



MELITENSIA

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The Grand Priors of Aquitaine of the Order of Saint John of Jerusalem, 1317-1796

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[Excerpts from an article published on the Malta Study Center website. The complete text, with images, is at <http://www.hmml.org/centers/malta/publications/GPsAquitaine2.htm>]

Some years ago, I wondered if there were reliable lists of the names and dates of the Grand Priors of the various Langues of the Order of St. John of Jerusalem. Some of these Grand Priors appear to be historically well documented in an admirable fashion; but other national Grand Priors were scarcely ever listed and their dates and succession seem to be no closer to being clarified in any of the sources I then consulted. For example, the *Conde de Campo Bello* (1931) gives a list of the Priors of Crato (Portugal) which, unfortunately, provides neither dates nor other data about their careers, families or heraldry. Still, *Campo Bello* is to be commended for his efforts to preserve the names and succession of these Grand Priors. Since his time, apart from the good efforts of *Dailliez* (1977), there have been few published efforts to clarify the situation for Portugal.

Lists of names and dates by themselves, of course, are pretty dry things, giving none of the color or personality of human lives nor the challenges faced by the individuals named or by the Order to which they belonged. I wanted to know which families these Grand Priors came from, the kind of career they had within the Order and, possibly, within

their realms, their armorial ensigns and the ranks and honors within the Order they attained. Recently, the Grand Priors of Rome and the National Association of Spain of the SMOM have published lists of the names and dates of various Grand Priors. Lists of the Grand Priors of Austria-Bohemia and Germany are also available and appear fairly reliable.

As an enthusiastic heraldist, one of my interests was to identify the many shields carved on the Dodecanese islands and in various Pories elsewhere, which seem likely to pertain to Grand Priors or other dignitaries of the Order. Some of these arms have been identified, but many remain obscure or unidentified. Many surviving commanderies have heraldic remains, which testify to those Priors or Commanders who improved buildings or had new structures erected. So, a list of the Grand Priors and knowledge of their arms might yet prove useful for identifying architectural remains or other *objets d'art*. It would also illuminate the social relationships among families within the Order in different periods as well as the social strata of the knights, who often made brilliant careers within the Order or their realms, though coming from

relatively modest backgrounds. I set out to discover, where possible, the names, dates, arms and various details of the careers of the Priors of the Order, as well as seal and heraldic information, grounded in its records and critical scholarly sources. This was because the literature on the Order is of uneven quality. Some works reached the highest historical standards, but others were much more popular and scarcely reached a respectable standard of scholarship.

For some reason, I was drawn especially to the Grand Priors of France, perhaps because France played such a significant role within the long history of the Order. France had three Grand Priories: France (including Champagne and Aquitaine), Auvergne and Saint Gilles (including Toulouse). Some of these Grand Priories had scholarly works written about them. But many Grand Priories, such as that of Auvergne, appeared regrettably not to have had much serious attention paid to the succession of its Grand Priors, nor to their arms, dates or careers within the Order. Others, such as the Grand Priory of France, had several conflicting lists: those found in R. Borricand (1968), D. Jacquemin's *Gallia Christiana* (1744) and Mannier (1987); while yet others had, as far as my researches were then able to go, no lists whatsoever (e.g. Aquitaine and Champagne). The Grand Priory of St. Gilles and the Priory of Toulouse, which covered most of meridional France and formed some of the earliest properties granted to the Order in Christendom, were relatively well-ordered and documented (see J. Raybaud, *Histoire des Grand Prieurs et du Prieuré de St. Gilles*, Tomes I and II, 1904 and M.A. du Bourg, *Histoire du Grand Prieuré de Toulouse*, 1883). And so my attention turned to the Grand Priory of France (with Aquitaine

and Champagne) first. Auvergne, despite the work of L. Niepce (*Le Grand Prieuré d'Auvergne*, 1883), requires greater study and research to give a less confusing list, though the main outlines seemed more or less clear.

I have now amassed, with able help from Comte Girard Michel de Pierredon and others, what I believe are relatively reliable lists for these three Priories from their foundations to their collapse in the eighteenth century. Here I present for consideration just the list for the Priory of Aquitaine. I am under no illusions as to its satisfactoriness. It cannot yet be called definitive, though I believe it is accurate based on several checks and balances, of which more below.

Sometimes, in the list below, there are only approximate dates of tenure, because I did not have access to the records of the Order after 1600. Sometimes the arms blazoned are probable rather than certain or the tinctures are unknown because all that remains is a seal and those armorial sources available to me do not record the tinctures (though they may exist in more specialized sources). Where possible, I have consulted various medieval French armorials to find the most probable families involved. I have cited them as probable when I have done so. There are drawings of the arms following the enumeration of the Grand Priors found in the text. I have standardized the shield shapes into the so-called French style of shield for convenience (usual from the fifteenth century) and tried to follow French heraldic style in the depictions of charges and shields.

A mere name of a prior and his dates does not reveal much of his personality, or career within the history of the Order, so where possible,

I have tried to provide this information and his genealogical connection to gentry, titled or bourgeois families. This gives us some idea of the prior's connections within the Order and within his national and regional milieu. Eventually, it may permit a more complete prosopological analysis of their roles within the Order and connections with other French notables in, for example, the various Orders of Chivalry.

It would be most unfair to publish the list as though it were the product of my efforts. In the world of scholarship, cooperation with recognized scholars is essential. I have been greatly assisted by Prof. Anthony Luttrell's astute comments and by the most helpful researches of Dr. Jürgen Sarnowsky, with both of whom I have had some correspondence, though they ought not be held responsible for any of the possible errors of interpretation I may have made. Doubtless the most helpful, indeed the most prolonged cooperation, has been with Comte Gérard Michel de Pierredon, who took the time and trouble to correspond with me and, where necessary, to discuss the names, families and dates of various Grand Priors. I thank him here for all his seasoned assistance. Any mistakes that remain are not the responsibility of these fine scholars but are my own.

