

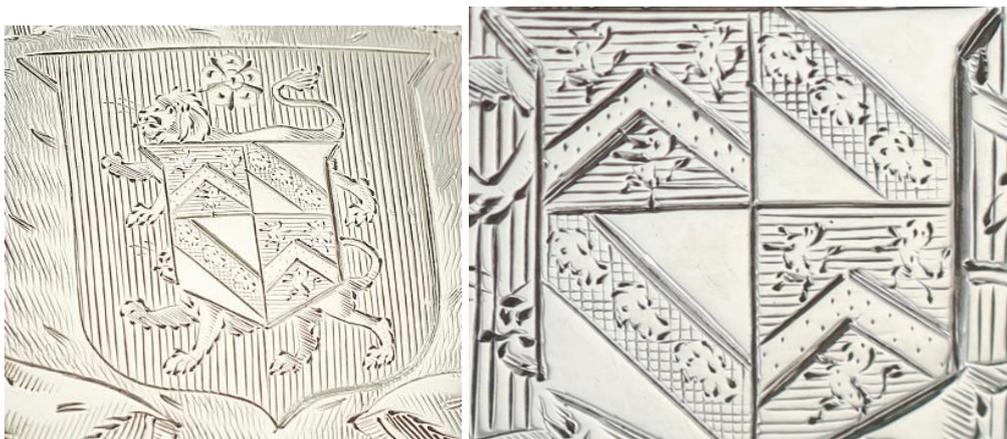


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The Marital Arms of Hughes and Lewis

The armorial bearings as engraved upon this George III English Sterling Silver Tea Pot by John Emes hallmarked London 1803 are those of the family of Hughes with an escutcheon of pretence for Lewis. These armorial bearings denote the marshalling of a marital coat showing the arms of the husband over the entire surface of the shield, whilst the arms of the wife are placed on a small shield (known as an escutcheon of pretence) centrally on the husband's arms. These arms may be blazoned as follows:

Arms:

Gules two lions passant in pale and in chief a rose argent¹
(for Hughes) over all an escutcheon of pretence **Quarterly 1st
and 4th Azure a chevron between three lions rampant or¹**
(for Lewis) **2nd and 3rd Argent on a bend sable three men's
heads proper²** (for?.....)

- 1) Later authorities give the blazon for the arms of Hughes quartered with Lewis as borne by William Hughes, the 1st Baron Dinorben as follows: '*1st and 4th Gules two lions passant between three roses argent (for Hughes) 2nd and 3rd Gules, a chevron between three lions rampant or (for Lewis)*'.
- 2) These arms are erroneously blazoned and I suspect had been used incorrectly by the Lewis family for some time. Given the pedigree of the family and their descent from Gwelrydd ap Rhys Goch, Founder of the 3rd 'Noble Tribe' of Wales the correct arms being '*Argent on a bend sable*

three leopards' faces of the field'. The foregoing is not surprising given the fact that early Welsh heraldry was self-assumed and if not self-assumed were often attributed to the individuals or families concerned.



These armorial bearings undoubtedly commemorate the marriage of The Reverend Edward Hughes, MA (born 9th February 1738 died 1st June 1815), of Kimmel Park, near Abergele in the County of Denbighshire and Mary Lewis (born 8th October 1740 died

26th September 1835), the youngest daughter and co-heiress of The Reverend Robert Lewis, MA, of Cemlyn, Rector of Trefdraeth both in the County of Anglesey and Chancellor of the Diocese of Bangor, whilst Edward was the eldest son of Hugh Hughes, of Lleiniog in the County of Anglesey. Edward and Mary were married on the 10th August 1765. During their marriage, Edward and Mary had three sons and five daughters. Their eldest son, William Lewis Hughes (born 10th November 1767 died 10th February 1852) was created Baron Dinorben, of Kimmel in the County of Denbigh within the Peerage of the United Kingdom on the 10th September 1831. He was a copper mine owner, philanthropist and Whig politician.



Kimmel Hall near Abergele, Co. Denbighshire, one time seat of the Hughes family.

Handwritten signature of John D. Lewis of Kimmel.

MSc, FSA Scot, Hon FHS, QG

12th March 2017