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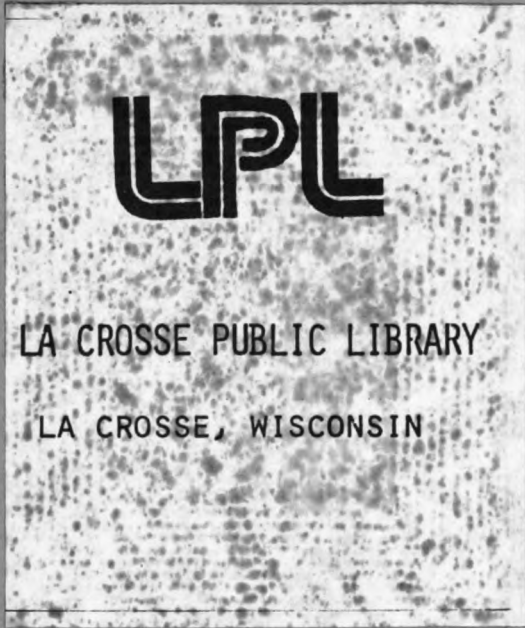
# A golden legacy to the Gibbs family in America

Montgomery B.  
Gibbs, Columbus  
Smith, Acting ...

929.2  
G35

Gift  
L.C. Coleman Est.

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# GOLDEN LEGACY

TO THE



## GIBBS FAMILY IN AMERICA....



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BY

...MONTGOMERY B. GIBBS...

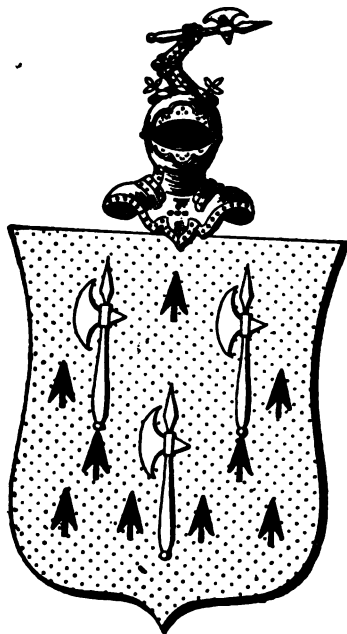
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CHICAGO  
PRESS OF EDWIN M. COLVIN  
1893



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**Arms and Crest of Gibbs Family.**  
Facsimile taken from the "Columbus Smith" Report

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## PREFACE.

NEW  
 SAMUEL JOHNSON has said, on a man speaking of himself: "A man cannot with propriety speak of himself except he relates simple facts, as, 'I was at Richmond,' or what depends on mensuration, as, 'I am six feet high.' He is sure he has been at Richmond, he is sure he is six feet high; but he cannot be sure he is wise, or that he has any other excellence. Then, all censure of a man's self is oblique praise. It is in order to show how much he can spare. It has all the invidiousness of self-praise and all the reproach of falsehood."

C. I.  
 This volume, being printed for private circulation only among certain members of the Gibbs family in America, would seem to call for some statement from its compiler as to the circumstances of its publication, and what it is hoped to accomplish.

ms  
 It is intended as an introduction to a larger work, now in progress of compilation, embracing a genealogy of the present generation of Gibbs's in America. It is desired to make this latter work as complete as possible. The compiler will, therefore, be pleased to receive the name or names of the Gibbs family (adult) wherever located, with addresses, that future communications may be made easier, and more rapid progress made.

28  
 I hope to again have occasion to refer to the work in another field, and at no very late date. The manner in which this labor (of love) is received will determine the future.

MONTGOMERY B. GIBBS.

CHICAGO, ILL., Nov. 1, 1893.

15  
7  
51



## CONTENTS.

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	PAGE
PREFACE . . . . .	3
ANCESTRY OF THE GIBBS FAMILY . . . . .	5
SOME FAMILY GLEANINGS . . . . .	9
HISTORY OF THE COLUMBUS SMITH REPORT . . . . .	11
THE COLUMBUS SMITH REPORT . . . . .	15
FIRST AMERICAN GIBBS GENEALOGY . . . . .	53
BOOKS THAT CONTAIN GIBBS REFERENCES . . . . .	65
HOW TO COMPILE A FAMILY PEDIGREE . . . . .	67
ANCIENT AND MODERN LAW OF DESCENT . . . . .	71
SOME NOTES ON GENEALOGY . . . . .	73
CHARLES GIBBS, THE NOTED PIRATE . . . . .	75



## ANCESTRY OF THE GIBBS FAMILY.

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“Even when men are born to wealth and high social position, any solid reputation which they may individually achieve is only attained by energetic application; for though an inheritance of acres may be bequeathed, an inheritance of knowledge and wisdom cannot.”—*Smiles' Self Help.*

---

THAT a man should be proud of his ancestors is but natural. That he should respect them is his bounden duty. “Those who care nothing for their ancestors,” says the Hon. William Whiting, LL. D., “are wanting in respect for themselves; they deserve to be treated with contempt by their posterity. Those who respect and venerate the memory of their forefathers will be led, not by vanity but by filial affection—by a pious reverence, to treasure up their memories.”

It is doubtless true that very few members of the not over large Gibbs family in America know from whence they came; whether their ancestors were of English, French, German, Irish, Scotch, or mixed origin.

There is abundant reason for stating, however, that the Gibbs family is one of the most ancient and honorable of which we have account, being traceable, not only to the first settlement of this country in New England, but back also through Old England to the Norman conquest.

That the family was purely English for three centuries, at least, prior to the settlement in the New England States, is no doubt news also to the major portion of the family. Such is the fact, however. The family name of Gibbs has undergone no really great change in orthography. Of some other family names, so much cannot be said. Many degenerate rapidly. The Stebbins family, for example, is fairly numerous. It is not

now a classic name. Its owners wear it ignorantly. It is by right a classic name, borne as it was by the first of Christian martyrs—St. Steven, sometimes spelled Stephen. Steven is the Dutch way of spelling it. Spell it in Spanish—Esteban. Drop the initial silent E and then you have Steban. Among the ignorant the step to Stebbins is very short. And thus the honorable name of St. Steven takes on degradation, even as the fine old Norman-French name D' Aubaine becomes the homely Dobbins.

The Gibbs family name, so far as we have any positive records at this time, was first spelled Gybbys. There are no records of the family prior to about the end of the thirteenth century, although many documents in Great Britain show quite conclusively that the original settlement was made in Brittany or Normandy in the eleventh century. About the time of William the Conqueror the family seems to have come from France, where the records show the spelling to have been Guibe.

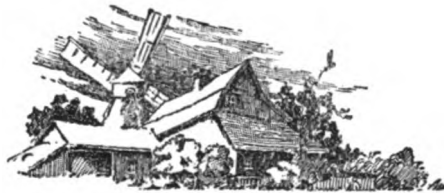
Betham in his Baronetage says: "The transition of the spelling of the surname Guibe to Gib, Gibe, and Gibbe, may be accounted for by the difference between the English and the French pronunciation; and its subsequent mutations to Gibbs and Gibbes (the several variations appearing among the records of the Herald's College), it shared the same fate with the surname of all the most ancient families of the Kingdom."

From Gybbys, or Gybbes, the spelling gradually changed to Gybbis, Gybbs, Gybbe, Gibbys, Gybbes, Gibbe, Gibbes, Gibb, Gibe, Gib, Gibs, and finally Gibbs, as at present, except in a few rare instances.

