

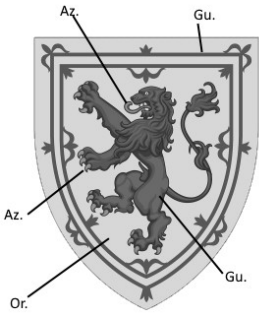
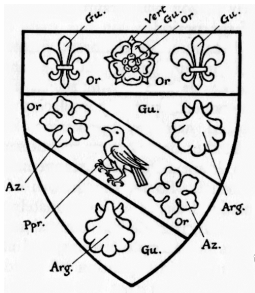
Heraldry for Self-Isolators

Week 3—Topic 2: Hatching

Heraldry is all about **COLOUR**

So what do you do if colour is not available?

Before colour printing became so affordable, on a black and white book you could simply label the colours—this process was called **TRICKING**. It looks pretty awful so would only really be appropriate in a book ABOUT heraldry or perhaps a roll intended to record the arms of all the Bigwigs in a locality.

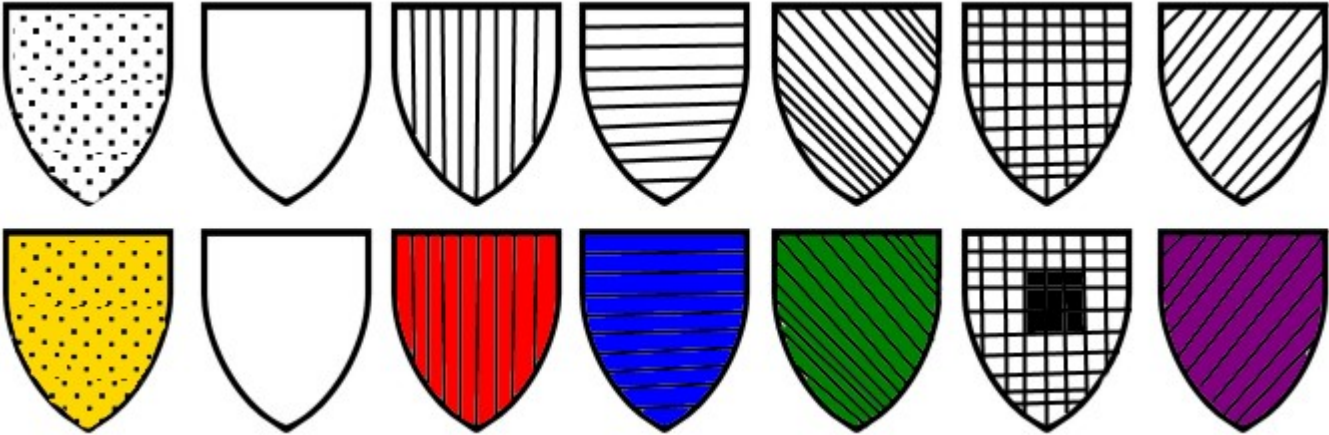


Tricking then is of limited usefulness. A more elegant solution was clearly required for other monochrome objects like the family silver or gravestones.



Various systems were arrived at, the best known being based on that of the 17th century Jesuit, Silvestro Petrasancta.

This worked on a system of **HATCHING** which enabled the tinctures to be specified without wholly destroying the look of the design. Argent (silver) was left blank while Or (gold) was indicated by covering the section of the shield with small dots. The various colours were shown by the use of lines:



If you find a piece of silver with a coat of arms hatched on it, it is possible to work out the colours. You know what is coming next

Here is an example of hatching on a silver punch bowl in Boston –can you work out the tinctures?



Can you work out the tinctures?

