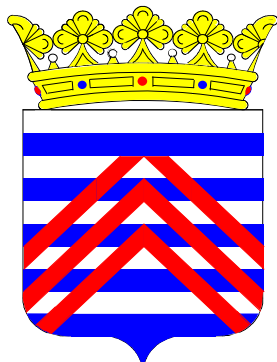


La Roche-Guyon



Description of Arms :

Burelé d'argent et d'azur à trois chevrons de gueules, celui du chef écimé.

Principal Title : Duke de La Roche-Guyon.

Creation : France, 1679.

Subsidiary Titles : Count de La Rochefoucauld.

Family Name : La Rochefoucauld de La Roche-Guyon.

Family History : This title was created, originally, in favour of François VIII de la Rochefoucauld (see that name). He had already been created Duke de la Rochefoucauld in 1622. François was succeeded by his son Alexandre, the following year. Alexandre had only two daughters, known as Mesdemoiselles de la Rochefoucauld and de la Roche-Guyon. The titles then went to a cousin, strictly speaking under a new creation, which complicates the numbering.

Later, Alfred de la Rochefoucauld (1819-1883) took the title of Roche-Guyon. However, although this was with the agreement of the head of his family, it was not "regularised" by the monarch. It should be noted that, while the title of "Prince" in France is of a relatively fluid nature, that of "Duke" is very carefully supervised. And, while it is not uncommon, in families of this level, for minor titles to be passed onto to junior branches, this is not in accordance with the strictest interpretation of the rules in France. It should be further noted, however, that no-one has seriously objected to this branch of the family using this style.

A further point worth mentioning is that descendance of the main title of this illustrious family, Duke de la Rochefoucauld, is not on very secure ground and there is, therefore, a strong possibility that it will, in due course pass into the Roche-Guyon branch - where there are an abundance of potential heirs.

Gilbert, father of the present duke, married Princess Hélène de la Tremoille the sister of the last duke of that name. The marriage was dissolved, with the accord of the Holy See. The family has frequently made alliances of great distinction.

La Roche-Guyon