It is a curious fact that the Gibbs family name is rapidly increasing in America among the colored people. To those who have given the subject no investigation, or thought, it is taken for granted that one of the branches of the family is in some way maintained down the genealogical line from a common colored ancestor. This, however, is not the case, and the explanation of the use of the family name by the colored people is very simple and subject to verification by anyone. It was a universal custom in slavery days, even back to the time of Washington, for colored people, when freed, to take their masters' names.

This became quite general after the late war, and as there were many Gibbs's in the South, nothing was more natural than for the colored male adults to assume the names of their former masters, and so clothe their progeny. A later generation is now scattering the name broadcast over the South. If any member of the colored family rightfully held the family name of Gibbs prior to about a century ago, it is not a matter of public record. The race certainly had no blood connection with the English (Caucasian) family.

The Scotch Gibbs family is believed to be quite distinct from the English branches, and has very few representatives in America.





## SOME FAMILY GLEANINGS.

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"Great families of yesterday we show,  
And lords, whose parents were, the Lord knows who."  
—*Defoe.*

---

THE principal Gibbs family in America is generally believed to have descended from the Devonshire, Kent and Bristol branches. The earliest recorded ancestor of the former was John Gybbys, a brother of Thomas Gybbys, of Warwickshire, and sons of Thomas Gybbys who settled in Warwickshire sometime between the years 1377 and 1398. The Devonshire branch (represented by John Gybbys), which also includes the Kent branch, is traceable in America to Robert Gibbes, one time Governor of South Carolina, without much difficulty.

Sir Henry Gibbs of Honington, born 1593, was probably the first member of the family to adopt the "Gibbs" spelling. Immediately prior to that time the family name was generally spelled Gibbes, Gybbes or Gibbis.

The coat of arms of the Gibbs families varies but little in the various branches. It is believed that the arms were originally a shield argent charged with three pole or battle axes, sable, and without crest. The arms and crest granted to Sir Henry Gibbs, of the Warwickshire branch, by the Herald's College in 1619, is as follows: Upon a shield argent, three battle axes in pale, sable; crest, three broken, tilting spears, or., enfiled with a wreath, ar. and sa. The arms and crest, as described, were copied from the original MS. in the British Museum, London, and a certified pedigree taken at the Herald's visitation in 1619. The family showed these arms and crest as their right at the visitation, and it was so entered

by the officials, and consequently so borne by all descendants of that family.

The records known as the "Herald's Visitations" are of the highest importance to genealogists. The Herald's were first incorporated in 1483, in the reign of Richard III, and their province appears to have at that time extended no further than the preventing more than one family from using the same escutcheon. It was evident, however, that the advantages to be derived from their institution, were such as resulted from the confidence with which the public resorted to their archives, and were determined by their reports. That their investigations, therefore, might be as general as possible, a "visitation" of each county was decreed by the Earl Marshal, and confirmed by warrant under Privy Seal. The most ancient visitation on record is asserted to have been made in the reign of Henry IV. (A. D. 1412), a period of seventy years before the actual incorporation of that body. The register books kept by the Heralds and their assistants during the various "visitations" from 1528-9 to 1686 contain the pedigrees and arms of the nobility and gentry, signed by the heads of their respective families, and are of great assistance in heraldry.

It is claimed by many in England that the motto, *Tenax Propositi*—"Hold Fast to Your Purpose," belongs solely to the Devonshire or Kent branches of the Gibbs family, although most of the branches in England have used it for a great many years. It is purely a matter of choice whether it is used at all, it being no part of the arms or crest.

The other main branches of the family, besides those which settled in Warwickshire and Devonshire, are the Kent, Somerset, Dorset and Bristol branches, all of whom have representation in America.

## HISTORY OF THE "COLUMBUS SMITH" REPORT

---

"There is a tide in the affairs of men,  
Which, taken at the flood, leads on to fortune;  
Omitted, all the voyage of their life  
Is bound in shallows, and in miseries."

—*Shakespeare.*

---

**A**LONG about 1839 there appeared in the advertising columns of several of the English papers, notices to any and all persons interested, that certain estates, named in the advertisements, were without claimants, and that the "next of kin" to deceased members of the Gibbs family in America, or elsewhere, should prove their kinship and take possession of the property described.

In some cases the bonafide claimants did appear, and were put in possession of the property. In many others, however, no claimants turned up, and have not done so to this day. Of course, many of the immediate relatives of these deceased members of the Gibbs family, leaving such estates, are now dead, but their descendants, or "next of kin," are undoubtedly yet alive and living in ignorance of the legacy to which they are entitled. Many of them live in America.

Early in the forties there was organized in New Hampshire, Connecticut, Massachusetts and Vermont, one or two small associations composed of widely separated members of the Gibbs family, whose ancestors had come from England, as did all the original members of this family.

These notices were discussed pro and con by the members of the family in the United States, but owing to the distance from each other and the difficulty, then, of communication, or meeting, but little was done in the matter.

This condition of affairs continued until about the year 1847, when the "Acting Gibbs Association of Vermont" was formed, with Jonathan D. Gibbs, of Jeffrey, New Hampshire, as President. This Association opened negotiations with the Massachusetts and Connecticut Gibbs's and they jointly agreed to send one Columbus Smith, of Salisbury, Vermont, to investigate "reports which had been circulated in the United States relative to a large unclaimed property which had been left in England for the Gibbs's in the United States of America," etc.

A sum of money was raised among the members in this state (Vermont), amounting to \$435 (!!), and Mr. Smith went abroad on his mission of investigation. He reported progress from time to time, giving much hope and encouragement to the Gibbs's in America, and after a time returned to his home.

The full results of his search were made known to the president and members, and at a meeting of the Association, held on May 12, 1847, it was unanimously voted to have Mr. Smith make a lengthy report of his researches in writing and 500 copies were ordered printed for the use of the Association.

As this report speaks for itself it hardly seems necessary that it should be explained further.

It is a curious fact that while 500 copies of this report were supposed to have been printed it has since become one of the most scarce of "privately circulated" pamphlets known to genealogists or others. The writer knows of an instance where a ten years' search, coupled with a magnificent offer of remuneration for a single copy was unsuccessful. The members of the Gibbs family seem to regard the report so zealously that it was for a long time impossible to even verify its existence. Happily the writer overcame this difficulty and has the pleasure of at least making it possible for the other members of the Gibbs family in America to own a copy.

William H. Whitmore, one of the ablest genealogists in America, editor of "The American Genealogist," and member of the publishing

committee of the New England Historic-Genealogical Society, says, in speaking of the "Smith Report" in the "Genealogist," (1868):

"I am indebted to a friend for this title of a book *which I have not seen*. He adds that the title sufficiently explains the contents and on the last page is an advertisement of Columbus Smith, dated Salisbury, Vt. June 1848, offering to make similar searches for any parties who may wish to employ him."

This was written in 1868, or but twenty years after the publication of the "Smith Report," and by a man to whose knowledge had come practically everything pertaining to published genealogies of American families. It can readily be seen that twenty-five years later, or in 1893, the date of the discovery of *a single copy* of the "Smith Report" by the writer, that it had become very scarce indeed.





## THE COLUMBUS SMITH REPORT.

---

For 't is a truth well known to most,  
That whatsoever thing is lost,  
We seek it, ere it come to light,  
In every cranny but the right.

—*Cowper.*

---

**T**HERE is a belief among those who have been permitted to see this "Smith Report" in MS., that its republication now will result in a completion of the labors of "The Acting Gibbs Association of Vermont" which Mr. Smith, as he says in his report, was unable to accomplish for want of funds. The report, with the exception of the arms and crest which are to be found on page 2 of this volume, follows. No attempt has been made at the correction of inconsistencies of punctuation, spelling, capitalization, etc. The sequence in numbering descendants is broken, as will be noted, but the original has been followed rigidly even to typographical blemishes, lack of uniformity in style, etc.

