



Clan GED

ARMS
CREST
MOTTO
SUPPORTERS

Azure, three gods hauriant Argent
A pike's head Proper
Durat ditat places (It enriches, it pleases)

Ged is the Scots word of a pike. There are several lands named after this fierce fish, which may also be given in the plural as geddes. The arms of both Get and Gedders show three pike, and this is clearly canting, i.e. merely a pun upon the bearers name. The English name for such a fish is 'luce', and various Anorman families named De Lucy, also have coats of arms with these fish. There may therefore have been a Norman knight come to Scotland who found that his De Lucyh shield earned him the Scots name of Ged or Geddes. (The perils of relying upon heraldic evidence, however, can be demonstrated by the fact that one of the editors of this work bears as part of his arms, three lucies, or geds, and his descent from an English knight of Shropshire in 1425 has no relation to either "Ged or Geddes, or to de Lucy.) Black relates that one William Geddes was killed in 1558 in a feud with the family of Tweedie, and there is an entry in the records of the Privy Council granting respite (i.e., pardon or reprieve) to James Tweedie of Dumelzier for the cruel slaughter of William Geddes. William Ged, a goldsmith in Edinburgh is credited with a great improvement in the science of printing, when in 1725 he invented stereotyping. He moved to London in 1729 where he went into partnership to establish his process. William Ged died without seeing his invention properly established, but his fame did prove of benefit to his family. James, his son, a captain in the Duke of Perth's regiment fighting for Prince Charles Edward Stuart in the Forty-five, was captured after the defeat of the prince at Culloden and condemned to death. The Duke of Newcastle was persuaded, on account of his father's work, to intercede, and James Ged was released in 1748.

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