Late in my researches, I came across a list of the Grand Priors of Aquitaine in H. Beauchet-Filleau and Charles de Chergé, *Dictionnaire Historique et Généalogique des Familles du Poitou* (2nd ed. H. Beauchet-Filleau et Paul Beauchet-Filleau) Tome I (1891), Tome II (1895), Tome III (1905) (Poitiers, Société Française d'Imprimerie et de Librairie), II, pp. 789-791. Not surprisingly, it differs in minor ways from that given here. However, it was a confirmation of the majority of the Grand Priors

and hence a welcome and independent check on the accuracy of my researches.

The Priory (or Grand Priory as it is sometimes called) of Aquitaine was founded in 1317, under Pope John XXII. This re-organization of the Grand Priory of France permitted a better extension of both the hospital and crusading work of the Order in Outremer and France. It was likely undertaken in response to the dramatic fate of the Templars and the passing of Templar properties to the Hospital, though this acquisition actually took years to accomplish. It is therefore probable that the first Grand Prior had few of the amenities which later became associated with the Grand Priory.

Abbreviations:

Capt=Captain

Cmd=Commander

Com Tres=Common Treasury

d=daughter

dtd=dated

GP= Grand Prior

GM=Grand Master

Hosp=Hospitaller

LGM=Lieutenant Grand Master

LGP=Lieutenant Grand Prior

LTres=Lieutenant Treasurer

LHosp=Lieutenant Hospitaller

Mars=Marshall

Proc=Procurator

r=received

s=son

Sgr=Seigneur

Tres=Treasurer

Priors:

1. **Pierre de Mailg**, GP 1317.

2. **Guillaume de Mailg**, GP 1330-40: His seal has a shield with a cross recerclée, dated 1344.

3. **Ferri de Fougerolles**, Mars 1330-1335, GP Champagne 1335-1337, GP Aquitaine 1337-1340, then GP Champagne again 1340. It is possible that he was from the

Fouquesolles family of the Boulogne area and bore: Argent, three cinquefoils Gules.

4. **Jean de Nanteuil**, GP 1349-59, LGP France, he also appears to have been "amiral de la Mer (after 1350), Conseillier du Roi, Capt. de la Rochelle, de Xaintonge", d.1356 whereupon Charles V of France sent to Jean Duison, Lieutenant of the Priory of France in 1358, 64 Marcs d'argent and 1,000 Écus for GP Guillaume de Mailg. A fragment of a seal with shield charged with two bars wavy, upheld by a Savage man, within a Gothic rose design.

5. **Robert de Saint Ricquin** (or Saint Ricquier), Cmd de Beauvais-sur-Marthe, GP 1366-7, Cmd de Ballan 1375: Not much evidence about this GP.

6. **Renault de Nanteuil**, GP 1368-86: His seal shows a shield barry wavy within a bordure, penché, with the helmet crested with a representation of St. Michael the Archangel, dtd. 1351.

7. **Girard de Fougerolles**, Cmd de Chalon 1374, de Beaune 1385, GP 3.viii.1386-90, Hosp. 8.viii.1389-1391. (see no. 3 above).

8. **Philibert de Naillac**, from a family of Berry, Gén Capt des Galères 1394, GP 1390-1396, he fought with other French nobles against Sultan Bajazet at Nicopolis in 1396, where those supporting Sigismund of Luxembourg, king of Hungary, were utterly routed, but unlike them he escaped capture, GM 6.v.1396 - ...vi.1421; he purchased the Morea from its despot, Thomas Paleologos, but lost Smyrna to Tamerlane in 1401: Azure, two lions passant in pale Or.

9. **Girard de Fougerolles**, Cmd de la Romagne 1390, GP again 1396-1408. (see 3 above)

10. **Aymé d'Oiselay** (d'Oiselet, d'Oyselais), Cmd. de la Romagne, GP 4.vii.1408-1421: Gules, a bend vivrée Or.

11. **Jean de Vivonne**, possibly the

2nd son of Guillaume, Sgr. de la Tour-Chabot and his wife, Catherine de Sainte-Flaive, GP 7.v.1421-3.ii.1429: Ermine, a chief Gules.

12. **Philibert de Laigue**, Cmd de Blison 1411, GP 8.ii.1433-d. 7.ix.1452. The family of Laigue (Berry) bore: Chequey Argent and Gules.

13. **François du Bois**, GP 7.ix.1452-26.xi.1462, from the du Bois de Saint-Mandé of Poitou. Or, three roundels Sable.

14. **Bertrand de Cluys** (or de Cluix), of a family of Berry, GP 23.ii.1464-30.xi.1466; then GP of France 1467 (q.v.): Argent, a lion rampant Azure, armed and langued Gules. Possibly he was related to Jean de Cluys, bishop of Tulle ca. 1426-1444.

15. **Jean de Francières**, of an old family of Oise, Ile-de-France, he served in the Convent at Rhodes before becoming Cmd of Choisy-le-Temple, Bailli of Morea 9.xi.1464-25.ix.1466; GP 17.viii.1469-24.xi.1479, d. 1488. He composed toward the end of his life a treatise on falconry based on Italian and Syrian sources at the request of Jacques Du Fou, Grand Veneur of France. His arms are: Argent, a bend Sable.

16. **Charles de Norroy** (Noray or Nouroy), Commissarius sanitatis at Rhodes 15.xi. 1473, Bailli of Morea 12.ii.1476-23.xii.1479, Tres 26.viii.1465-30.xi.1466 and again 23.ii.1476-12.ii.1479, Hosp 23.xii.1479-3.xii.1483, GP 3.xii.1483-d. 22.x.1499: From a family of Berry which bore: Argent, issuant from a fess Gules, a demi-lion issuant rampant Sable.