There are some minor variations in the extracts concerning the origin of the Gibbs family in Honington, which is given in the "Family Notices" which follows the "Smith Report" in this volume, but they, too, are as originally printed.



REPORT  
OF  
A SEARCH MADE IN ENGLAND

FOR A PROPERTY REPORTED TO BELONG

To the Gibbs's  
In U. S. A. in the Years 1847-48

By COLUMBUS SMITH, Agent

FOR THE

**Acting Gibbs Association of Vermont.**

*CONTAINING A SHORT HISTORY OF THE GIBBS IN ENGLAND;  
LIKEWISE SEVERAL GENEALOGIES OF DIFFERENT  
BRANCHES OF THE GIBBS FAMILY.*

---

[PUBLISHED BY ORDER OF THE DIRECTORS OF THE ACTING  
GIBBS ASSOCIATION OF VERMONT.]

---

MIDDLEBURY  
JUSTUS COBB PRINTER  
1848



## ORGANIZATION.

---

**A** MEETING of the Gibbs's was holden at Brandon, Vt. the 12th day of May 1847, for the purpose of forming themselves into an association, in order to act jointly and effectually in investigating certain reports which had been circulated in the United States relative to a large unclaimed property which had been left in England for the Gibbs's in the United States of America. The Gibbs's when here met, formed themselves into an association called the "Acting Gibbs Association of Vermont;" appointed a board of directors, and corresponding Secretaries. The Association voted unanimously to appoint COLUMBUS SMITH ESQ, of Salisbury Vt. Agent for the purpose of looking after the property, said to belong to the Gibbs's in this country.

Mr. Smith, the Agent for the Association proceeded to England, made the desired search, and reported thereon to the President of the Association.

We the undersigned, Directors for the Acting Gibbs Association of Vermont, being perfectly satisfied with the proceedings of our Agent, conducting this investigation in England, resolved unanimously, to have 500 copies of his report printed for the use of the members of the Association, so that all might have a knowledge of the proceedings of their Agent while conducting this investigation in England.

Jona. D. Gibbs, Pres. Jeffrey N. H.  
Truman C. Gibbs, Vice Pres. Cornwall Vt.  
Joseph Gibbs, Benson Vt. } Recording Sec's.  
Warren Gibbs, Hartford Vt. }  
Dan Dike, Treasurer, Salisbury Vt.

*Directors.*

REPORT.  

---

*To Jonathan D. Gibbs, President of the "Acting Gibbs Association of Vermont."*

DEAR SIR :—In the spring of 1847, I was employed by your "Association" to look after a certain property, situated in England, and said to belong to the Gibbs's in the United States. In accordance with the wishes of your Association, I made the search in England. I now feel it incumbent on me to make a general report of my investigations there. In this report, I shall not attempt to go much into the details of my investigations; for an examination of such a report would be uninteresting, and even tedious. I shall only notice the more important points, such as I think will most interest and inform the Association; and try to have the report so concise that you can easily place it before the Association, if you think proper.

As many reports, for years past, have been circulated in the United States respecting property which had been left in different parts of England, for the Gibbs's in U. S. A.; and as these reports had gained much credence among the Gibbs's in this country; I concluded in the first place to state in order the different reports which had been circulated concerning this property, and remark upon my investigation of each.

## I.

"William Gibbs, about 45 years since, died without issue, in the town of Frome, in Somersetshire, and left a large property, by will, for the Gibbs's in this country. Some portion of this property was real estate in Frome, but a large portion was money in the bank of England. One William Gibbs of Frome had four sons, viz: William, Robert, James and John. William, the eldest son, inherited his father's estates in Frome. Robert, James and John came to America about 1665. Robert afterwards returned to England, but came again to America, in or about 1669, and brought with him his son Robert, then about five years old. Several years since a letter was sent from England to the Grandson of Robert, stating a large property had been left for him in Frome."

In order to give this subject a thorough investigation, I went to Frome in Somersetshire. I found it a small place, containing a few thousand inhabitants. The parish records were searched by my order. The following is a certificate of the Curate of the Parish :

“ I hereby certify that the register of burials for the parish of Frome Selwood in the county of Somerset, England, has been duly searched from the year one thousand six hundred and twenty, to the year one thousand eight hundred and eight inclusive. And that the name of Gibbs only occurs in the following entries, viz :

March 1639, 2, Mary Gibbs daughter of Anthony and Mary, baptized.  
July 1671, 16, Jane Gibbs, daughter of Thomas and Rose, baptized.  
February 1672, 8, Ann Gibbs, buried.  
February, 1673, 26, Richard Gibbs, son of Thomas and Rose, Baptized.  
July, 1722, 17, Richard Gibbs, buried.  
May 1728, 27, Precilla Gibbs, wife of James.  
March, 1729, 15, Jane Gibbs, wife of John, buried,  
November 1731, 1, Jane Gibbs, buried.  
August 1795, 1, Thomas Gibbs, P.

I further certify that, to the best of my belief, there was no other Register for Baptisms and Burials in this parish within the years above mentioned.

Witness my hand this 18th day of September, 1847.

W. B. COLVERT, Curate of St. Peters,  
Frome Selwood,  
Somersetshire, England.

CHAS. PHILLOTT, Vicar of Frome Selwood.  
18th Sept, 1847.”

If this William Gibbs family had lived and died in Frome, as reported, some of their names ought to have appeared on the parish records. But this was not the case, as appears from the foregoing certificate; nor could I, after a faithful search, find a single monument or tomb stone erected to the memory of this rich family. I saw many of the oldest inhabitants of Frome, who informed me that they never knew or heard of a rich man in Frome by the name of Gibbs. This information, differing

widely from the report in circulation in U. S. A., I began to suspect this report, concerning William Gibbs of Frome, a mere fabrication. But as the records of the wills of Frome and the letters of administration granted on the estates of individuals dying at Frome were recorded at Wells, I concluded to extend my researches to Wells. I proceeded there and had those records examined. The following is a certificate received by me at the Recorder's office in Wells.

“ I hereby certify that I have this day made search in the Registry of the Consistorial Episcopal Court of Wells, and also in the Registry of the Consistorial Archidiaconal Court of Wells, both in the County of Somerset, in England, for Wills or Administrations of persons of the name of Gibbs, viz. Wills from 1660 to 1845, and Administrations from 1669 to 1845, and that no will or administration of any person of the name of William Gibbs, late of Frome, is to be found in either of the said Courts; and that the Wills of Ann Gibbs, of Frome Selwood, in 1762, and Edward Gibbs, of Frome Selwood, in 1762, now in the registry of the Consistorial Archidiaconal Court of Wells, and of John Gibbs of the same place, in 1763, now in the registry of the Consistorial Episcopal Court of Wells, contain no devise or bequest of Freehold or Leasehold property, and that the Administration of Elizabeth Biggs (Gibbs?) of Frome, granted by the Consistorial Episcopal Court of Wells in 1762, was sworn under £300. And I hereby further certify that the Consistorial Archidiaconal Court of Wells and the Consistorial Court of Wells, are the only two courts where the wills can be proved or the letters of administration to the effects granted of persons dying at Frome or the immediate neighborhood thereof, and that on reading over the wills of the said Ann Gibbs, Edward Gibbs and John Gibbs, my impression is that neither of these died possessed of any considerable property. Witness my hand this 23d day of September, 1847.

