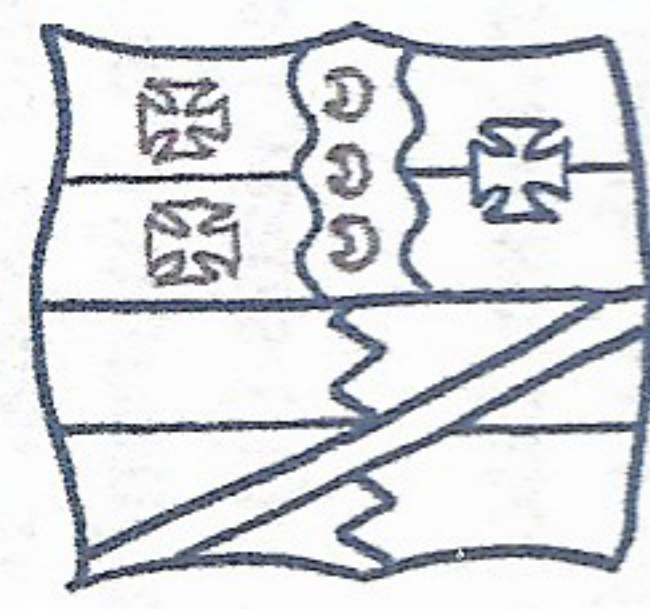


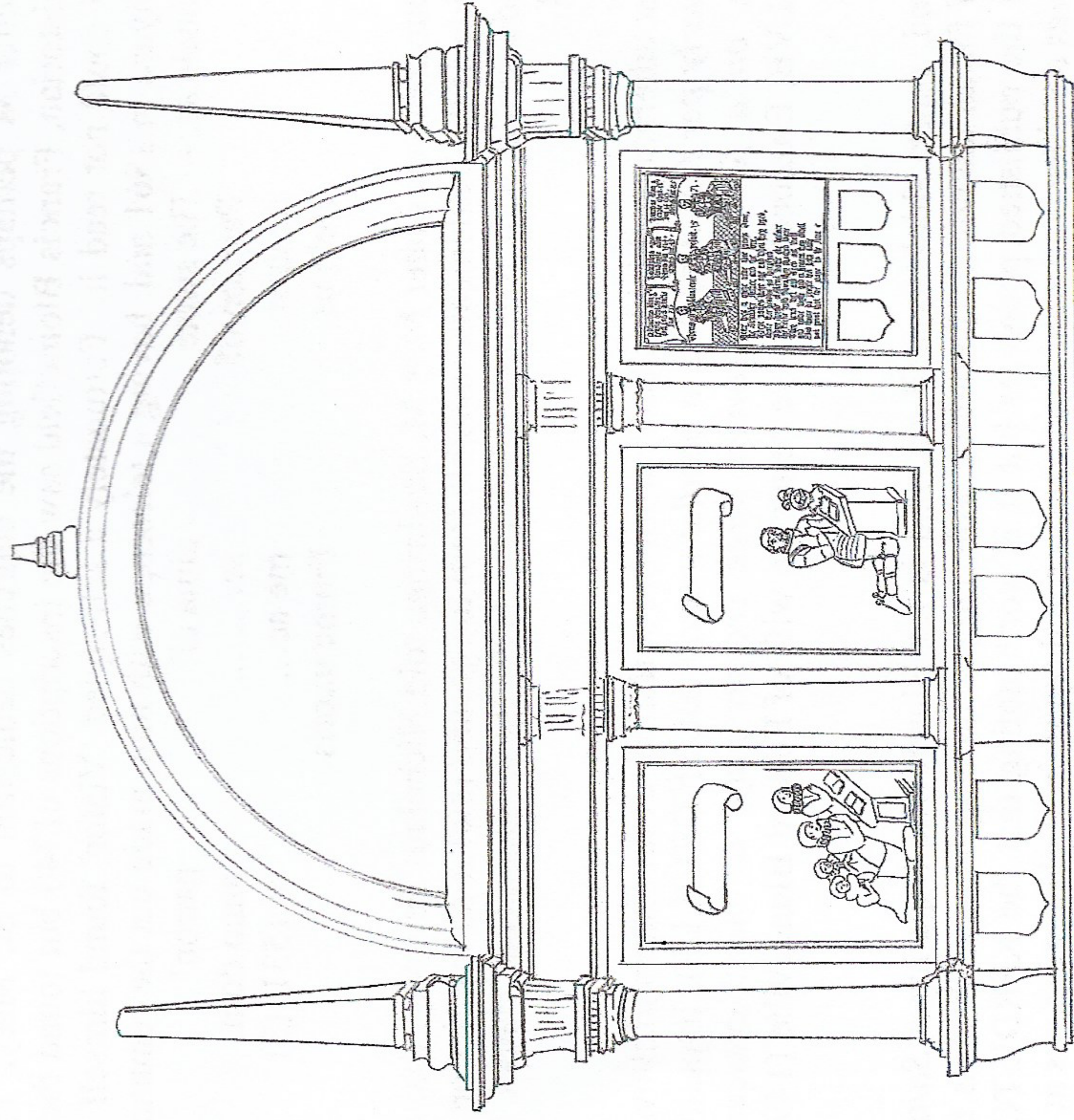
nearby Rainthorpe Hall. The last of the male Kerdestons was Sir Thomas Kerdeston who died in 1446 leaving a daughter, Elizabeth, who married Sir Terry Robsart. Thus, if a female Kerdeston married a Blundeville the marriage must have taken place before this date although the shield may, of course, be retrospective.