17. **Regnault de Saint-Simon**, Cmd de Beauvais, Tres Gen 8.iv.1486-30.ix.1491, Bailli of Morea 30.ix.1491-16.ii.1499, Capt Tireme 1493, Capt of St. Peter's, Bodrum 29.vii.1488 and again 13.iii.1495-1.v.1497, Hosp 16.ii.1499, GP 22.x.1499-1521, Proc Com Tres. 26.v.1505, Cmd of Chamgillon: His

seal shows a shield charged with a pale between six lozenges, 2 and 1 on either side, tinctures unknown. The helmet in profile has for a crest the head and neck of a bird between two wings elevated. Two lions rampant combatant are used as supporters, dated 10.vi.1513.

18. **Charles des Ursins**, r ca. iii.1480 (then 17 years old), probably a nephew or cousin of Jean de Juvénal des Ursins, Duke-Archbishop of Rheims, probably the son of Jean, Sgr de La Chapelle and his wife Louise de Varye, Procurator of the Parlement of Paris and Cmd de Saint-Jean Latran (Paris) 1.x.1505, and d'Oisemont 1509, Tres 27.iii.1518, GP 1.x.1521-1535: Bendy of six Argent and Gules, on a Chief Argent, a Rose Gules, seeded Or, slipped Vert, sustained by a bar Or, (Vertot adds to the bar a serpent ondoyant Azure, i.e. the traditional arms of the Italian family of Orsini, from which the des Ursins claimed some kinship, but portraits of the family from the late fifteenth century in the Musée national du Moyen Age, Hotel de Cluny do not show it)

19. **Jacques Pelloquin**, Cmd des Roches, 1523, LTres 2.i.1529 (58), LHosp 9.v.1533 (59), Tres Gen 25.ii.1534, Bailli of Morea 23.vii.1534, Hosp 9.xii.1535, GP 21.i.1536, Viceregens and LGM 21.x.1536: Gules, a tower Argent, masoned Sable, port open of the field. A drawing of his seal shows a Chief of Religion.

20. **François de Piedefer**, r 1536 of a Beauvais family, LTres 7.xii.1543, LHosp 27.iii.1544, Castellan of Malta 5.xii.1544, LTres again 2.x.1546, LHosp again 31.i.1549, still LTres 21.ii.1550, Patron of his own Galère 12.i.1551, LHosp again 16.ii.1551, and Cmd de Boncourt, elected Hosp 18.ix.1553, demits Hosp and de Boncourt to become GP Aquitaine, 2.vi.1557, elected GP Champagne 10.ix.1557 (q.v.): Chequey, Or and Azure.

21. **Jean de Nuchèze**, r 1523, 4th s of Guillaume IV de Nuchèze, Sgr de Baudimont, de Francs, de Brain, Chincé et de Batresse (who served in the armies of Charles VII and Louis XI of France, d. ca. 1505) and Catherine, d of Louis des Francs et Baudimont and his wife Bartholomé de Tove. Cmd de Balan and Auditor of France 17.iii.1548, Tres Gen 26.i.1549, Bailli of Morea 10.vi.1557, resigns Tres, Boncourt and Bailli of Morea to become GP 2.xii.1559-d. 1562: Gules, nine spur rowels of five rays Argent, 3, 3 and 3. Supporters: Two lions. Crest: A lion passant guardant proper.

22. **Charles Hesselin de Gacourt**, from a family of Picardy, perhaps the s of Jean-Baptiste Hesselin, Sgr de Gacourt, r 1525, Tres. 19.viii.1562, Bailli of Morea 12.v.1563, Cmd de Beauvoir (1531), d'Oisemont (1563), GP 29.iv.1563: Or, two bars Azure, semée of crosses fleurons overall counterchanged.

23. **Jacques d'Arquembourg** (or d'Erquembourg) de Tourville, of the family of the Sieurs de Flottemanville (Caen), Normandy, r 1529, Cmd de La Croix de Brie 1545, Tres Gen 13.v.1563, Bailli of Morea 26.v.1563, Hosp 19.x.1564, GP Champagne 6.iv.1571, Hosp again 14.xii.1573, demits Hosp to become GP Aquitaine, 30.iv.1576: Argent, a chevron between three Roses Gules.

24. **Charles de la Rama Plessis Hénault**, r 1532, Cmd de Beauvoir (Ponthieu) 14.vii.1559, LTres 23.x.1565, LHosp 22.iv.1572, Hosp and Cmd de Boux et Merlan 19.v.1581, Proc Com Tres 22.ix.1581, GP France 4.vii.1586, but demitted the same year, succeeded by Charles, Prince d'Orléans 13.iv.1587, whereupon de la Rama became GP Aquitaine 18.v.1587: Chequey Or and Azure, overall a lion rampant Sable.

25. **Robert de Chazé**, r 1555, of a family of Brittany, originally of

Anjou, Cmd de Nantes and de La Lande de Verché, GP ca. 1594: Gules, a lion rampant Or; but P. Potier de Courcy blazons this family's arms as: Gules, six eaglets Argent 3, 2 and 1, under the name Chassé as does Vertot. The real problem is that GP de la Rama was still actively litigating in 9.ii.1593 and the next GP mentioned in the Catalogue is Georges Regnier de Guerchy, elected only six months later. De Chazé is not mentioned as elected in the Catalogue between these dates, so it seems unlikely that he ever was Grand Prior.

26. **Georges Regnier de Guerchy**, Cmd de Maison-Neuve et Coulommiers 1583 and again 1630, LHosp 28.ii.1592, GP 9.viii.1593, from an old, noble family, but exchanges priories with Bertrand Pelloquin, GP France 1.xii.1599 (q.v.): Quarterly, 1st and 4th, Azure, six plates, 3, 2 and 1; 2nd and 3rd, Azure, a cross indented Argent, between four spur rowels Or.