E. PARFITT, Dep. Reg.

I afterwards searched at the Prerogative Office, Doctors' Commons, in London, for wills and administrations of individuals by the name of Gibbs, who died in Somersetshire. (For if a Gibbs dying in Frome had left stock in the Bank of England, his will or administration could be found at the Prerogative Office, in London). Notwithstanding I searched the records for several years before as well as after this large property was said to have been left by William Gibbs, I could find no letter of Administra-

tion granted on a Gibbs estate from Somersetshire and only one *will* of a Gibbs in Somersetshire. This was the will of William Gibbs, and was recorded 1804. He devised his property to his sons and daughters. I also examined the history of Frome in Collinson's Somersetshire, but could not there find the name of Gibbs mentioned. After having completed the before mentioned investigations I was fully convinced that this report of property in Frome, belonging to the Gibbs's in U. S. A. was wholly without foundation.

## II.

"William Hopkins (an Englishman) said that Thomas Gibbs, of the parish of Loom, in Somersetshire, about one mile from Bath, died Nov., 1840, and left a large estate but left no next of kin to heir it, and that Henry Leonard, a Clerk in Chancery, No. 18 Stall Street, could give information relative to the estate."

I called at No. 18 Stall Street, Bath, found it a paint shop and ascertained that it had not been occupied by Leonard, certainly, within the last twenty years. I looked in the directories of Bath, but could not find the name of Henry Leonard there. So it seems evident this Henry Leonard of Stall Street was an imaginary being.

I made inquiries in Bath for Loom parish, but was informed that there was no such place near Bath. I procured a map of Bath and its environs: also a clergy list, which gave the names of all the parishes in England. By these I ascertained that there was no such parish as Loom, near Bath, or even in England, consequently this second report proved false.

## III.

"A large property was left in Blenheim, England, by one William Gibbs for the Gibbs's in the United States of America, and advertisements appeared in the English papers about 1839 for the heirs of William Gibbs to come forward and prove their title to this property."

There is only one Blenheim in England, and that is the seat of the

Duke of Marlborough. A tract of land called the Royal Manor of Woodstock, in Oxfordshire, was granted to the Duke of Marlborough, by the King, for his services at the great battle of Blenheim, in Bavaria, where he gained a victory over the French and Bavarians, Aug. 1704. A palace was there erected for him at the national expense, and the place took the name of Blenheim from the great battle. Consequently the third report proved untrue.

## IV.

“Sir Vicary Gibbs owned an estate in Park Place, County of Kent, and at his decease no one was left to claim this estate. Advertisements were made for the next of kin of Sir Vicary to come forward and take possession of the estate.”

If a man dies in England leaving property of any description, and no next of kin to claim it, the Crown takes possession of it and holds it in trust. The Solicitor of the Treasury then advertises for the next of kin or heirs at law, to come forward and prove their title to the property. I searched the Heirs at Law advertisements inserted in the London Gazette, where Government and Chancery advertisements usually appear. But I could find no advertisement for a Gibbs or the next of kin of a Gibbs which had been here inserted within the last 60 years. From this it was evident the estate in Park Place could not have been left as reported. After having made the above search I ascertained that Sir Vicary Gibbs was born at Exeter in the County of Devon, 1750. Becoming a distinguished lawyer, he was Knighed by the King in or about the year 1814. He was Attorney General in 1809: retired from office in 1816, and died 1820, leaving a wife and daughter—lady Pelkington. I saw his will at the Doctors' Commons in London. He made a bequest of £1,000 or more to his wife, £30,000 to his daughter Lady Pelkington, besides several small bequests to others. No mention was made in his will of Park Place.

## V.

“There was many unclaimed Dividends of Stock Standing in the name of Gibbs in the Bank of England.”

I procured a complete list of the Unclaimed Dividends in the Bank of England, and found the following :

**“ CONSOLS.**

Gibb Mary, Green bank, St. George's East, Widow, first dividend became due July 1819, 7 dividends due.

Gibbs Charles and Henry Gibbs, both of Old Broad Street, Gents. Jan. 1807-32.

Gibb William, Adam st., Oxford st. Gent. July 1814-17.

Gibbs Thomas, and George Gibbs both of Half Moon Street Picadily, Seedsman Jan. 1817-12.

**CONSOLIDATED LONG ANNUITIES.**

Gibbs Joseph, Catherine Street, Pimlico, Gent., 5th April 1826.

**CONSOLIDATED FOUR PER CENT ANNUITIES.**

Gibbs Rev. Philip Longmead, Brewer, dec. William Pearce Silver-smith, and Nicholas Gibbs, Mercer, all of Plymouth, Oct. 1817-11.

**NEW THREE POUNDS TEN SHILLINGS PER CENT ANNUITIES.**

Gibbs Ann, Lincoln's-in-fields, Spinster, Jan. 1828.

Gibbs John, Surgeon in the Royal Navy, Jan. 1822.”

I tried to ascertain the amount of these Dividends Unclaimed, by direct application to the Bank, but could get no information concerning them. Afterwards I employed an individual to try to get this information for me. Through him I understood the amount of Unclaimed Dividends remaining in the Bank, standing in the name of Gibbs was small.

**VI.**

“Many advertisements had at different times appeared in England for Gibbs's to come forward and prove title to unclaimed property in England.”

There is an office in London where advertisements for heirs, next of Kin, Legatees, &c., have been registered for above 100 years past. The charges for copies of these advertisements are as follows :

If advertised within two years,	£1
“ above two years,	£2
“ above five years,	£3
“ above ten years,	£4
“ above twenty years,	£5

I procured from this Office the following abstracts or descriptions of all the Gibbs advertisements there registered.

“Thomas Gibbs, of Bermondsey, Shipwright, who was living about 1687. His heir at law or legal representatives may hear of something greatly to their advantage.”

“(Appeared above 70 years since.)”

“John Gibbs, son of Matthew Gibbs, late of Bruton, Somersetshire, wanted.”

“(About 60 years since.)”

“Henry Gibbs, son of Henry Gibbs, of Cranbrooke, Essex, wanted.”

“(About 60 years since.)”

“Mary Gibbs, who was servant to Mr. Boureans, Blyboro, Lincoln, deceased. The next of Kin of her nephews John Tracy, late of Grayingham, Lincolnshire, Watch Chaser, and kept a public house afterwards at Smithfield, London, may hear of something to their advantage.”

“(About 50 years since.)”

“Ann Gibbs, who was cousin of Mary Budd late of Dodswell, Herts, spinster, deceased to come forward and claim a legacy.”

“(About 130 years since.)”

“Betsy Gibbs, formerly servant to Mr. Field, and late residing at George Street Camberwell. Her next kin wanted.”

“(About 5 years since.)”

Cecilia Gibbs, niece of Francis Lippencott, may hear of something to her advantage. “(About two years since.)”

I thought it advisable not to incur the great expense of procuring copies of these advertisements until I had tried faithfully to procure information from other sources relative to the persons there named.

I took it for granted that if the persons named in the advertisements were possessed of a large property they would be persons of so much distinction that they could be easily traced.

I therefore tried to trace them by wills, administrations, histories of the places where they were said to have resided, etc. But I could not find the names of any of them mentioned, excepting John Gibbs, son of

Matthew Gibbs, of Bruton. By the records at Wells I found that in 1724, a guardian was appointed over John Gibbs, the son of Matthew Gibbs, late of Bruton, but I could not find the will or letters of Administration, granted on Matthew's estate, which would probably have appeared, had he died possessed of property to any considerable amount.

VII.

"Sir George Gibbs of England, was prosecuting a suit in Chancery for the recovery of a large property, then in the possession of Col. Sibthorp, M. P."

After considerable inquiry, I found the residence of Sir George S. Gibbs, was Cheltenham, in the county of Gloucester. I wrote him making inquiries after the genealogies of the different branches of the Gibbs family, in England, also inquiring of him whether he had ever instituted any suit for the recovery of a property, possessed by Col. Sibthorp, M. P.

