

CHALONER, THOMAS (died 1598), of Denbigh and Chester, sometimes described as Ulster King of Arms

Name: Thomas Chaloner

Date of death: 1598

Spouse: Elizabeth Chaloner (née Alcock)

Child: Jacob Chaloner

Parent: Dowce Chaloner (née Mathew)

Parent: Robert Chaloner

Gender: Male

Occupation: Ulster King of Arms

Area of activity: Art and Architecture; History and Culture; Performing Arts; Poetry; Royalty and Society; Scholarship and Languages

Author: William Llewelyn Davies

Some particulars of this painter, poet, antiquary, and actor are given by W. J. Hemp in 'Two Welsh Heraldic Pedigrees, with notes on Thomas Chaloner, Ulster King of Arms,' in *Y Cymm.*, xl. He was the fourth son of Robert Chaloner of Denbigh by his wife Dowce, daughter of Richard Mathew of Lleweni Green, Denbighshire. As Hemp points out, several members of the family were students of heraldry and genealogy, Thomas Chaloner being employed as an agent by the College of Heralds for some years under the designation of 'Deputy to the Office of Arms.' His appointment as Ulster King of Arms he received on the very day that he died, viz. 14 May 1598. He was buried in S. Michaels church, Chester. His wife, whom he married 8 November 1584, was Elizabeth, daughter of Thomas Alcock, Chester. On 10 January 1587 Chaloner took as his apprentice Randle Holme, the first of four generations of heralds of that name. This Randle Holme I, who married Chaloner's widow, took his stepson, JACOB CHALONER (1586 - 1631), as his apprentice. He died 25 November 1631. (For the Randle Holmes family see *Jnl. Chester Arch. and Hist. Soc.*, 1892).

Thomas Chaloner's great-nephew, ROBERT CHALONER (1612 - 1675), of Lloran, Denbighshire, and Roundway, Wiltshire, became Bluemantle Pursuivant in 1660 and Lancaster Herald in 1665.

To the references given above add Anthony R. Wagner, *Catalogue of English Mediaeval Rolls of Arms* (London, 1950); in this work in a note it is suggested that Chaloner's appointment received on the day of his death was that of deputy herald for Chester, not that of Ulster King of Arms.

Author

Sir William Llewelyn Davies, (1887 - 1952)

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