

# Coats of Arms of some Ricardian Contemporaries

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## AUDLEYS AND PEMBROKES

THE FAMILY of TOUCHET (or TUCHET) were Barons of England from 1405 until 1973, and maybe still are. The family of HERBERT, with collaterals, still have various lordly titles, the oldest the Earldom of Pembroke which goes back to 1468 (if one ignores a lapse between the two creations). Two of the Touchets (including Sir Humphrey) were as staunchly Lancastrian as the Herberts were Yorkist. At a guess, 90 years might cover the lives of all five men.

James Touchet, 5th Baron Audley, died 1459

John Touchet, 6th Baron Audley, died 1490

Sir Humphrey Audley (brother of John), died 1471

The title of AUDLEY began (in 1313) with an Audley, but the fourth Baron was the son of a Touchet (descended from an heiress of the last Audley) and father of the first and grandfather of the other two of the above-named. This explains the quartering of the arms: Touchet, Ermine with a red chevron; Audley, red with a gold fret. They make a pretty combination.

JAMES, 5th Baron, had taken part in the French wars of King Henry VI. Leading Queen Margaret's forces at Blore Heath, he was defeated and slain; a monument marks the spot. Of James's sons, John was heir and Sir HUMPHREY (known as Audley) was executed at Tewkesbury.

JOHN, 6th Baron (and a Yorkist), was Master of the Dogs to King Edward IV. Attending the coronation of King Richard, he became a member of his Council and later Lord Treasurer. He survived in the new reign.

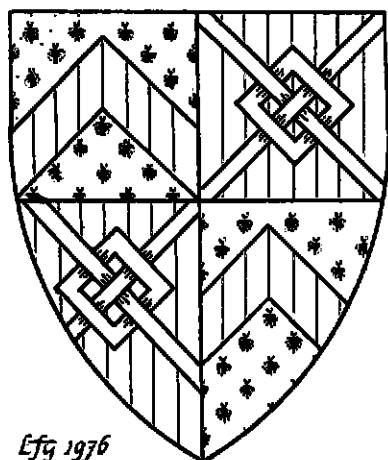
The Touchets, through occasional heiresses, have managed to continue the name. The new 25th Baron is a Souter but may yet hyphenate the name Touchet too. The last arms had grand-quarters of Touchet-Audley as above.

Sir William Herbert, died 1469

William Herbert, 1460-1491

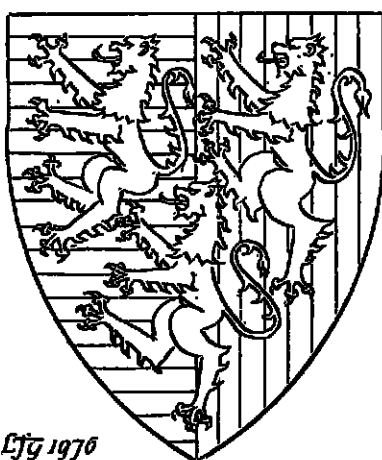
(1st and 2nd Earls of Pembroke of the first Herbert creation)

From the 12th century, there have been PEMBROKE Earldoms with different surnames—five including Jasper Tudor (1431?-1495)—followed by the first Herberts of whom we now treat. They continue with the same handsome arms: Party per pale, blue and red with three silver lions. The same arms (but with a chief) are used by Pembroke College, Oxford.



*Efg 1976*

**AUDLEY**



*Efg 1976*

**PEMBROKE**

Sir WILLIAM, the first Herbert Earl, although knighted by King Henry VI, had been friendly from youth with King Edward and was a doughty ally both before and after he was king, especially in Wales. The Tudor Earl had stronghold castles there and his young nephew Henry was in his care. It was Herbert who secured the downfall of both Pembroke and Harlech castles (Jasper escaped but was attainted), became Earl of Pembroke in his stead and thereafter had the custody of young Tudor. When later Edward and Warwick were enemies, the Earl and his brother Richard were involved in the Redesdale affair at Edgecot. There, he was captured and—by Warwick and Clarence—beheaded. At this time, his son was a minor.

WILLIAM HERBERT, his son, succeeded him in the title, but was forced in 1479 to exchange it for that of Earl of Huntingdon by Edward IV. With that title, he attended the coronation of Richard and was with the retinue at the state entry into York. For his second wife (his first was a Woodville), he married Katherine Plantagenet (Richard's illegitimate daughter) with a handsome settlement from her father. He, too, survived in the new reign. One would like to know what happened to both him and the younger Audley immediately after Bosworth. Presumably, they said "nuthing and lay low."