An earlier article in the NLW Journal addressed Welsh-Border Surnames from ‘ab Edmond’, and made reference to the family arms ‘Beamond of Clun’. This ‘ab Edmond’ family lived at Bachelldre in Churchstoke parish; their coat of arms was depicted by Jacob Chaloner. The coat is shown in Illustration 1. In the present day, Dr. Michael Siddons has given a blazon of the coat of arms, and the family’s pedigree has been delineated by Dr. Peter Bartrum in his Welsh Genealogies.

In his 4-volume series The Development of Welsh Heraldry Dr. Siddons raises a query against the ‘penultimate’ quartering of the coat. That quartering is shown in Illustration 2 (for clarity extracted from Illustration 1) and, in a recent communication, Dr. Siddons writes ‘there is no doubt that the coat [in Illustration 2] is a mixture of a bird in her piety and a bird preying on another’. In the face of this confusion, how should the coat be identified?

We note that, apart from the last quartering, the quarterings in Illustration 1 reflect lines of descent. Turning to Dr. Bartrum’s genealogy Ffystan Glodrydd which relates to the Bachelldre ‘ab Edmond’ family, we learn that Cadwgon, great grandfather of Edmond of Bachelldre, was married to Gwenliam, daughter of Gruffudd Ffordun. And Gruffudd’s ancestral line, a subject of Dr. Bartrum’s William of Elbeth, shows Gruffudd’s descent from Sir Robert ap Madog of Brompton.
This line of provenance may be matched with a note in Chaloner’s MS 2, saying that
Gwenllian was daughter and sole heir to Gruffudd Ffordun, who in turn was
descended from Sir Robt. ap Madock. Further, Chaloner refers out, from Gwenllian
in fo. 17v, to fo. 92 3. There we find a line of descent from ‘Owen of Machelltre in
the parish of Churchstoke’ – Gwenllian’s family – reaching back to Robert ap
Madock, Knight. And this progenitor corresponds with Sir Robert ap Madog of Dr.
Bartrum’s William of Elbeth 1 4.

Although Dr. Bartrum does not annotate his pedigrees with arms, Chaloner depicts –
in fo. 76 – a coat of arms at the head of the Robert ap Madock line. These are shown
in Illustration 3. In his The Development of Welsh Heraldry 4 Dr. Siddons blazons
the arms of both Sir Robert ap Madog and those of his descendant Dafydd ap
Cadwaladr, great grandfather of Gwenllian.

We can see at once the correspondence between Chaloner’s sketch at Illustration 3
and Dr. Siddons's description of Dafydd ap Cadwaladr’s arms, namely ‘Gules a hawk
Or, wings raised, preying on a small bird Argent, in a bordure indented Or’. And,
unlike Illustration 2, we see no indication here of ‘a pelican in her piety’. Dr. Siddons
observes 5 that the coat in Illustration 3 must be the original.

It is evident, therefore, that Chaloner has made an error in his Harl. MS 1973 fo. 17v,
in his representation of the coat in question, when he portrays a bird ‘in its piety’.
(Chaloner is also selective in his construction of the coat at Illustration 1. We note
that, in MS 1973 fo.17v, Chaloner shows a coat of arms stemming from Philip
Dorddu’s wife Margaret, but chooses not to include it as a quartering in the “Beamond
of Clunn” arms.)
Further to Chaloner's error in the depiction of the bird of prey, Dr. Peter Bartram has observed that there are errors in the Chaloner MS 1973 fo. 17v pedigree. For example, Dr. Bartram shows Gwenllian as wife of Cadwgon, great grandfather of Edmond of Bachelldre, whereas Chaloner has Gwenllian married to Cadwgon’s father, Gruffud Ddun. Again, Chaloner gives Edmond ap Cadwaladr of Bachelldre the surname Beamond, which clearly he did not have 10 (By way of comparison, in Cardiff MS 2.36 11, Lewys Dwnn is entirely clear on the development of the non-patronymic family surname from the patronymic form.)

This brief paper illustrates that, with the benefit of a range of sources and through the application of modern scholarship, and using Chaloner's cross-reference between family pedigrees, an error has been identified and corrected in Chaloner's genealogical and heraldic work of the early 17th century.

Lymington

Roger Beamond

Acknowledgement

The writer is pleased to acknowledge the ready comment offered by Dr. Siddons 12 on the findings recorded in this paper. At the same time, any inaccuracies of detail and presentation are solely the responsibility of the author.


2 Jacob Chaloner, Beamond of Clun. Pedigrees of Montgomeryshire Collected by R. Holme. London
British Library, Harleian MS 1973 f.17v.


5 Dr. Peter Bartrum, *Welsh Genealogies AD 300-1400*, (Cardiff 1974), 2, p.381.

6 e-mail from Dr. Siddons, 4th May 2011.

7 *Welsh Genealogies*, p. 932.

8 fo. 17v and fo. 92 are the revised folio numbers; Chaloner's numbering was 6v and 76 respectively.

9 *Welsh Genealogies*, p. 929.

10 Note from Dr. Bartrum, accompanying his unpublished transcription of Harl. MS 1973 fo.17v/18, 31st May 1986.

11 Lewys Dwnn, Cardiff MS 2.36, p. 327.

12 Typographical errors in the article at Reference 1 above are noted as follows:

(i) On p.347 of the published article, printed line 29, for 'Beamond' read 'Beamand'.

(ii) (ii) On p.348 'Ref. 5', for (1928) read (1923).

(iii) On p.350 in the first line of 'Ref. 18', for 'f.17v1-8' read 'f.17v-18'.

13 Dr. Siddons, author of *The Development of Welsh Heraldry*, was Wales Herald Extraordinary from 1994 to 2010.
Illustration 1

Arms of 'Beamond of Clun' from Harl. MS 1973 fo 17v

attributed to Jacob Chaloner

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Scale: Actual height of Shield Outline, excluding Crest, 58.5 mm.

Illustration 2
Quartering: Coat of Arms from Illustration 1

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Illustration 3
Arms from Harl. MS 1973 fo 92


Scale: Actual height of Shield Outline 22 mm.