27. **Bertrand Pelloquin de la Plesse**, Cmd de Montgauger 15—, Hosp 6.ii.1587, GP France 10.v.1591, but exchanges priory of France with Georges Regnier de Guerchy, GP Aquitaine 1.xii.1599: Gules, a tower Argent, masoned Sable, port open of the field, a chief of Religion.

28. **Henri d'Applevoisin de la Bodinatière**, 2nd s of Hardy d'Appelvoisin, Sgr de la Bodinatière and Marie Petit, d. of Jaques Petit, Écuyer, Sgr. de St.-Chartres and his wife Catherine de la Chaussée. r 1560, Cmd d'Auzon from 1566-1604, LTres 9.i.1593, LHosp 10.x.1595, Hosp 2.xii.1595, 30.iii.1599 elected a Commissar/Inspector over the trirèmes of the Order, Cmd de Corie 16.v.1600, Cmd d'Oson et Prailles 13.viii.1602, Cmd de Mauleon et Villedieu 7.x.1602-1608, Tres Gén 21.i.1602-1608, GP ca. 1611-1613. He died 28.iii.1613 at Changillon: Gules, a horse Or.

29. **Simon Cheminée de Boisbenest**, of a Breton family of Nantes, r 1570, LTres and Infirmarian 23.vi.1595, Hosp 12.ii.1601, Bailli of Morea 16.iii.1601, GP ca. 1613-1616: Argent, a lion passant guardant Azure, crowned Or, on a chief Gules, three lions' faces in profile Argent, crowned and langued Or.

30. **Jean-Jacques Gaillarbois de Marconville**, diocese of Rouen, Normandy, r 15—, Cmd de Boncourt 1554, LHosp and Castellan of Malta 27.ix.1574, Hosp 20.v.1577, Tres Gen 30.iv.1576, Cmd de Sommereux 1608, GP ca. 1619-1640: Argent, six annulets 3, 2 and 1 Sable. Jean Baptiste Rietstap and Gourdon de Genouillac give "tourteaux de sable", i.e. pellets. G. Demay describes seals of members of this family whose arms did bear annulets and not "tourteaux". J. Roman also gives annulets. H. Beauchet-Filleau also confirms the annulets.

31. **Guy Turpin de Crissé**, 3rd s of Charles II Turpin de Crissé, Comte de Vihers, Baron de Montorion, Chevalier des Ordres du Roi and his wife, Éléonor, eldest d and heiress of Claude de Cravant, Chevalier de l'Ordre du Roi, Sgr de la Mothe et de Noastre and his wife, Marguerite Hallwin. r 1592 in the Diocese of Poitou, GP ca. 1640-1644: Lozengy Or and Gules (sometimes Lozengy Argent and Gules). Vertot gives the dates of reception and the blazon.

32. **Jacques Rouxel de Médavy**, of an illustrious family of Normandy, r 1595, Cmd de Colours 1639, Bailli of Morea 16??, GP ca. 1644-1647, perhaps Jacques III, comte de Grancey and de Médavy, who first entered the Religion, but left it to embrace the career of arms, becoming Maréchal of France and Gov of Thionville in 1651 and a Chevalier des Ordres du Roi 1661 and d. 20.xi.1680: Argent, three roosters Gules, membered, beaked and crested Or.

33. **Pierre Fouquerand de la Noue**, family of Bas-Poitou. He was 3rd s of Nicholas Fouquerand, Écuyer and Sgr de la Noue and Marie Thomasset, d of Jean Thomasset, Sgr de la Treullière and his wife Louise Prévost. r 1596, Cmd de Beauvais, GP ca. 1647-1663: Argent, three porc-épics, 2 and 1 Sable.

34. **Gilbert de Vieilbourg**, 3rd s of Jean de Vieilbourg and Jeanne de Fontenay. His nephew, René de Vieilbourg, had the lands of Myennes erected into a Marquisate in 1661. r 1607, Cmd de Mont de Soissons 1650, Cmd de Sommereux 1675, GP 1663-1675; Capt de Galère "Santa Maria" 28.iv.1647; as GP he had the the seat of the Priory moved from Saint Georges les Baillargeaux to Poitiers ca.1668: Azure, a fess Argent charged on the dexter with a "T" (or a Tau cross) and on the sinister with a mullet both.

35. **Gabriel de Dauvet des Maretz**, 3rd s of Gaspard Dauvet, Chevalier, Comte and Sgr des Maretz, de Berneuil, Fraucourt, Gouverneur of Beauvais, Cons D'État, Ambassador to England 1614, and his wife Elisabeth, d of Nicolas Brulart, Sgr and Chevalier de Sillery, Chancellor of France; r 14.v.1619, Capt de Galère "San Pietro" 20.xii.1655, Cmd d'Avalterre 1660, Cmd de Saint-Étienne de Renneville 1680, GP ca. 1676-1691: Bendy of six Gules and Argent, the second bend charged with a lion rampant Sable.

36. **Etienne Texier d'Hautefeuille**, le "bailli d'Hautefeuille", Capitaine de la Compagnie Écossaise dans le Gendarmerie, r 1632 or 1636, GC, Bailli 1669, Ambassador of the Order to France 1671, Cmd de Villedieu La Montagne et des Roches 1676, Cmd de la Croix en Brie 1684, GP 23.ix.1691- 3.v.1703, Governor and Capt of the Town and Castle of the Abbey of Mont St.-Michel, Normandy (i.e., Abbé commendataire): Gules, a greyhound courant Argent, collared Or,

with a crescent of the last in chief and a chief of Religion.

37. **Gabriel du Chastellet**, 3rd s of Laurent du Chastellet, Chevalier, Sgr de Fresnières, Levigni and le Taulette, Gentilhomme ordinaire du Chambre du Roi Louis XIII and his wife Catherine Fauyer, d of Jacques Fauyer, Conseiller du Roi, Baron de Merry, Sgr. de Mondevigne and his wife Marie Charlet (of a family of Artois); r 1643, Cmd de La Braque 1683, Cmd de Saint-Étienne de Renneville 1700, GP ca. 1703- d. 1708: Gules, a fess Argent, between three castles with conical towers all Or, crenellated and masoned Sable. His seal describes him as Cmd de la Braque, dtd 4.vii.1685. The shield has a coronet and is surrounded by a ribbon and cross of the Order, with the Grand Cross of the Order behind the shield.