The third, northernmost shield is also well cut and features Blundeville impaling: *A cross engrailed debriused by a bendlet*. This probably represents the 'differenced' arms of a GURNEY (*Argent a cross engrailed Gules*), Constance Gurney of West Barsham having married Ralph Blundeville who died in 1514.



Blomefield also saw these shields. He recognised the Gurney impalement and mentions another bearing: *Five de-lises* but this appears to be a mistake.

Inside the church is the Blundeville monument situated in the chancel in the 'founder's place':-

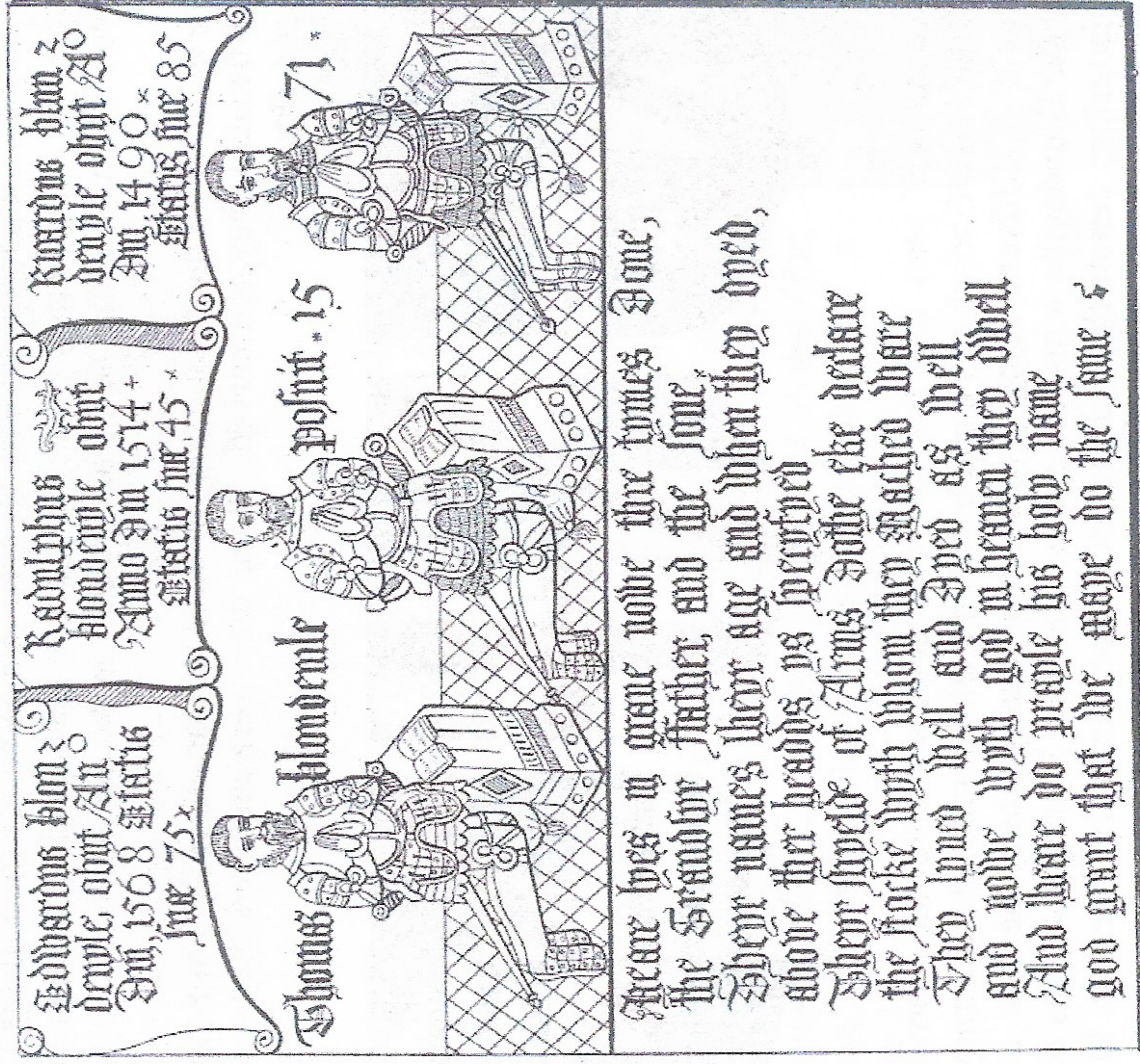


At one time it was highly coloured, the two outer columns being marbled before terminating in green painted square tapering pillars supporting the semi circular arch which featured a painting of Noah's Ark (5). One suspects that as the colouring decayed a decision was made to remove it and regrettably the sanding down removed virtually all of the painting, even including the six coloured arms at the bottom of the entablature. Only the incised impalement lines and traces of the sixth shield remain.

In the first (left as viewed) concaved compartment are the sculptured kneeling figures of two women and two young girls. Above them is a scroll which used to be lettered 'Rosa et Margareta uxores Thome Blundville cum filijs suis Elizabetha et Patientia'

In the second, central concaved compartment is the figure of a man kneeling at a faldstool with his helm and a three plumed crest by his side. The scroll above him was formerly lettered 'Thomas Blundeville filius Edwardi.'

The third compartment is completely out of keeping with the other two. It accommodates a graven brass plaque which is self-explanatory:-



Great lyes a greene worde thre tymes done,
the Grandfyr father and the soue,
Shere names theyr age and when they dyed,
above ther heades ys scrytyed
Shere howe of Armes dothe the decaie
the stocke wyth whom they reached here
they lyncd well and dyed as well
and worde wyth god in heven they dwell
And here do preple his holy name
god want that we maye do the same &