far as their armorial meaning is concerned. It is on record that a certain worthy citizen of London applied to the officials of the College to be allowed to use a crest, and, upon getting their consent, he requested that it be a clump or row of spears tied together. On being asked if this was in reference to some deed of valor performed by an ancestor, he said :—"No ; but they looked so much like *the iron railing of his front fence!*" Another individual, living in the same old city, was anxious to have for his crest—a pile of cannon-balls. On enquiry as to the reason for this warlike trophy, he replied that he had just seen them as he came through the park, and thought that "they would do *as well as anything!*"

In our everyday life we see emblems on all sides ; scarcely a newspaper is printed without containing cuts of various emblems, and nearly everyone knows what is meant by the sign of the "compass," the "three links," and

the "deer's head," while the "red triangle," the "three stars," and the "XXX" are commercial symbols which are supposed to become obsolete when the government evinces a desire to enforce a prohibition measure! Whenever a society, club, association, or any organization—be it of a sectarian, literary, military or commercial character—is formed, about the first thing done is to get the official sheets, note paper and envelopes stamped with a "crest" or "arms." This is a *sine qua non* ; and, though the club may eventually go the way of all ephemeral things, it must not be omitted. (The arms of some of these concerns are often *supported* by the bailiff and sheriff—dexter and sinister !)

Nothing of an emblematic character has played a more conspicuous part in the history of the world than the flag; for, whether it has been as an armorial pennant of the knights-errant of the olden times, or as the national standard of later days, it has been representative of the integrity of a community, or the honor of a country. Great as have been the changes in the many costumes worn by civilized humanity, there have been no less alterations in the ensigns, or banners, belonging to the various nations. The Egyptians carried staves on which were figures of sacred animals and birds, "feather-symbols," or tablets ; while the Persians bore aloft an eagle, or the image of the sun (their emblem of religion) on a lance. These staff-ornaments in barbaric lands were usually—serpents, dragons, sea monsters and wild beasts. The Romans began the system of a regular code, and this was the origin of personal, or heraldic, devices and national insignia. The Roman soldier, we are told, "swore by his ensign." The Bayeaux tapestry, descriptive of the battle of Hastings, shows many little flags of different shapes ; some of these are supposed to designate the "trophies torn from the shields of the Normans," by the Saxons. The standard of William the Conqueror was