38. **Gabriel Thibault de la Carte**, from a family of Anjou, r in GP Aquitaine 20.iv.1649, probably a relative of François Thibault, Sgr de la Carte et de la Chaouinière, near Niort, Poitou; Cmd des Épeaux et Loudon 1709-1721, GP ca. 1708-1723: Azure, a tower crenellated Argent, masoned Sable.

39. **Antoine Théodorice Godet de Soudé**, of a family from the Diocese of Chalons in Champagne, r 1662, Cmd of Metz, Capt. de Galère "San Paulo" 7.xii.1685, GP 1723-1729: Azure, a chevron Argent between three inverted pine cones, 2 and 1, Or.

40. **Philippe-Joseph de Lesmerie d'Éschoisy, de Lucé**, of a family of the Diocese of Angouleme, r 3.vi.1668, Cmd du Blison 1726 and de Fretay 1725, Bailli, GC, Cmd de Beauvais sur Marthe 17—, GP ca. 1729-1754: Argent, three Oak leaves erect, 2 and 1 Vert.

41. **Armand Foucault de Saint Germain de Beaupré**, b. 6.ix.1680, 2nd s of Louis Foucault, Sgr et Marquis de Saint Germain de Beaupré, Comte de Dun-le

Palleteau, Gov de la Marche 1674, Mestre de Camp de Regt. de Cavalerie and his wife Hélène Ferrand, d and heiress of Pierre de Ferrand, Sgr de Janory, Cons de Paris and his wife Hélène Gillot; Cmd de Fieffes 1740, d'Abbéville 1746, de Beauvoir 1747, GP ca. 1754-d.14.x.1767: Azure, semé de fleurs de lys sans nombre d'Or.

42. **Paul de Vion de Gaillon**, 2nd s of Jean de Vion, Chevalier, Sgr de Gaillon and d'Huanville, and his wife, Marie-Françoise du Mesnil-Jourdain, d of François Chevalier, Sgr de Bercagny and his wife Marie de Cavoisin; b. II.vi.1687, r 1701, Cmd de Villedieu-Les-Bailleul 1747, de Colours 1754, de Fieffes 1764, GP 1767-1770, d. 24.v.1770: Gules, three eagles displayed Argent, beaked and armed Or.

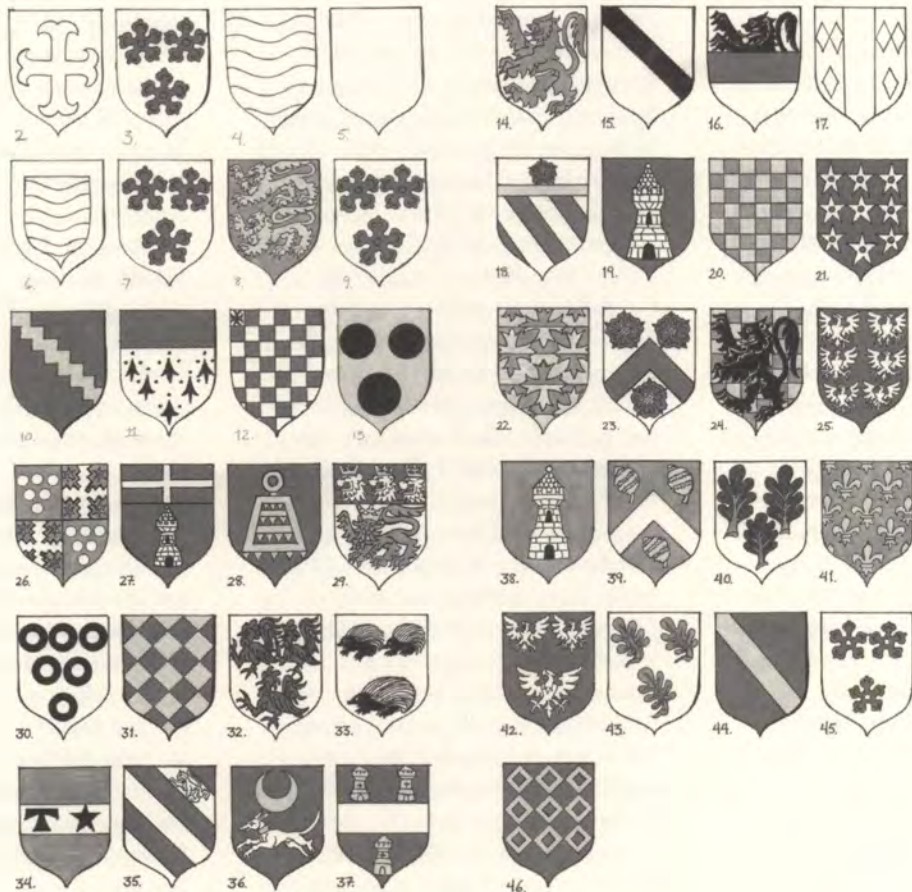
43. **Jean-Charles Guy de la Rué Bois Roger Ruppierre**, r 1706, Cmd de Saint-Étienne de Renneville 1767, GP 1770: Argent, three leaves of Rhue, 2 and 1, Vert, (possibly quartering de Ruppierre: Paly of eight Or and Azure), r 25.iv.1706.

44. **Pierre d'Alsace de Hénin-Liétard**, Sgr de Bléincourt, b. 1705, r en minorité 17.iii.1708, Cmd de Laon and de Castillon 1752, Bailli de Saint Jean Latran 1779, GC, Ambassador of the Order to France, Capt-Gén des Escadres 13.viii.1746, GP 1770-1787: Gules, a bend Or.