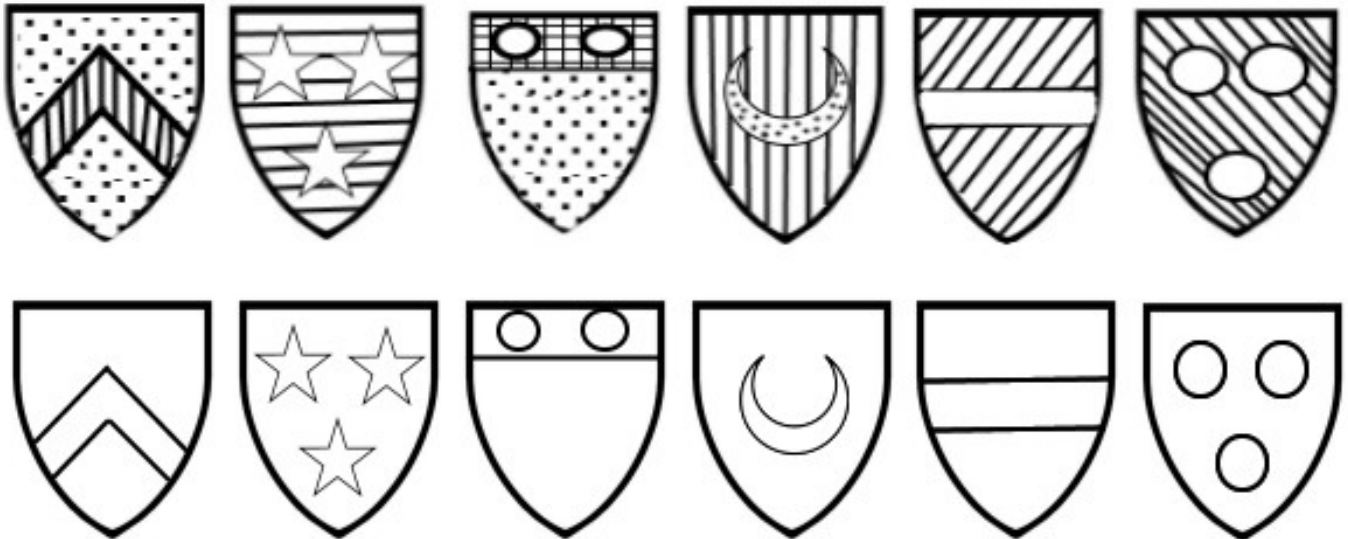


Here is the hatched arms of Alexander Munro in Dean Cemetery, Edinburgh. What are the tinctures?

This one may be too small....



Have a go at colouring in the following shields in accordance with the Petrasancta hatching:



Here lies the body of a man called Jones,
A very good man entirely.
We bought this stone in an Ebay sale
And his name was not Jones it was Reilly.

