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The Crest of the Family of Gladstanes

The crest as engraved upon this Victorian Scottish Sterling Silver Canteen of Cutlery in the King's Pattern for Twelve Settings by Robert Gray & Sons hallmarked Glasgow 1845 is that of the family of Gladstanes. It may be blazoned as follows:

Crest: **A demi-griffin holding in the dexter claw a sword proper**

Upon the balance of probability and without any evidence to the contrary this canteen of cutlery was in the possession of a gentleman who was a member of the Gladstanes family who it would later spell their name as Gladstones or Gladstone. This family originally stemmed from the Gladstanes of that Ilk. Their surname being derived from a place of that name in Teviotdale in the County of Roxburghshire, although it is stated in some authorities that they were originally designated as 'of Cocklaw' in the same county. The family is stated as being an ancient one as is evidenced by the fact that George Gladstanes and William Gladstanes were witnesses to a charter of Archibald Douglas, Earl of Angus, to his heir apparent heir, James Douglas which was dated the 2nd July 1479.

There were other branches of the family, one styled 'of Whitelaw' in the family's home county of Roxburghshire and one that is stated as being resident in Edinburgh who bore this same crest. These two families being cadet branches of the Gladstanes of that Ilk. Another branch claiming descent from the Gladstanes of that Ilk was the Gladstones of Toft Combes, near Biggar, in the County of Lanarkshire. It was from this branch that Prime Minister William Ewart Gladstone (born 29th December 1809 died 19th May 1898) descends. He was the fourth son of Sir John Gladstone, the 1st

Baronet of Fasque and Balfour in the County of Kincardineshire.¹ The crest of the Gladstone Baronets differs from that as engraved upon this canteen of cutlery in that it is blazoned as follows '*Issuant from a wreath of holly proper a demi-griffin sable supporting between the claws a sword the blade enfiled by a wreath of oak also proper*'. This difference may well have been introduced at the time of Sir John's creation as a baronet.



A handwritten signature in black ink, which appears to read "John A. Gladstone, 9 Lincolne".

MSc, FSA Scot, Hon FHS, QG

30th October 2018

¹ It was Sir John who dropped the terminal 's' of their surname by Royal Licence dated 10th February 1835. He was created a Baronet within the Baronetage of the United Kingdom, styled 'of Fasque and Balfour, Co. Kincardineshire' on the 18th July 1846.