

The Harleian Society



The Visitation of London begun in 1687

Edited by

T C Wales
C P Hartley

*NEW SERIES
VOLUMES 16 & 17*

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THE VISITATION OF LONDON BEGUN IN 1687

Since its foundation in 1869, the Harleian Society has published many heraldic and genealogical manuscripts, and its volumes are much used by historians and genealogists, both amateur and professional. Our next edition will be *The Visitation of London begun in 1687*, a record of the Visitation of London made by Sir Henry St George, Clarenceux King of Arms. This was the last of the Heralds' Visitations of England and Wales, which were surveys made under Royal Commission in the 16th and 17th centuries to establish that arms were borne with proper authority and to register the descents of armigerous families. The original manuscript is held by the College of Arms, and includes detailed pedigrees of 259 leading London families, with sketches of their arms.

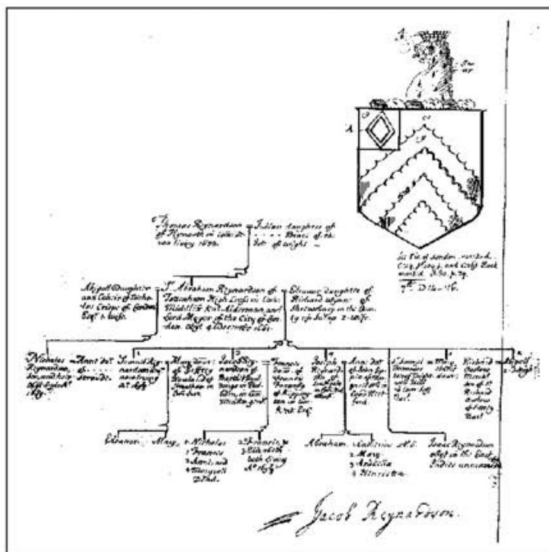


This edition is a most important work of reference for political and business historians, biographers, family researchers and anyone concerned with the social evolution of the City of London. It consists of two volumes, each of about 400 pages, giving edited transcripts of the pedigrees and lists of over 1,800 citizens whom the Heralds intended to visit. Supplementary information is included from two contemporary note-books prepared by the Heralds who worked on the Visitation, one of whom was Gregory King (1648-1712), who was not only a Herald but an engraver, cartographer and pioneer demographer.

The editors are Mr Timothy Wales, a former Research Editor of the new *Oxford Dictionary of National Biography*, who has also written on the social history of late 17th century London, and Miss Carol Hartley, a research assistant at the College of Arms.

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Sample of the original Visitation manuscript:



Sample of the final page proofs:

THE VISITATION OF LONDON BEGUN IN 1687 15

p. 10

RUDGE

Turners Hall in Philpot St. Andrew Lower Precinct
Lane Saturday 25 Jun. 1687. Billingsgate Ward.

ARMS: *A Cross engrailed impaling A Bend wavy between two Hobbies close (all uninctured)*

CREST: *On a Wreath Two Arms embowed vested and cuffed the hands holding an Escutcheon (all uninctured)*

A Paper Trick exhibited of these Arms for Rudge and Hobby (but in reality the Coat of Hobbes) and nothing appearing in the Vis. of London C.24 fo. 380a. where a Descent of Rudge (from Worcestershire) is entred, to peice this Pedegree to that Family, the Arms of Rudge cannot be allowed without further Proof.¹

I. ARTHUR RUDGE of Cirencester in Com. Glouc. descended out of Worcestershire *marid. ... daughter of ... Powell and bad issue*

II. JAMES RUDGE Citizen and Inholder of London obiit a^o. 1658 aetat. circ. 56 Eldest Son *marid.* Christian daughter of Michael Sharpe of Cirencester in Co. Glouc. *and bad issue*

1. James *follows* III
2. John Rudge² Parson of St. Mary Aldermay in London died about 1680 *marid.* Elizabeth daur. of ... Stummy of London Grocer *and bad issue*
John Rudge now a Schollar at Westminster aetat. circ. 13 ann. 1687
Elizabeth and Jane died infants

III. JAMES RUDGE³ of London Merchant aetat. 50 annorum 1687 Eldest Son *marid.* Martha daur. of John Hobby⁴ of London who had fined for Alderman *and bad issue*

1. James Rudge eldest Son aetat. 11 ann. 1687
2. John aet. 3 an.
3. Thomas aetat. 1 anni et $\frac{3}{4}$

1. Mary aetat. 10 annorum 1687
2. Sarah aet. 4 ann. 1687

[signed] James Rudge

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begun in 1687

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