I received from him the following reply:

"SIR:—I beg to acknowledge your letter, and to say that I intend examining the subject in it, in respect to the Gibbs pedigree, having collected much information regarding that family.

"I have not instituted any suit whatever about the property to which you allude, and I believe there is no other Sir George Gibbs.

I am Sir yours Obediently,

Cheltenham, Sept. 29th, 1847.

GEO. S. GIBBES."

I also received the following, bearing date 30th Sept., 1847.

"SIR:—I have such a mass of papers belonging to the Genealogy of the Gibbes family, that it is impossible for me to make any satisfactory abstract of them—Besides as I am about to leave Cheltenham for Sidmouth in Devonshire, about the middle of October, I can only find time to say that I shall keep back my portfolio of these papers, all or any of which you might copy, should you be able to come to Cheltenham before I leave it.

I am your Obt. Servt.

Columbus Smith, Esq.

GEO. S. GIBBES.

My present direction is Sir Geo. S. Gibbes, No. 2, Ariel Place, Cheltenham."

The first of the above letters of Sir George, showed conclusively that the reported "Chancery suit," instituted by Sir George Gibbs, existed only in the imagination.

I called on Sir George at his residence in Cheltenham. I found he had taken much pains in collecting information, relative to the Gibbs family, both of England and of America. I must here acknowledge myself much indebted to Sir George S. Gibbes, for information furnished me relative to the Gibbs family.

While in Gloucestershire, I ascertained that there was a large property called the Manor of Instow, near Bideford, in the county of Devon, England, which had been reported to belong to some one or more of the Gibbs family, and that this property had been out of the possession of the family since 1795. I also understood that at times tenants living on this property had refused to pay their rents to the lessor, assigning as a reason, that the lessor had no title to the property—and that an advertisement had appeared for Gibbs's heirs to come forward and show title to the property. After considerable inquiry, I found the advertisement, and procured the following copy:

" Notice. Any descendant of the Gibbs's of Bristol, by showing their proper claim to the Manor of Instow, in Devonshire, will be put in possession of part by paying all expenses.

Application to be made to Mr. Wm. Cann, No. 9 Morice Square, Davenport."

The above advertisement appeared in the *Alfred* of Tuesday, Jan. 15th, 1828. I understood Mr. Cann, to whom reference is given above, held a part of the Manor of Instow at the time this advertisement was made; but he is now nowhere to be heard of at Davenport.

After I heard this report of the property of Instow, and saw the advertisement relative to it, I became thoroughly convinced that this must be the main property which had caused the numerous reports to be circulated in this country, relative to the Gibbs property in England, and I directed my investigations accordingly.

The Manor of Instow, is situated in the north-western part of Devonshire, near Bideford. It is a large tract of land having many dwellings upon it, and is a watering place, of considerable resort for the people of Bideford and its environs. This Manor (as near as I could ascertain), is worth about \$500,000. It is now in the possession of Col. Cleveland, formerly called Willet. He purchased the property of the Sibthorps, in or about 1819. Report says that the Sibthorp title to the property at that time, was supposed to be defective, and that they were obliged to give Willet papers to indemnify him.

A copy of the following deposition was furnished me by Henry H. Gibbs of London.

“ Francis Spicer of the parish of Instow, in the county of Devon, maketh oath and saith that he well knew, and was acquainted with Humphrey Sibthorp, a Doctor in Medicine, who resided at an estate called Fullencote, in the parish of Instow, aforesaid, and who was in the habit of frequently coming to an estate whereon said deponent then resided, called Cow Barn, and on one particular occasion, deponent well remembers that the said Humphrey Sibthorp, who was at that time in possession of all and singular the Manor of Instow, in right of his wife, who was one of the coheireses of John Gibbs, merchant, being questioned as to whom the said Manor of Instow would descend after his, (Humphrey Sibthorps,) decease, and whether his son by a former marriage known as Col. Sibthorp would be entitled thereto (as son of John Sibthorp by his then wife was dead,) and he the said Humphrey Sibthorp then stated in deponent’s presence that his said son, the said Col. Sibthorp would never be entitled to the said Manor of Instow, but that after his, the said Humphrey Sibthorp’s decease, the said Manor of Instow, must revert to the Gibbs’s, as it was so stated by his Humphrey Sibthorp’s marriage settlement with Miss Gibbs, and this deponent further saith that he has on many occasions heard said Humphrey Sibthorp declare that the said Manor of Instow must return to the Gibbs’s, and that the said Humphrey Sibthorp’s family could never legally possess or enjoin, or be entitled to it.

Sworn at Instow aforesaid, having been first read over and explained to said Francis Spicer, this 18th day of February, one thousand eight hundred and thirty-four. Before me  
 WARWICK ALLANT,  
 a Master extra &c.”

The  
 mark  
 of  
 FRANCIS  
 X  
 SPICER.

Lyson in his history of Devonshire says :

“Instow belonged till 1345 to the family of St. John's, afterwards the property of Sir Richard Hankford. It was granted to Wm. Lord Howard in 1586. It afterwards belonged to Copleston's. In the early part of the last century, it belonged to the family of Gibbs's, one of the co-heiresses of which was the second wife of Humphrey Sibthorp, M.D. sometime professor of botany in the University of Oxford. His son, in whose favor he had resigned the professorship, became possessed of this Manor in right of his mother, and dying before his father, bequeathed the estate to him. This Manor with the Manors of Bickleton and Fullencote was sold in 1819 by his grandson, Coningsby Waldo Sibthorp, Esq., M.P., to Augustus Saltren Willet, Esq.”

The will of John Sibthorp, only child of Humphrey Sibthorpe, by his second wife, was recorded at the Doctors' Commons, London, 1796. No mention is made of Instow in his will. He appointed three executors to whom he gave £300 each. He devised to his brother and sisters £100 each, to Oxford University, all his books, flowers collected in Greece, drawings &c., to trustees, all his freehold property in the Manor of Sutton, worth about £300 per year, to be appropriated to the printing of his work on Greek flowers, two or three vol. folio, also to the establishment of Rural Economy at Oxford. All the rest of his property, both real and personal, (not naming what it was), he willed to his father Humphrey Sibthorp.

Many of the Gibbs's in England, appear to take it for granted that the Instow property now legally belongs to some of the Gibbs's. Many of the have been trying to trace out their genealogy, undoubtedly for the purpose of ascertaining whether theirs might not be a good title to this property. From various sources, such as histories, manuscripts, wills and tombstones, I ascertained, that the Manor of Instow once belonged to Peter Specot of Thornbury, Devonshire, England, from him it went into the possession of his daughter Mary, who married John Harrington of Kelston, Somersetshire. She died 1660, and left issue. One of her daughters named Dionesia, married — Long, and died without issue, 1745. Another of her daughters, named Elizabeth, married Henry Gibbs,

of Bristol, Eng. The above named Dionesia and Elizabeth appear to have inherited from their mother the Manor of Instow. From their possession it went into the possession of Harrington Gibbs and John Gibbs, sons of Henry and Elizabeth above named. Harrington Gibbs died 1732. Afterwards the whole manor came to John Gibbs; from him it went to his daughter Elizabeth Gibbs, who married Humphrey Sibthorp and had by him issue only one child, viz: John Sibthorp.

One of my correspondents from Devonshire wrote me as follows :

“There is a man residing in Bideford, Devon, who knows a great deal of the history of the family which is connected with the property of Henry and John Gibbs and the Sibthorps, by the name of \*V———. He is, I believe, a Blacksmith.”