45. **Louis Joseph des Écotais de Chantilly**, 2nd s of Michel-Séraphin des Écotais, Sgr de Chantilly et d'Armilly, l'Île Oger, Sarigny, etc., Capt des Vaisseaux du Roi (d. 3.v.1736) and his wife, Louise-Elisabeth de Laval-Montmorency, d

of Gabriel de Laval-Montmorency, comte de Laval and Renée-Barbe de la Forterie. Called "le Bailli des Écotais", he had been a Brigadier of the Infantry in 1758 and Maréchal de Camp in 1761, and later a LG, GP 1787-1792, d. 1796: Argent, three cinquefoils, 2 and 1, Gules, buttoned Argent. Count's coronet and two lions as supporters.

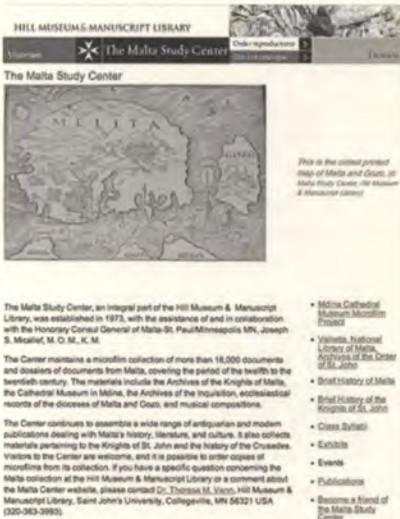
46. **Eugène Hercule Camille de Rohan**, 2nd s of Charles, Prince de Rohan-Montaubin, Comte de Rochefort=1722 Éléanore Eugénie de Bethisy de Mézières, b. 6.iv.1737, Abbé d'Homblières (Diocese de Noyon), Chanoine de Strasbourg, Tres de l'Église de Liège, r 27.v.1765, Gén. des Galères 1767, GP 1796: Gules, nine mascles conjoined fesseways Or.



New Look for Malta Study Center website

Visitors to the Malta Study Center will find it has a new look, one that combines the format of the Hill Museum & Manuscript Library website with design elements from *Melitensia*. The new website has direct links in its banner for the user to order reproductions and search the interactive online catalogue, plus a side menu to navigate within the Malta Study Center pages.

The new design improves access to *Vivarium*, HMML's portal to its digital collections. In the past year the Malta Study Center has begun using *Vivarium* to provide samples of manuscripts for researchers and digitized rare books from its own collection.



HILL MUSEUM & MANUSCRIPT LIBRARY
The Malta Study Center

The Malta Study Center, an integral part of the Hill Museum & Manuscript Library, was established in 1973, with the assistance of and in collaboration with the Honorary Consul General of Malta-St. Paul/Mineapolis Mr. Joseph S. Mealef, M. O. M., K. M.

The Center maintains a microfilm collection of more than 18,000 documents and dozens of documents from Malta, covering the period of the twelfth to the twentieth century. The materials include the Archives of the Knights of Malta, the Cathedral Museum in Mdina, the Archives of the Inquisition, ecclesiastical records of the diocese of Malta and Gozo, and musical compositions.

The Center continues to assemble a wide range of antiquarian and modern publications dealing with Malta's history, literature, and culture. It also collects materials pertaining to the Knights of St. John and the history of the Crusades. Visitors to the Center are welcome, and it is possible to order copies of materials from its collection. If you have a specific question concerning the Malta collection at the Hill Museum & Manuscript Library or a comment about the Malta Center website, please contact Dr. Thomas M. Vico, Hill Museum & Manuscript Library, Saint John's University, Collegeville, MN 56321 USA (320-363-3893).

- Mdina Cathedral Museum Microfilm Project
- Valletta National Library of Malta, Archives of the Order of St. John
- Brief History of the Knights of St. John
- Class Bulletin
- Exhibits
- Events
- Publications
- Become a friend of the Malta Study Center

Now Available on *Vivarium*:

Fra Giovan Francesco Abela, *Della descrizione di Malta isola nel mare Siciliano* (Malta, 1647). Go to <http://www.hmml.org/vivarium/> and type "Abela" in the search box to bring up images of the entire book.

Dvds from the Priory of Rome

The first digitized manuscripts from the Magistral Palace Library of the Sovereign Military Order of Malta have arrived in Collegeville. Sample images of the first and last seven folios of each manuscript are available in *Vivarium*

(<http://www.hmml.org/vivarium/>). Type 'SMOM' into the keyword search field for all the images; type the shelfmark from below for single manuscripts). The same images, with catalogue information, are accessible through the online catalogue at http://www.hmml.org/scholars/catalogue/catalogue_search.asp.

Titles of new manuscripts from the Priory of Rome

- MS 144, *Libro de segnali de vascelli di Malta* (Book of signals for the Order's vessels). French; Italian. 30 ff. 18th century.
- SC 1803, *Bullarum Liber 1803* (Papal bulls, documents from March-December 1803). Latin. I-ii, 342 ff. 19th century.
- Cabreo 36, *Cabreo della venerabile commenda di Ponte Corvo, Fondi e Gaudea fatto rinovare dall' illustrissimo Signore Commandatore F. D. Fabrizio Franconi Patrizio Napolitano* (Land survey of the commandary of San Giovanni a Gaudio di Ponte Corvo, Fondi e Gaeta). Compiled by the notary Nicolas Camposelli della Rocca. Latin; Italian. 636 ff. 18th century (1739).
- Cabreo 93, *Cabreo, Inventario, e Descrittione di tutte le terre, case, e chiese della commenda di S. Cassiano del Lago Transimeno, e di S. Croce di Perugia Porta della Sacra Religione Gerosolimitana Fatto fare dall' Ill.mo Sig.re Fra Gio. Giorgio Castelli da Terni Commend.re di Essa in*

questo prente. Anno 1722 da me Giuseppe Diolouede Publico Agrimensore. (Land Survey of the Commandary of San Cassiano del Lago Transimeno e di Croce di Perugia Porte...).

