



history / heraldry

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### EMBLEM OF KIEV

In Ukrainian historiography over the past twenty years, a certain stereotype has developed about the emblem of the city of Kyiv used from the end of the XV to the 80s of the 18th century. In particular, V. Ruyantseva claimed that in the last years of the XV century the city "received its emblem with a plot similar to the image on the coat of arms of the Kiev province - "white angel in the gules field", referring to the coat of arms of K. Nenetsky (1). However, the coat of arms itself did not mention the city emblem at all, but only a description of the landmark is given. Although the attribution to the image of an angel or archangel Michael the role of the coat of arms of Kyiv was also not new - it happened even before both Polish and Ukrainian publications (2). Then V. Rummyantseva singled out the concept of "magistrate seal", on which was "the image of the hand with self-arrow, also called "kush" (3). Such separation of the concepts of "urban coat of arms" and "magistrate seal" also occurs in other publications of the researcher and in compilations of them (4). However, its conclusion is not only not confirmed by sources, it is groundless from the point of view of the then functional purpose of the emblem. This error is caused by a misunderstanding of the difference between the urban and territorial signs.

The most important socio-political function of the coat of arms at that time was the role of the symbol of city self-government. In practice, it was reduced mainly to the use of the emblem on the city seal (in the texts of the diplomas of the XV-XVIII centuries. "herba" and "seal" appear as adequate concepts). The city sign was also depicted on flags, buildings, placed on measuring vessels, marked with stone wax and various products, its known use on watermarks, etc.

The first city signs that gradually acquired the meaning of the coats of arms are known in the Ukrainian lands since the beginning of the XIV century. Their appearance is closely related to the evolution of Ukrainian feudal cities and the formation of communities in them, endowed with certain self-governing functions. Thus, with the acquisition of Magdeburg rights, the urban population was exempted from the management and the court of the Grand Duke or the royal official. The governing powers were transferred to the appointed voyt, who headed the city self-government. Obviously, symbols were previously used that indicated the affiliation of military formations or some property to a particular owner, person or group of persons (perhaps a certain form of urban settlements), they created the prerequisites for the further development of heraldic traditions. However, the establishment of urban heraldry should be associated with the emergence of self-governing urban communities and the specific time of the establishment of their seal, which acquires a permanent character (thanks to this, the concept of "urban coat of arms" was formed).

The colonization process in Podillya and the Right Bank in the XV century was interrupted by

frequent attacks by the Crimean Tatars, in particular the significant pogrom of Kyiv in 1482. Therefore, Magdeburg law was especially active in the late and XV century, when Grand Duke I Alexander gave letters to Lutsk, {Kiev and some other large; cities. In particular, the tradition dates back to 1497 the year of Magdeburg law by Bratslav together with the name and city of St. Peter (5). This assumption looks very plausible given the importance of this city at the time. In later sources (XVI century) it is mentioned about the use by Bratslav of the coat of arms with the image of St. Peter (6), which can confirm the above version.

Unfortunately, the text of the privilege for Kyiv has not been preserved and the exact date of its provision is unknown. In May 1494, the Grand Duke's letter confirms the longest rights of the people of Kiev, and at the end of the document it is noted: And all the essays were removed of the landed Kievs and all the Polish, in a long time, kakylo for the Grand Duke of Vytovt: in the native news not velym to introduce, and the maternity... " (7) But already in the charter of exemption from payment of duty of June 4, 1497, the petitioners are "the city of the Kiev, and the burmystry, and the council, and the restful" (8), which certifies the new self-governing organization of the city. This is also confirmed by the charter of 1499 (given to the people of Kiev after the complaint of the Kiev voivode Dmitry Putyatch), which recorded: "Kak esmo gave you the right to Nemetsky..." (9) We made a comparative analysis of the fourth certificates of that time for Magdeburg law, exhibited on June 31, 1497 for Lutsk (10), 4 October 1498 for Dorochisyn (11) (according to the publication of F. Leontovych, the privilege is dated January 17, 1498 (12) and Polotska (13) and March 14, 1499 for Minsk (14), showed that the documents have a similar structure, contain almost identical. Instead, they point to the functional use of the city sign: "On the Town Hall have a barrel of mernuyu and a nurtured mesh [...] the goals of the weight, and the sach squir's cap, and the wax there is a stoop chechaya yigi have a famous..." (15) It can be assumed that the Kiev charter would have a similar meaning and contain similar formulas. The city seal is also mentioned in the privilege of the Kiev burghers in 1497: "... In the Kotori ridicule of the Kievsky district there is a sheet of chighijat with a mesh, the sobagnom nota nabta nadata is a nail..." (16)

There is no doubt that at this time the seal with the sign of Kiev was already functioning. The researcher of the Kiev seals Kostian Antipovich dated the oldest of them about 1500 (17). It depicts in a rounded shield, a bow with an arrow (or two arrows), which is pulled by two arms pushed out from the cloud. The question of the exact time of appearance of this symbol in Kiev remains open. The fact that the description of the coat of arms or seal does not record the mentioned privileges for other cities confirms the practice of that time - the city sign was chosen mostly on the site of the burghers themselves. It is likely that the described above Kiev symbol is used and much earlier, say, on city flags.

