

**AN INQUIRY AS TO THE
ARMORIAL INSIGNIA OF
THE CITY OF GLASGOW**

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An Inquiry as to the Armorial Insignia of the City of Glasgow by A. Macgeorge

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A. MACGEORGE

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THE CITY OF GLASGOW**

AN INQUIRY

AS TO

The Armorial Insignia

OF THE

CITY OF GLASGOW.



GLASGOW:
PRINTED FOR PRIVATE CIRCULATION.
MDCCLXVI.

To the HONOURABLE JOHN BLACKIE, JUN., LORD PROVOST
OF GLASGOW.

MY DEAR LORD PROVOST,

In the following pages you have the result of the inquiry which at your request I undertook to make as to the Armorial Insignia of the City of Glasgow. I am but too sensible how little I have been able, amid the interruptions of professional engagements, to do justice to the subject; but I trust that the materials which I have been able to bring together may prove of use in settling the question at issue. Above all, I trust that others may be induced to go more fully into the investigation of the early history of the City than, from the limited nature of my subject, I felt myself entitled to do. The field is a wide and a tempting one, and I am satisfied that the early history of Glasgow has yet to be written.

I remain,

MY DEAR LORD PROVOST,

Faithfully yours,

A. MACGEORGE.

GLENARN, 3rd September, 1866.

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ERRATA.

Page 61, *for* Archbishop Cameron, *read* Bishop Cameron.

Page 118, *for* counter unit, *read* counter saint.

Page 135, *for* abridged, *read* abridged.

INQUIRY

As to the

Armorial Insignia of Glasgow.



T must appear strange that towards the end of the nineteenth century, it should remain matter for inquiry, What are the armorial bearings of the City of Glasgow? Yet so it is. At the present moment arms professing to be those of the City are represented in at least three different ways on official seals now in use, while among older examples there occur still further varieties in the blazon. Heraldry indeed, to which an almost religious attachment was avowed by our ancestors, appears to have become nearly an obsolete science among us,—not from indifference to heraldic distinction, but because it has ceased in a great measure to form a branch of study. Our civic rulers have at no time held that the maintenance of the distinctions of rank is inconsistent with civil liberty, or that loyalty to the throne, and the respect due to civic dignity, are in any way lessened by surrounding the sovereign, and the nobility, and our ancient corporations, with those insignia of rank and authority of which heraldic distinctions have at all times formed so prominent a part. We shall find, accordingly, that Glasgow