Compiled by Giuseppe Diolovede, Public surveyor. Latin; Italian. 142 ff. 18th century (1723).

- Cabreo 191, (Land survey of the Commandary of San Luca di Perugia). Compiled by Mutio Flori. Latin; Italian. 226 ff. 17th century (1639).
- Cabreo 255, (Land Survey of the Commandary of San Marco di Fano). Compiled by Domenico e Andree Darii. Latin; Italian. 17th century (1656).
- Cassetta 1, *Notizia della Sacra Infermeria e della carica delli commissari delle povere inferme* (Regulation of the Cassetta delle incurabili). Italian. 52 ff. 18th century.
- Cassetta 2, (History of the Cassetta delle incurabili). Latin; Italian. 48 ff. 18th century (?).
- Cassetta 1726, (Report of the organisation of the Cassetta delle incurabili). Latin; Italian. 12 ff. 18th century.
- Cassetta 1743, (Historical notes of the Cassetta delle incurabili). Italian. 4 ff. 18th century (?).

Printed works: (Entire volume available)

- Mal Pub Riv v.1937. *Rivista* (1937).
- Mal Pub Riv v.1938. *Rivista mensile illustrata* (1938).

Parish Archives in *Vivarium*

The microfilms of the Parish Archives of Naxxar are the first microfilms in the Malta Study Center to be digitized. Sample

images of the first and last folios are available on line through the manuscript catalogue (go to http://www.hmml.org/scholars/catalogue/catalogue_search.asp, go to the "Series" field in the search form, and select "AP [Archivia Paroecialia] Naxxar" from the drop-down menu). These images are for identification purposes only; they are not suitable for reproduction. Copies

require the consent of the Parish Archives of Naxxar.

Naxxar, one of the oldest parishes on the island of Malta, was in existence as early as 1400. HMML microfilmed 21 registers, which date back to 1546. Recently the parish archives were moved to new rooms with improved facilities for researchers.

COLLECTION SPOTLIGHT

The Malta Study Center contains over 13,000 microfilms of archival material from the island of Malta. Every issue of Melitensia will briefly highlight one collection from the archives.

Section II – The Archives of the Hospital

The earliest rule of the Order of the Hospital, attributed to Master Raymond du Puy (1120-1160), directed that the sick poor should be treated "as if he were a Lord." The care of the sick remained at the heart of the Order's mission, and, despite the Order's military responsibilities in the east, the Central Convent always maintained a hospital for the sick and poor. There is documentary and archeological evidence for the Order's hospitals in Jerusalem, Rhodes, and Malta, although the central archives of the Order only preserves the records of the Sacra Infermeria, the Order's hospital in Valletta.

When Charles V gave the Order the island of Malta in 1530, the Knights at first settled in the castle surrounded by the village of Birgu on the Great Harbor. But after the Ottoman siege of Malta in 1565, the Knights constructed a new city, Valletta, on a peninsula jutting into the Great Harbor. There they built

the Sacra Infermeria, a massive structure that combined many of the Order's charitable foundations, including a military hospital, a founding hospital, and a magdalene. It had separate wards for men and women, the insane, sufferers from venereal disease, and it distinguished between medical and surgical cases. The Sacra Infermeria even had its own pharmacy. The Knights established a formal medical school for the Sacra Infermeria in 1675, and created a faculty for the study of medicine in the University of Malta in 1771. The library and archives of these institutions remained on the island when Napoleon expelled the Knights in 1798.

Section II of the archives of the Order's Hospital in Valletta in the National Library of Malta comprises forty-six volumes, dating from 1590 until 1798. The researcher might hope to find a treasure trove containing a wealth of information about the hospital's operations, early

modern medical practices, diet, and expenses. He or she would be disappointed. Six volumes of the archive contain information about the administration of the hospital; thirty-eight volumes register the wills of patients of the Sacra Infermeria between 1590 and 1798.

The Sacra Infermeria had its own printed Rule, a small nineteen-page book printed in Rome in 1725 (AOM 1713). The Rule contains information about the staff of the Infermeria, its inventory of silver and tapestry, and its physical layout. The archives also contain a contemporary handwritten copy of the published Rule, annotated and updated by its owner (AOM 1714). The archives also contain the rule of the Congregation of the Holy Trinity (AOM 1713a), a separate confraternity organized to provide charitable contributions to the Sacra Infermeria and to ensure their proper distribution. Upon entry into this brotherhood, the members paid one quarter of their income to the Congregation; subsequently, they paid annually one-eighth of their income. In return they received from the brotherhood a funeral mass upon their death and remembrance masses afterwards.

The scribes and notaries of the Sacra Infermeria recorded the patients' testaments. Thirty-eight surviving volumes (AOM 1720-1758) contain the names and wills of those who died in the Sacra Infermeria. The inhabitants of the hospital included members of the Order, Maltese men, women and children, and foreign visitors and sailors. The registers of testaments and mortality provide considerable information about the inhabitants of the Sacra Infermeria: the names, gender, occupation, knightly status, and origin of the deceased. By the eighteenth century, the registers

included information about the burial of the deceased and an inventory of his or her possessions.

J. Mizzi catalogued Section II, *Catalogue of the records of the Order of St. John of Jerusalem in the Royal Malta Library* (University of Malta: Msida, 1969). His printed catalogue contains the names of the patients whose wills are registered in the archives; unfortunately, it lacks an index.