I wrote to Mr. V——— on the subject and received the following reply, dated at Bideford, Nov. 16th 1847.

“DEAR SIR:—I acknowledge the receipt of your letter, dated the 15th inst. Sir, I do not think it proper to communicate to you on paper. By a personal interview I might answer the particulars of your inquiry. I am, Sir, Your Ob't Serv't, J—— V———.”

I also received from him the following :

“Bideford, Nov. 18th, 1847.

DEAR SIR:—Being busy when I received your letter I could not look much into the particulars. Since I have looked over its contents.

Sir, Instow is about two miles from Bideford. About eight to ten years back I bought a small portion of Instow Manor, and waited about fifteen months for a title, but could not get a clear one. At last I gave it up. You can give some account, I find of the family. Dionesia Harrington married with one Calthorp Long, and Henry Gibbs married with Elizabeth. Their father John Harrington, married the daughter of Peter Specott, 1654. She died 1660. I think I can get the lineal descent of the family from the marriage of John Harrington and Mary Specott, the father and mother of Elizabeth Gibbes and Dioneia Long, back even to their grandfather, and up to the selling the property to Mr. Willet or Col. Cleveland as he is now called. I think I can tell you where John Harrington

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\*NOTE.—This name is withheld for the present by the compiler of this volume for further investigation. M. B. G.

and Mary Specott were married, where they lived after marriage and where Gibbes and Long lived after marriage, by documents I have seen, but nothing will be shown until the person is paid a sum of money in hand and a document given by the heir, that if the property be gained to have a percentage paid him out of every £100 gained, whatever the property gained is valued.

It has cost a deal of money and labour getting the documents and information.

The Specots were a great family.

If you think proper you will mention what sum of money you should like to give, and the percentage likewise.

Sir your obt. servt. J—— V——

As I had not the power to bargain with Mr. V—— according to his requirements, I made no further effort to possess his information.

A short time before I left England I was informed by gentlemen from Barnstable near Instow, that it was the general opinion of persons in that section of the County of Devon, that the Sibthorp title to Instow was defective. They also informed me that there was a Mrs. Fisher, formerly a Miss Gibbs, who claimed this manor, and in that neighborhood was thought to be the heiress to the property. Being so poor that she was not able to carry on a suit, she went last season to London and presented in person her petition to the Lord Chancellor, who has put her case in proper train for further proceedings. I wrote to James Fisher, the husband of the claimant, requesting him to inform me through whom Mrs. Fisher claimed this property. He refused to give any information on the subject, stating he had been so advised. The claim of Mrs. Fisher may be good, but considering the circumstances, it seems hardly possible. For here the claimant is and has been for a long time, if not always, in the immediate vicinity of the property; and had her claim to the property been a good one, she would have found many long before this, who would gladly have assisted her in prosecuting her claim.

It appears evident, that the Manor of Instow, besides considerable other property, which was owned by a Gibbs family who formerly resided in Bristol, England, went out of the possession of this family the last of the last century. It also seems to be generally believed that the legal

title to this property has never passed from the Gibbs's. If this is the case, (which I verily believe) the question arises who are the legal heirs of the person last legally seized of this property. For the purpose of ascertaining this I tried to trace out the genealogy of the Gibbes family who were once the legal owners of this property. But on account of the limited state of funds remaining in my hands after having found the property said to belong to the Gibbs's I could make but a very imperfect investigation of this point, and was unable to ascertain for a certainty the *ancestors* of Henry Gibbs, a merchant and Alderman of Bristol, the lineal ancestor of the Gibbes's owning the Manor of Instow.

Supposing the genealogy of the family who are descended from *Mary* the daughter of *Peter Specot*, of \*Thornbury, Devon, would not prove uninteresting, I will here give it, so far as I am able.

I. *Peter Specot* of Thornbury, in Devonshire, was the son and heir of Sir John Specot of Thornbury. He married Anne, daughter of Sir John Mallet, and had issue daughters, coheiresses.

II. *Mary Specot*, daughter and coheir of Peter Specot, married John Harrington of †Kelston, in Somersetshire.

She died 1660, and was buried at Kelston. Near the communion table in St. Nicholas Church at Kelston is a monument, on which is

\*Thornbury is in the hundred of Black Torrington. The manor passed to the Specot family from Le Cornu by marriage.

†The manor of Kelston, with those of Bath Easton and Katherine, and the Capital messuages, called Catherine's Court, King Henry VIII, in the 38th year of his reign, granted to Etheldred Malte, his natural daughter. Etheldred married John Harrington, the King's confidential servant. Collison, in his history of Somersetshire, says: "John Harrington, (the husband of Etheldred, before mentioned) was progenitor of a very respectful family, of whom were several persons of learning and erudition, particularly his son, Sir John Harrington, Knight, the celebrated translator of Ariosto's Orlando Furioso, who lived in the reign of Queen Elizabeth." The chief residence of the Harrington family was Kelston, until the last of the last century it was sold to Cæsar Hawkins, Bart. This family probably had a town residence at Bristol. Barret, in his history of Bristol, says, "The day before the City of Bristol was taken, all the family plate of John Harrington of Kelston was removed into Bristol Castle, among which was a large golden font presented from Queen Elizabeth, his God-mother."

inscribed, "Hic jacet Maria uxor Johannis Harrington, armigeri, filia Petri Specot, de Thornbury, in Comitatu Devon, armigeri, quae obiit 25. Aug., Ao. Domini 1660."

John Harrington, by his wife Mary, had the following children, viz:

III. 1. *Elizabeth Harrington*, of whom hereafter.

2. John Harrington died 1674, and was buried at Kelston. The following is his monumental inscription in the parish church at Kelston. "Here lyeth the body of John Harrington, son of John Harrington Esq, and Mary his wife, daughter and co-heir of Peter Specot, of Thornbury, in Devon, Esq., who died the 20th day of February, 1674."

3. George Harrington died 1665. The following is the inscription on his Monument at Kelston. "Hic jacit Georgius Harrington, generosus filius tertius natu Johannis Harrington militis qui obiit 7 die Decembri Anno Domini 1665."

4. Isabella Harrington living 1743, as appears from the will of her sister in Long.

5. Alice Harrington, the wife of — Fackenham, died May 2d 1742, aged 71 years. She was buried at Kelston, and a tomb-stone was there erected to her memory.

6. Dionesia Harrington married Calthorp Long, of Whadden. She died without issue 1744. The following inscription is on her tomb stone in the parish church at Marshfield.\* "Interred near this place lieth the body of Dionesia Long, widow of Calthorp Long, of Whadden, in the County of Wilts, Esq., and daughter of John Harrington, of Kelston, in the County of Somerset, Esq., who departed this life Dec. 4th, 1744, aged 86."

Dionesia Long appears to have possessed considerable property.

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\*Marshfield was the upper division of the hundred of Thornbury, situated seven miles from Bath. William Gorslet was Lord of the manor 1608; from him it descended to John Harrington of Kelston. It subsequently was purchased by Codrington. One Wm. Gibbs and others were seized of two Messuages in Marshfield in trust for the Abbey.

Samuel Risdon says, in his history of Gloucestershire: "Mrs Dionesia Long gave an estate of £29 a year in Frampton Cotterel, and another of £26 a year in Iron Acton, purchased in 1731, and £900 in South Sea Annuities with which a school is endowed, and 20 boys have their clothing and education, 6 widows receive six pounds per year."

