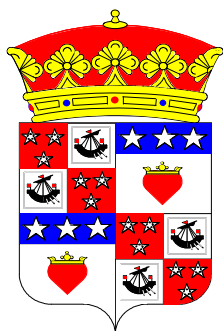


Hamilton and Brandon



Description of Arms :

Quarterly : 1st and 4th grand quarters counter-quartered, 1st and 4th gules, three cinque foils ermine, Hamilton ; 2nd and 3rd argent, a lymphad with sails furred proper, flagged gules, Arran ; 2nd and 3rd grand quarters, argent a man's heart gules, ensigned with an imperial crown proper, on a chief azure, three mullets of the first, Douglas.

Principal Title : Duke of Hamilton, Duke of Brandon.

Creation : Scotland (1643), Great Britain (1711).

Subsidiary Titles : Marquis of Douglas and of Clydesdale, Earl of Arran and Cambridge, Angus, Lanark, Lord Abernethy and Jedburgh Forest, Lord Aven Polmont, Machansire and Innerdale, etc ...

Family Name : Douglas-Hamilton.

Family History : This very distinguished Scottish family first came to prominence in 1358, when William Douglas was created Earl of Douglas. He married Lady Margaret Stewart, who became Countess of Angus in her own right. The earldom of Douglas, as with others in these turbulent times, was attainted in 1455. Their son, in 1389, obtained his mother's titles and, when he married the daughter of King Robert III, he was also granted considerable lands.

There then followed eventful lives for their successors, who married into English and Scottish royal families and allied themselves to other great chieftains. The family, at the same time, was becoming increasingly powerful. The 11th Earl was created Marquis of Douglas in 1633.

Meanwhile, the 3rd Marquis of Hamilton (the Dukes of Abercorn are descended from the same family) was created 1st Duke of Hamilton, in 1643, with remainder to his sons -or failing male issue - to his brother and then his sister. The first duke was beheaded and his brother William died soon afterwards in the Battle of Worcester. So the sister, Anne, eventually succeeded and married the first Earl of Selkirk, heir to the Douglasses. The earl was created Duke of Hamilton for life. The duchess then surrendered her titles to her eldest son, who received a novodamus of most of the family titles, the dukedom to have precedence from 1643, when it had first been created. He was also created Duke of Brandon but ended his life the following year, 1712, killed in a duel.

With his son, life became more routine and, in 1864, the 12th Duke was granted the Dukedom of Chatellerault in France, by imperial decree. The Hamilton family had already possessed this title in the XVI Century and the 11th Marquis of Abercorn assumed the style before being created Duke of Abercorn in 1868.

The Duke of Hamilton is the premier peer of Scotland.

Hamilton and Brandon

3rd son of the 2nd
Earl of Arran

William, 1st Earl of Douglas
= **Margaret Stewart, Countess of Angus**