The issue of self-government in Kyiv remains unclear. At least, if the city did not have the Magdeburg right before, and the privilege of Grand Duke Alexander was not his renewal (although V. Antonovich claimed the opposite (18)), then it should still be noted that the self-governing organization was not for the people of Kiev "the introduction of news", which would encroach on the ancient rights and "old man to move".

Both the research of K. Antipovich and our archival searches showed that the bow remained on three types of city seals until the first quarter of the XVII century (the latest document we discovered with such a coat of arms dated January 25, 1627. (19)). It is no coincidence that at the end of the 16th century religious and national contradictions escalated and this was reflected in the urban heraldry, the Kyiv Catholic Bishop Yu. Vereshchuk tried to change the symbols of Kyiv. According to his project, three separate cities were formed: for the lower one, it was planned to use an image of a hand stretched from the cloud with a royal scepter; for a new upper (royal) city - an arm stretched from a cloud with a royal crown; for a new episcopal city - in the upper field - the episcopal mitra, in the lower - the coat of arms of Vereshchynsky (20).

Although this project is not implemented, it is already clear from it that the ancient coat of arms was precisely the "barb barwise bow", not the archangel Michael or the angel. The bow is mentioned "with two arrows", but the poor state of the seals does not allow you to assert for sure how many arrows on the coat of arms. On the seal of 1630 in the coat of arms there is

no longer a cloud, the onion is modified into a located "in a pole" (i.e. vertically) a crossbow, which holds one hand. We have such a transformed symbol on all other Kyiv city seals until 1780. The exception is the seal that K. Antipovich found on the documents of 1636-1646 years (we managed to find it an even earlier imprint on the document - from June 26, 1625. (21)). On it, a bow with one arrow (or a crossbow-self-shooting) is fed "in the beam" (horizontally), without a hand. The equivalent application of this seal together with the first variety, and then with the second gives reason to consider the image on it a modification of the city emblem. According to the practice of that time, such modifications could be used on the seals of the voyt or lava (judicial body), while the embattlement was accompanied by the inscription "seal of the city...", "rays" or "burmyster". It is possible that K. Antipovich incorrectly read the inscription on the seal (22), and it belonged not to the districts, but to the Cossack government, although it was also used for bonding, letters signed by "the voyt, the burmister and the districts."

We have a similar location of the bow (or self-shooting) on the Cossack flags of 1651, which were attributed to the Kiev shops or the magistrate guard (23). However, on the seals of 1656, we again have a vertically placed crossbow, holding his hand.

It is worth mentioning that in 1722, the Heraldmaster's office was created in Russia (24). It developed emblems for the flags of regiments stationed in different cities of the empire. The authors of the projects did not know about the Ukrainian city heraldry, so for the Kyiv (as well as Chernihiv) emblems took a territorial sign from the "Titular" in 1672 (25). These emblems of 1730 approved the Senate and handed over to the Military College for use on regimental flags and seals of governors. However, Ukrainian cities and local governments did not use these signs, so it is certainly impossible to consider them urban emblems.

After the liquidation of the autonomy of the Hetmanate by the decree of September 16, 1781, the Kyiv, Chernihiv and Novgorod-Siversk governorates were formed, each of which was divided into 11 counties. For county cities, 1782 "exceeding" arms, but they were formal, because the ancient coats of arms were almost completely left (26). The landmark with the archangel Michael, used by the Kyiv Provincial Chancellery (27), is taken for the new coat of arms of Kyiv instead of the ancient city symbol (luk or self-shooting) (28).

When the new coats of arms were compiled, their authors did not always professionally approach the ancient signs, sometimes the ancient city emblems were confused with land or with the emblems of regiments and regimental institutions. It is worth noting that this was not unequivocally perceived on the ground. As an example, we can cite the fact that in Kiev "grado society" in 1787 made a seal not with "exhaust" a new coat of arms approved before five years, but with a traditional image of self-shooting, constantly used for three centuries (29).