The will of Dionesia Long, a widow of Bath, was made 1743, and proved in the Prerogative Court, Doctors' Commons in London, 1745. By this will she devised £250 to her sister Isabella Harrington, £250 to Diones, Dorothy and Helena, daughters of her brother Henry Harrington, Esq., and £250 to her nephews, sons of Rev. Thomas Taylor, of Bristol. She devised all her lands, tenements and Haereditaments which were in Devonshire to her nephew John Gibbes, his heirs and assigns forever. She appointed Mrs. Diones Gibbs her sole executrix.

7. Henry Harrington married and had issue, three daughters, viz: Dorothy, Helena and Diones, all living 1743.

8. Helena, married—died Dec. 16, 1748, aged 67, and was buried at Kelston.

*Elizabeth Harrington*, the daughter of John Harrington, before mentioned, married Henry Gibbes, a Merchant, and Alderman of the City of Bristol. She was buried in the north aisle of the parish church of Marshfield, in Gloucestershire; upon her monument is the following inscription—"Here lieth the body of Elizabeth Gibbes, relict of Alderman Henry Gibbes of the City of Bristol, merchant, and eldest daughter of John Harrington, Esq., of Kelston, in the County of Somerset, who departed this life 12th Oct., 1723 A. D., aged 67 years."

Henry Gibbes, by Elizabeth his wife had the following children, viz :

IV. 1. *Harrington Gibbes*, a merchant of Bristol, died 1732 and was buried at Kelston. His will was proved in the Prerogative Court in London, 1732. He willed several pounds to his sisters Hannah Gibbes and Diones Gibbes, of Bristol; also to his sisters Mrs. Knight and Mrs. Taylor, and his aunt Mrs. Dionesia Long for to procure for themselves mourning; to his brother John Gibbes and wife to procure mourning for

themselves and children. He appointed his sister Diones Gibbes, his sole executrix, to whom he willed his dwelling house in St. Philips parish in the city of Bristol. He left £10 for his god-daughter Elizabeth Gibbes, the daughter of his brother *John Gibbes*. He willed to his brother *John Gibbes*, his heirs and assigns forever, all his part or moiety of the Manors of Instow and Bearwood, with advowsons, &c.

2. Henry Gibbes, a merchant near Bristol, died 1720. His will is recorded in Bristol; he made it in the island of Jamaica. By this will he gave something to his brother *Harrington Gibbes* then in Jamaica, also something to his brother John, to his sisters Jane, Hanna and Ann Gibbes.

3. Ann Gibbes is mentioned in her brother Henry Gibbes's will, 1720.

4. Diones Gibbes of Bristol, died unmarried. She appears to have been possessed of considerable property.\* Her will was proved at the Prerogative Court in London, 1750, by her sister Hannah Gibbes of Bristol, whom she appointed her sole executrix. This will was made 1746. She desired her body to be placed in a tomb, which she had built, near her brother *Harrington Gibbes*, at Kelston. She devised something to the poor of St. Philip's parish at Bristol, several hundred pounds to her sister Mrs. Leigh, some plate to her cousin, Rev. — Gibbes. She left considerable real estate to trustees in trust for her three sisters Hannah Gibbes, Helena Hart and Jane Tailor, to her brother John Gibbes a merchant of London she bequeathed her lands tenements and hereditaments in Gloucestershire, and to her brother John Gibbes's two daughters Elizabeth Gibbes and — Gibbes a few pounds.

5. Jane Gibbes married Rev. Thomas Tailor of Bristol. They had issue. She was living 1746.

6. — a daughter, married a Mr. Knight. She is mentioned in her brother *Harrington Gibbes's* will 1746.

7. Hannah Gibbes, executrix of her sister Diones Gibbes 1745.

\*In a history of Bristol, it is stated that Mrs. Diones Gibbes gave fifty pounds to the minister of St. Philip's Parish 1733 to preach a sermon in memory of her brother *Harrington Gibbes*, a merchant of that city.

8. Elizabeth Gibbes married a — Leigh and had issue. She with three of her daughters were living 1746.

IV. 9. *John Gibbes*, a merchant of the city of London, possessed the Manor of Instow, and one half of the Manor of Bearwood, besides considerable real estate in and near Bristol. He married and had issue, two daughters. He was living 1746.

It is possible that there were other children, issue of Henry Gibbes and Elizabeth, his wife, besides those named above.

V. *Elizabeth Gibbes* one of the daughters of *John Gibbes* before named, married Humphrey Sibthorp, Prof. of botany at Oxford University. She was the second wife of Humphrey Sibthorp, and had issue, only one child; viz. John Sibthorp.

One of the daughters of *John Gibbes* I could not trace after 1746, when she was mentioned in the will of her aunt Diones Gibbes of Bristol.

VI. *John Sibthorp*, Prof. of botany at Oxford University, son of Humphrey Sibthorp and his wife *Elizabeth*, died without issue, 1795.

The Gibbs family in England is a very ancient one. The ancestors of this family are said to have come into England with William the Conqueror, and settled in Brittany or Normandy in the eleventh century. The branches of this family afterwards separating settled in the counties of Devon, Kent, Warwick and Somerset; from which is sprung a very numerous family, now widely scattered over Great Britain and America. Betham in his Baronetage says :

“The presumption of the original settlement of this family in Brittany or Normandy, is confirmed by the evidence of French authors. According to Moreri, Robert de Guibe son of Adonet de Guibe, a gentleman of Brittany, was appointed to the bishopric of Treguin in 1483; translated to that of Rennes in 1502, and thence to the Archbishopial see of Nantes in 1506. Louis XII sent him as ambassador to Rome when he was raised to the Cardinalate by Pope Julius II, and died 1513. The transition of the spelling of the surname from Guibe to Gib, Gibe and Gibbe, may be accounted for by the difference between the English and the French pronunciation; and in its subsequent mutations to Gibbs and Gibbes, (the several variations appearing among the records of the Heralds College,)

it shared the same fate with the surname of all the most ancient families of the Kingdom."

"An ancient paper being in possession of the family of Jenking Gibbes, sometime resident at Falkstone in the county of Kent, confirms the opinion of the antiquity of this family. It states "that George Gibbes, one of his ancestors, went into Gloucestershire, and married the daughter and heiress of — Purland, of Purland, Esq., bearing for their coat armour, *argent on a bend, sable three martlets of the first, between six mullets of the second.* But upon the application of William Gibbes (great grandson of the above Jenking Gibbes, who was descended from the family of Gibbes of Devonshire) to the College of arms in 1574 Robert Cook alias Clariencieux king of Arms, did, on the first day of February in that year grant, and confirm to William Gibbes the arms which had descended to him from his ancestors, viz: quarterly, *in the first for Gibbes, silver three Danish axes, sable: on the second, for Champni, two fusells, gules.* And in as much as there was no crest or cognisance to the said arms, as commonly to such ancient arms, there belongeth none, the said Clariencieux king of arms, did assign, give and grant, to these his ancient arms, the crest hereafter following, viz: *Upon the helmet, a wreath Silver and sable purfled gold, holding a battle axe, mantled, doubled silver.*"

In Sir William Pole's collection towards the history of Devonshire he observes that

"John Gibbes was possessed of the lands of Fenton in that county, in the year 1737. His grandson John who married — — daughter of William May, wrote his name Gibbes. Their son Thomas who married Anne the daughter of Sir William Courtney, of Powderham, in Devonshire, Knt. resumed the former spelling of Gibbe. These instances are adduced in support of the opinion, that the several branches of this family, although dispersed over different parts of the Kingdom, are undoubtedly descended from a family which existed in Brittany or Normandy before the conquest of England."

That branch which was established in the County of Kent was invariably designated Gibbes, from Jenking Gibbes above named down to Robert Gibbes, who first settled in Barbadoes, and went from thence as Governor of South Carolina. He was the son of Stephen Gibbes of Edmondstone Court, in Kent."

