

The Science of Heraldry

*Crests and
Coats of Arms*

THE Science of Heraldry is becoming better known in Canada every year, but greater interest should be shown in the subject than, we believe, exists. It is a science full of dignity, and there are few more interesting studies.

The stamping of note paper with one's crest or coat of arms is coming more in vogue each year. Families whose earliest ancestors in this country, nine or ten generations ago, brought here a coat of arms on book plates, parchments or old silver, may be pretty sure that they have a right to bear arms.

People who through recent researches have become well assured that to some ancestor in Europe in the fourteenth, fifteenth or sixteenth century, arms were granted, have likewise a right to them. Those who have a right to arms must observe the following rules: Coats of arms may be used on automobiles, carriages, and on any part of the harness of horses where arms are ever placed, but crests only may be placed on the buttons of servants' liveries and horses' blinkers.

As a general note to the subject of coat armor it may be mentioned that no woman (save a sovereign) can either bear, inherit or transmit a crest, motto, helmet or a mantling. This rule is, and always has been enforced; but, however, in Canada it is continually violated.

Married women are allowed to assume the escutcheons of their husbands, and unmarried women those of their fathers. In every case, save that of a sovereign, they are enclosed in a lozenge or diamond-shaped shield.

A widow may bear the quartered arms without the crest on a lozenge, but her children will have no right to anything beyond the paternal coat and the quarterings inherited with it.

Our complete library of heraldic reference books will be found of considerable use in assisting our customers to trace their coats of arms, and we gladly furnish drawings where necessary, together with estimates for the cost of engraving. Coats of arms, illuminated for framing, beautifully finished, are to be had in our stationery department at prices which are surprisingly reasonable.

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