Bibliography for the medical history of the Order of the Hospital:

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- Ellul-Micallef, Roger. "Sketches of Medical Practice in Sixteenth-Century Malta," in *Karissime Gotifride. Historical Essays presented to Professor Godfrey Wettinger on his Seventieth Birthday*, ed. by Paul Xuereb (Malta University Press, 1999), pp. 103-20.
- Karassava-Tsiligiri, Fotini. "The Fifteenth-Century Hospital of Rhodes: Tradition and Innovation," in *The Military Orders. Fighting for the Faith and Caring for the Sick*, ed. by Malcom Barber (Aldershot: Variorum, 1994), pp. 89-96.
- Luttrell, Anthony. "The Hospitallers' Medical Tradition: 1291-1530," in *The Military Orders. Fighting for the Faith and Caring for the Sick*, ed. by Malcom Barber (Aldershot: Variorum, 1994), pp. 64-81.
- Savona-Ventura, Charles. *Outlines of Maltese Medical History* (Malta, 1997).
- Williams, Ann. "Xenodochium to Sacred Infirmary: the Changing role of the Hospital of the Order of St John, 1522-1631," in *The Military Orders. Fighting for the Faith and Caring for the Sick*, ed. by Malcom Barber (Aldershot: Variorum, 1994), pp. 97-102.

Publications Received

Monographs

Carlos Barquero Goñi, *La orden de San Juan de Jerusalén en Navarra Siglos XIV y XV* ([Spain]: Fundación Fuentes Dutor, [2004]). *Gift of the author.*

Claude Brianville, *Giúoco D'Arme Dei Sovrani*, facsimile edition (Naples 1725 [Malta 2004]). *Gift of the National Library of Malta.*

Gerard Bugeja, *Invocazione di Malta (Una poesia del XVI secolo)* (Malta, 2000). *Gift of the author.*

Paul Catania and Louis J. Scerri eds., *Naxxar: A Village and its People* (Malta, 2000). *Gift of Mr. Paul Catania.*

Paul Catania, "The Naxxar Parish Archives: The French Connection," *Proceedings of History Week 1999* (Malta, 2002). *Gift of the author.*

Robert M. Clark, *The Johanniter in Russia: Knights of the Bailiwick of Brandenburg of the Knightly Order of Saint John and of the Royal Prussian Order of Saint John residing in Russia and the Baltic states from 1678 to 2002* (Dallas, 2005). *Gift of the author.*

Contemporary Christian Art, Malta 2002 (Exhibition Catalogue). *Gift of the Cathedral Museum, Mdina.*

Philip Farrugia Randon, *Turner's Malta Watercolour* (Malta, 2000). *Gift of the author.*

Idem, *Puttinu u toninu: stejjer ghal tfal ta'kull eta.* (Malta, 2001). 1 bk + 2 CDs. *Gift of the author.*

Claudio Carcereri de Prati, *Leggi criminali per l'isola di Malta e sue dipendenze (1854)* (Padova: 2003). *Gift of the author.*

John T. Spike, *Il Taglio della luce: Il chiaroscuro nella pittura di Mattia e Gregorio Preti* (Viterbo, 2004). *Gift of Msgr. John Azzopardi.*

Offprints

José Manuel Rodríguez García, "La Marina Alfonso al asalto de África (1240-1280)," *Revista de Historia Naval* 22 (2004). *Gift of the author.*

Nikolas Jaspert, "Ein Polymythos: Die Kreuzzüge," *Mythen in der Geschichte*, edited by Helmut Altrichter, Klaus Herbers and Helmut Neuhaus (2004). *Gift of the author.*

Helen Nicholson, "The Sisters' House at Minwear, Pembrokeshire: analysis of the documentary and archaeological evidence," *Archaeologia Cambrensis* 151 (2002): 109-38. *Gift of the author.*

Bulletins and Newsletters

Friends of the National Archives

Bank of Valletta

NEH Challenge Grant

Readers of *Melitensia* have received a letter from Father Columba Stewart, director of the Hill Museum & Manuscript Library, announcing that it reached the second benchmark set by the National Endowment for the Humanities (NEH) in a Challenge Grant to raise \$2.5 million for the endowment of the Malta Study Center. As part of a four-year fundraising drive launched in August 2003, the NEH provides a \$1 match for every \$4 raised by HMML for the Malta Study Center. When the NEH awarded the grant, it set fundraising benchmarks that must be met in order to receive the match. The endowment will fund a curatorial position, acquisitions, programming, and preservation of manuscripts and documents related to Malta.

The Malta Study Center is the only place in the world where researchers can investigate over 18,000 micro-filmed documents from Maltese archives. It exists today because a

small number of dedicated people believed that the archives of Malta and the Knights of Malta were of major historical significance and must be preserved. Because of their generosity, the Malta Study Center can boast a solid record of achievements:

- Microfilm preservation of the Archives of the Knights of Malta
- Microfilm preservation of major Maltese historical collections, including the archives of the Maltese Inquisition
- Creation of an electronic finding aid, the on-line Malta Study Center
- Initiation of new preservation work at the Priory of Rome

The evaluators of the NEH Challenge Grants recognized the international significance of the Malta Study Center and the long-term planning underlying the grant application when they awarded the grant. We are pleased to be halfway to our goal by successfully raising

\$900,000 that the NEH matched with \$225,000. However, the most difficult part of the challenge lies ahead: \$600,000 by July 31, 2006, and the final benchmark of \$450,000 by July 31, 2007.

Neither the endowment drive nor our work in Malta is complete. There are still on Malta important historical archives that are in danger. They are kept in ancient buildings that lack climate control or fire prevention; their contents are unknown and inaccessible. With your help, the Center can successfully complete its endowment drive within two years.

The endowment will fund:

- Future preservation work on Malta
- Improved electronic access to the collection
- Collection development

But all depends on our success in meeting the NEH Challenge in 2006 and 2007. We cannot get there without your help.

YOU CAN HELP OUR MISSION

THE MALTA STUDY CENTER

Your generosity is key to the success of the HMML's mission to preserve, to study and to teach.

HOW YOU CAN HELP

Director's Circle.....\$2,500 & Above	Contributor	\$150+
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Sponsor	Student	\$30

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