

The Blandford Coat of Arms

Transcript of original text (as much as was legible)

TO ALL AND SINGULAR

unto who all these presents shall come Sir EDWARD WALKER Knight Garter \\\ Principall King of Armes of Englishmen Sendeth Greeting WHEREAS in all Christian Kingdomes and Commonwealths the use and Bearing of Signes and tokens in \ Shieldes commonly called Armes hath been for many ages and still is in high honor and esteeme they being frequently assigned not only to distinguish such persons as have by their Virtue, Courage, Fidelity, Learning and great abilities justly merited of their Prince and Country from the vulgar and inferior people but as proper rewards and marks of honor whilest they *** and as fit inducements to incite their posterity to imitate their ancestors from whence they derive their fame in all Nobleness and Virtue.

In which respect seeing the Right Reverend Father in God D^r WALTER BLANDFORD hath by all degrees of Learning arrived to be Warden of Wadham College and lately as a peculiar reward of his Virtue, Loyalty and Great Abilities was elected and consecrated Lord Bishop of the Diocese of OXFORD. He doeth thereupon rightly merit to have such armes assigned him as may be proper testimonies unto posterity. KNOW YEE therefore that I the said S^r EDWARD WALKER Knight Garter Principall King of Armes by the power and authority annexed unto my office of Garter and confirmed unto me by Letters *** under the Great Seal of ENGLAND Doe hereby give grant and assign to the undersaid Right Reverend Father in God WALTER BLANDFORD Lord Bishop of OXFORD as also unto brothers JOHN, Robert and THOMAS BLANDFORD all sons of WALTER BLANDFORD of MELBURY in the county of DORSET who was a person of good respect and esteeme and to all Descendents forever the COAT of Armes and Crest hereafter mentioned.

** party per chevron sable and or in cheife 3 crosses pate* of the second and for his Crest upon an Helmet proper mantlet gules doubled argent + Wreath of his colours. A *** the wings erected azure beaked gules on the breast a' patee or As in the margin thereof more finely is depicted the Armes and Crest of the said Right Reverend Father in God WALTER BLANDFORD Lord Bishop of OXFORD as likewise his brothers John, Robert and Thomas Blandford and the severall descendents of their bodyes forever lawfully begotten bearing their due and proper differences may and shall lawfully and according to the Law and practice of Armes use reare and set forth at all times and upon all occasions without the least dispute or interruption of any person whosoever. IN WITNESS whereof I have hereunto subscribed my name and affixed the seale of my office this twelfth day of December in the 17th year in the raigne of our Sovereign Lord CHARLES the 2nd by the grace of God King of England Scotland France and Ireland.

December Twelfth Anno Domini 1665

(Signed) E Walker Garter