And a bonus question from a phoney gravestone

Seals and signet-rings also used hatching



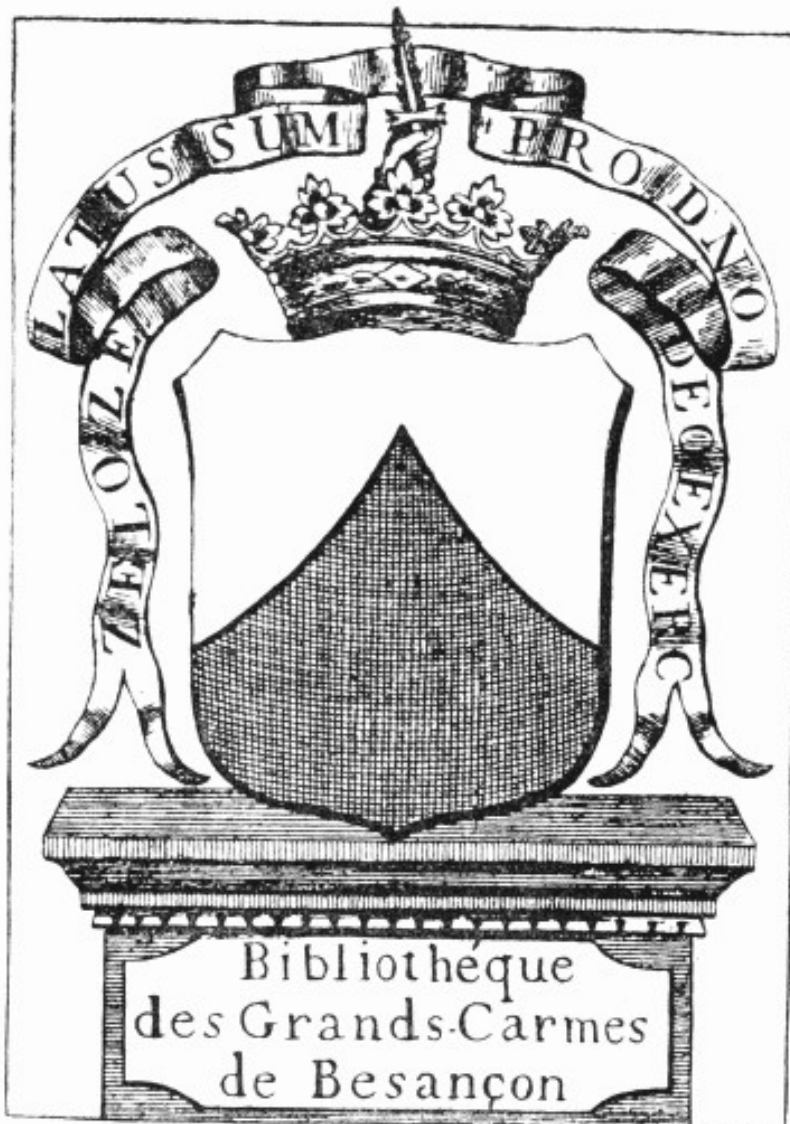
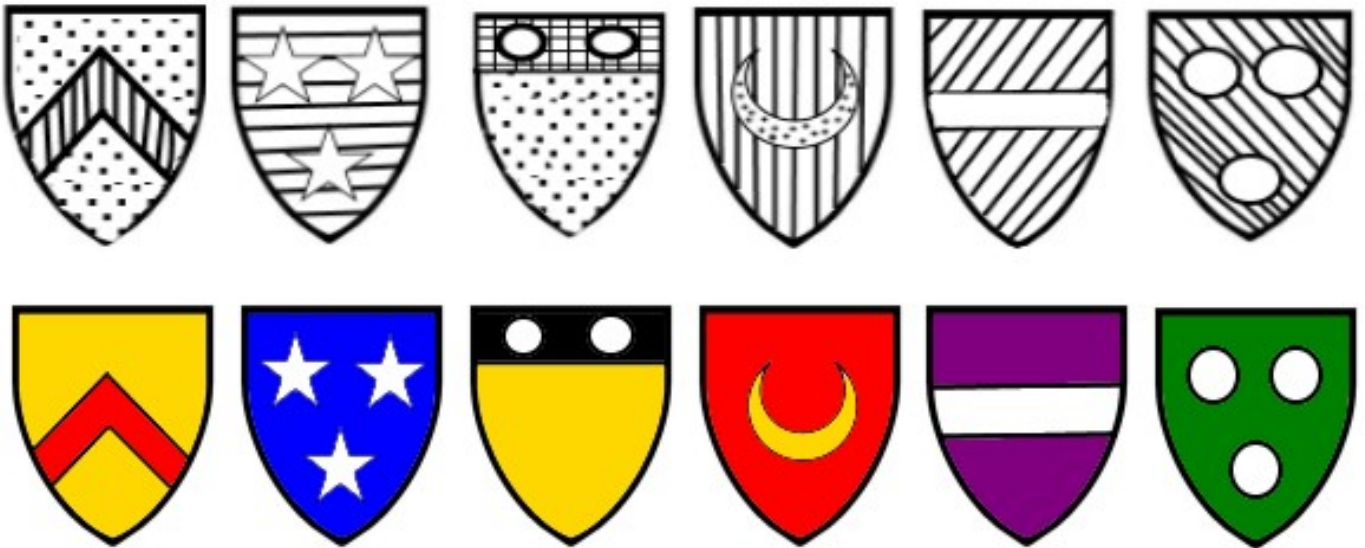
BIBLIOTHÈQUE
DE MOUCHY
ARMOIRE TABLETTE

Another form in which hatched coats of arms can often be found is in "Ex Libris" - bookplates. Even now that colour printing is cheap, many people prefer the old engraved look of a hatched shield.



On the left is the bookplate of the Duc de Mouchy, on the right that of Boula de Nanteuil.

Here are the answers to the previous page



Finally, a bonus bookplate from the Library of the Carmelites of Besançon— simply Argent and Sable..