

# **COURT MANUAL OF DIGNITY AND PRECEDENCE**

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Court manual of dignity and precedence by Anonymous

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**ANONYMOUS**

**COURT MANUAL  
OF DIGNITY AND  
PRECEDENCE**



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OF  
DIGNITY AND PRECEDENCE.

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CONTAINING  
A Series Ordinum,  
TABLE OF PRECEDENCY,  
AND CHAPTER  
OF  
ARMORIAL INCIDENTS, HONORARY STYLES,  
AND  
CHIVALROUS INSIGNIA.

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LONDON:  
THOMAS BOSWORTH, 215 REGENT STREET.  
1849.

"If baseness be exalted, do not hate  
The place its honour for the person's sake ;  
The shrine is that which thou dost venerate,  
And not the beast that bears it on his back."



INSCRIBED  
TO THE MOST NOBLE AND HONOURABLE  
*The Barons*  
FORMING THE COMMITTEE OF THE ORDER FOR  
PRIVILEGES.

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TO WHOSE EXERTIONS SINCE MAY MDCCCLXXXV  
IT IS MAINLY OWING THAT  
THE BARONETAGE HAS BEEN REPLACED  
OF  
THE ORIGINAL EXCELLENCE  
OF  
ITS CHARTERED FOUNDATION,  
AND  
A RENEWED DESIRE CREATED  
WHAT OF THE  
HERALDIC INCIDENTS AND CHIVALROUS DISTINCTIONS  
OF  
THE NOBILITY HIGHER AND LESSER  
IT MAY BE SAID  
INTAMINATIS FULGENT HONORIBUS.



**ARMS**  
**OF A BRITISH BARONET**  
AS REGULATED BY  
**THE COMMITTEE OF THE ORDER FOR PRIVILEGES.**



## PREFACE.

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THE recent appearance in the City of a little work entitled "Who's Who?" has suggested the publication of this brochure to show in matters of dignity and precedence, "WHAT'S WHAT." Upon questions of civil and political nobility, courtesy styles, heraldic incidents, &c., there still prevails in Society great and general misapprehension. The author flatters himself that these few pages will be found to contain *multum in parvo* upon the points referred to. And the brochure will serve the purpose intended if it shall enable such future Prince Puckler Muskau as may come to England and publish a book of gossip to pay their travelling expenses, to understand that they do not confer an honour upon "a House of *low rank*" when they happen to dine at a Baronet's table; that it

is not only great ignorance, but great impertinence, to fancy that in England "only the Peers' Families are accounted NOBLE;" and that the observation, "the ranks from Baronet downwards belong only to the Gentry, a word which on the Continent may be best translated by *Honoratiore*," is as absurd as it would be to suppose that the mediatised Princes of Bonaparte manufacture, and the new-baked Counts and Barons of the petty German dynasties, stand upon a level with the HAUTE NOBLESSE of the British Monarchy.

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“ THE PRIMOGENITIVE, AND DUE OF BIRTH,  
PREROGATIVE OF AGE, CROWNS, SCEPTRES, LAURELS,  
BUT BY DEGREE STAND IN AUTHENTIC PLACE.”

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**SERIES ORDINUM.**

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IN the united monarchies of Great Britain and Ireland, as in all the other royal and imperial states in Europe, the Families constituting the ARISTOCRACY are divided into two classes, namely, the Nobiles Majores, and the Nobiles Minores.

The Nobiles Majores, or HIGH NOBILITY, com-