

Moore

The surname of MOORE was derived from the Old French word 'more' -a nickname given to one with a swarthy complexion. Surnames having a derivation from nicknames form the broadest and most miscellaneous class of surnames, encompassing many different types of origin. The most typical classes refer adjectivally to the general physical aspect of the person concerned, or to his character. Many nicknames refer to a man's size or height, while others make reference to a favoured article of clothing or style of dress. Many surnames derived from the names of animals and birds. In the Middle Ages ideas were held about the characters of other living creatures, based on observation, and these associations were reflected and reinforced by large bodies of folk tales featuring animals behaving as humans. The name was brought into England in the wake of the Norman Conquest of 1066. There are also places of the name in Cheshire, from which the name may have been derived. Early records of the name mention Johannes filius More, 1185 County Kent. More Kalendrur was documented in County Surrey in 1332, and Thomas Mor was recorded in the year 1340 Elizabeth Mure, daughter of Sir Adam Mure of Rowallan, became Queen of King Robert II in 1347. Alicia del More of Yorkshire was listed in the Yorkshire Poll Tax of 1379. Henry More married Alice Simpson in London in the year of 1578. Francis Moore (1656-1715) was an Astrologer and quack physician. He advertised his pills by publishing an almanac, forecasting the weather. George Moore (1852-1933) was the Irish novelist, the author of Esther Water, The Brook of Kerith, Heloise and Abelard. The name was taken to Ireland at an early date, and is one of the twenty most popular names in Ireland. Of the several thousand Moore families, some are of settler descent, their forebears being immigrants from England, who have come to Ireland in considerable numbers over the centuries since the Anglo-Norman invasion. Others of Irish descent were of the great O'More sept, in Ireland as O'Modha, the principle sept of the seven sept of Leix. Ireland was one of the earliest countries to evolve a system of hereditary surnames. They came into being fairly generally in the 11th century, and indeed a few were formed before the year 1000. The associated arms are recorded in Sir Bernard Burkes General Armory. Ulster King of Arms in 1884.

ARMS - Ermine on a chevron azure three cinquefoils or

CREST - A dexter arm embowed proper holding a sword argent

MOTTO - - A MORE FLORESCO

I flourish according to my custom