So, there is no doubt that from the end of the XV to the third quarter of the XVIII century, the city emblem of Kyiv was originally the image of two hands pushed out from the cloud, which pull the bow with an arrow (or two arrows), and later it changed into the image of a self-shooter-arbolish, which holds his hand (or without it). Archangel Michael at the same time played the role of the territorial emblem of the Kiev voivodeship and the Kiev regiment (this is confirmed by various sources) and, as O. Ohlobryn rightly believed, "could be considered the defender-patron of Kiev"<sup>30</sup>, but did not perform the functions of the city emblem until 1782.

## NOTES

1. Rumyantseva V. *Lands and emblems of the gardens Levobrezhnoy Ukraine period of feudalism.* - K, 1986. - P.44

2. See, example: *Słownik geograficzny Królestwa polskiego innych krajów słowickich.* - Warszawa, 1883. - T.IV - S.61; *Shcherbakivsky D. Relics of the old Kyiv self-government // Kyiv and its outskirts.* - K, 1926.-P.231. 3. Rumyantseva V. *Note, work.* - P.45.

4. See, for example: *Panchepeko V. Coat of arms of Kyiv // Kyiv antiquity.* - 1994. - No3. - P.96.

5. *Works of the Podolian eparchial mytorical-statistical comic*. -Kamenetz-Podolsk, 1901. -Vyp.9. -P. 123.
6. *Paprocki B. Herby rycerstwa polskiego*. - Krakow, 1858.-5.5.21.
7. *Acts, related stories of the West of Russia (hereinafter - ZAR)*. - St. Petersburg, 1846. - T. 1. - P. 146. (Here and further in ancient Ukrainian texts, the letter ,e" reads as "and . - Ed.)
8. Same.-S. 173.
9. Same. -P.194.
10. *The archival of the Yugo-Western Russia (hereinafter - the Archiv of the UZR)*. - K., 1869. - T.U. - Vol.1. - NoIU.
11. *Acts of the Lithuanian-Russian state (hereinafter - ALG)*. - Moscow, 1900. - Issue. 1. - No59.
12. *Acts of Lithuanian metrics*. - Warsaw, 1896. -T.1.-Vsch.1.-No371.
13. AZAR. -T.1. -No159.
14. *There is self*-No. 165.
15. Same. - P.181, 188. Cf. with the Latin text of the privilege for Dorogochina: "On the town hall to have a measure for grain and a measure for honey, their sign is marked, also put waxing, that is, a chapel, and a flagled wax with a sign of their mark": ALG. -VyP.1. -P.85 or Lutsk: "Finally give and allow the room for weight.
16. ASSAUs.-T1.-P.173.
17. *Antipovich K.E. Kyiv City Seal// Anniversary Collection in Honor of Academician Dmytro Ivanovych Batalii on the occasion of the Seventieth Anniversary of Life and the Fifties of Scientific Activity*. - K., 1927. - 4.2. - P.831.
18. *Antonovich V. Monographs on the history of the West and South-Western Russia*. - K., 1885. -T1.-P.253.
19. *The main archive of ancient acts in Warsaw (hereinafter - GDA)*. - Collection of Archives. - Ed. zb. 337.-Ark.48.
20. *Storozhenko A. Kiev three hundred years ago // Kievan old*. - 1894. - No3. - P.413.
21. GDA. - Zamoyski Archive Foundation. - Unit. slender 337. -Arch.43.
22. *Antipovich K. Note, work* - P.832.
23. *Isaevich I. Combat flags of the Cossack army // Ukrainian Historical Journal*. - 1963.-No1.-P.85-87.
24. *Lakier A. Russian heraldry*. - Moscow, 1990.-P.220; *Soboleva N. A. Old coats of arms of the Russian gardens*. - Moscow, 1985. - P.44.
25. *Kamentsev E., Ustyugov N. Russian sprhargisis and heraldry*. - Moscow, 1974. - P. 186.
26. *Full-funded laws of the Russian Empire*. - St. Petersburg, 1830. - Vol.21. - No15422, 15423, 15424.
27. *Grabov N. Seals of administrative and judicial institutions of Left-Bank Ukraine of the XVIII century*. // *Notes of the Shevchenko Scientific Society*. -Lviv, 1991. -T. SSHIJI. -P.290-291.
28. *Winkler P.P. Coat of arms of the Russian Empire in the Full Brotherhood of Laws //Ye. [in the book several sections with a separate pagination] Coat of arms, provinces, regions and the official of the Russian Empire, contribution to the Full-day law of 1649-1900 It*. - St. Petersburg.
29. *National Library of Ukraine V. Vernadsky*. - Institute of Manuscript. -F.II. - Spr.207638. -Ark.1.
30. *Ogloblin O. Coat of arms of Kyiv // Science and Society*. - 1994. - No7-8. - P.50.

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