I have found different members of the same branch of this family often spell their names differently, and the name of the same person is spelt differently by different authors. Some members of the Honington family of Warwickshire spelt the name Gibbes, and some Gibbs. The same is

true of the Bristol Gibbs family, as well as others. I have seen the name spelt in twelve different ways, viz: in a register at Clyst St. George, Devon, it is spelt Gibs, in a will Gib, in a register Gibbys, Gybbe and Gibbe, in a deed of purchase of Pitt Gibb and Gybbs, witness to a deed 1464 Gybbis, steward of Exeter in Devon, Gybbes, admitted to the freedom of Exeter Gybbys, also the more recent way of spelling the name Gibbes and Gibbs.

Very many distinguished men have descended from this family: Among whom we may mention Sir Henry Gibbes of Folkstone, who died 1696, Sir Vicary Gibbs, mentioned before, Maj. Gen. Gibbs killed at the battle of New Orleans, Robert Gibbes, Gov. of South Carolina, Right Hon. Michael Gibbs, Mayor of London, 1839, Sir Geo. S. Gibbes of Sidmouth, Devon, Sir Philip Gibbs of Barbadoes, and William Gibbes, physician to Queen Henrietta Marie. Probably none of this family was ever more renowned than James Albion Gibbes, son of William Gibbes, Doctor of Physic of Bristol, England. He was educated a Papist, travelled over the Continent of Europe, was afterwards appointed a lecturer on rhetoric at Rome by Pope Alexander VII. In 1667, Leopold Emperor of Germany, appointed him his poet laureate, at the same time gave him a gold chain and medal. This chain he presented to the University of Oxford. He spent considerable of his time writing poetry. He wrote eight volumes of Latin poems, which were printed at Rome 1668. He dedicated the first volume of poems to Pope Clement IX, after having been admitted into his presence and kissed his <sup>foot</sup>. He died A. D. 1667, in the 67th year of his age, and was buried in the church of St. Maria at Rome. His bust\* was placed in a nitche in the Pantheon of Rome, and over the bust was the following inscription: "D. O. M. Jacobus Albanus Gibbesius Doctor oxoniensis, Poeta Lauretus Cæsarius Pontificicus Eloquentiæ Professor Emeritus. Obiit VI Kal. Julii MDCLXXVII. M. P."

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\*This bust, as well as several others placed in the Pantheon, has since been taken down.

Supposing the Gibbs's in this country are not all descended from the same, but from different branches of the Gibbs family in England, I will here subjoin the genealogies of several branches of this family which I procured in England. It cannot be uninteresting to members of the family.

These genealogies were collected from various sources, such as tomb stones, parish registers, Heralds College, in London manuscripts &c., &c.

GENEALOGY OF THE ANCIENT FAMILY OF GIBBS OF WARWICK-SHIRE, ENGLAND.

I. *Thomas Gibbs*, married and had issue, 1st, John Gibbs, from whom a Devonshire branch is said to have descended; 2d, Thomas Gibbs.

II. *Thomas Gibbs*, of \*Honington, in the County of Warwick, married and had issue.

\*Dugdale, in his history of Warwickshire, speaking of Honington, observes: "This is one of the towns that Earl Leofric, in the first year of King Edward the Confessor's reign, gave to the monastery of Coventre at the Foundation thereof, and in the Conqueror's time was rated at 5 hides. having 4 Mills, yielding livs. 14 per annum; but the whole value is, by the Survey then made, certified at Xli, wherein it is written Hunitone: From which time forwards, till the general dissolution of the Monasteries, it did continue in that Religious house, so that there is no much remarkable thereof, other than that in 33. H 3 (1248) the Monks demised it unto Ralph de Leicestre, Canon of Lichfield, to hold during his life, together with the advowson of the Church; and that in 41. H. 3 (1256) they obtained a charter of FREEWARREN in all their demesne lands here: As also the tenants thereof, besides their several rents, performed sundry services, every other day from the feast of St. John the Baptist till Michaelmass, but if the Lord would employ them in mowing before Mid-summer-day, then to allow them for their work: for which service they were to have one mutton or viiid, with vii loaves of bread, and a cheese, as also ivd in money, they having to carry hay out of the Lord's meadow, and to mow with one man a piece for a day and a half: and moreover that each of them should come to the Lord's Reap with all his family, excepting his wife, where he was to reap two lands and carry them; but to perform no other service for that day; and likewise plough four times in the year, scil two selions a piece; as also sow and harrow the same, having seed found at the Lord's barn; and lastly to harrow two days a piece, giving X. eggs and i. d. for every Alehouse, and repair the Lord's pool as often as need should require. All which said Tenants were to pay unto the Lord xvii s. iv d. for antient aid, and for carriage of Fish iii s. iv d. per annum. As also vi s. viii d. for maintenance of his

III. *Thomas Gybbes* of Honington, 2d son, married and had issue.

IV. *Thomas Gybbes*, of Honington, married and had a son, viz:

V. *Robert Gybbes* of Honington, a man of considerable property, purchased the manor of Honington 1540. He married Margaret daughter of — King, and died Aug. 10, 1558, leaving a son and heir, viz:

VI. *Robert Gibbs*, of Honington, Esq., born about 1528, living 1584. He married for his first wife Margery, daughter of Humphrey Prideaux, of Devonshire, Esq., and by her had issue one son called Anthony (from whom Sir George S. Gibbs, of Sidmouth in Devon, traces his ancestry) and three daughters. Robert Gibbs, for his second wife, married Katherine daughter of William Porter, of Ashton, in the County of Gloucester, and by her had the following issue, viz:

VII. 1. *Sir Ralph Gibbs*, of whom hereafter.

2. Thomas, married Margaret daughter and heir of — Wilks, relict of Dymock, in the County of Warwick. They left issue Thomas, who had issue a daughter Francis who married Sir John Rayney, Bart., and had issue a son, viz: Edward, who died 1703, his son Edward dying suddenly left no male issue.

3. Tristram married Elizabeth, relict of — Baker.

4. Edward, aged 45 in 1619.

*Sir Ralph Gibbs*, above named, was living 1607. He married Gertrude daughter of Sir Thomas Wroughton, of the County of Wilts, Kt., and had by her the following children, viz:

VIII. 1. \**Sir Henry Gibbs*, of whom hereafter.

corn cart; and every two yard of land to carry one load of wood from Packwood to this town: in which week they should do no other work: but none of them to sell his horse colt without license of the Lord. The Cottiers, being XVI. in number, did then also perform such like services; every one of them paying four Hens, one Cock, and five Eggs which they were to carry into Coventre. Of these freeholders was Nicholas Tremenell, the chief, who held seven yard land of said Monks by the service of the tenth part of Knight's Fee. All which before specified was with the Rectory and Advowson of the Vicaridge in consideration of 786 li 07 s. 06 d. past to Robert Gybbes of Honyngton; Gentleman, and his heirs, 28 Apr. 32. H. 8. (1540) to hold in Capite by the tenth part of Knight's Fee, paying 4 li 04 s. 0b. yearly to the King, his heirs and successors. Which Robert died seized thereof 10' Aug. 5 & 6. Ph & M (1588) leaving issue. Robert his son and heir 30 years of age, who was the father of Sir Ralph Gibbs, Knight, and he of Sir Henry Gibbs, that enjoyed it (in ann. 1649.) It was afterwards purchased by Sir Henry Parker, Bart." &c.

\*It appears by the Journals of the House of Commons that a Sir Henry Gibbs estate both personal and real was sequestered in 1648. I had no means of ascertaining whether this Sir Henry is the same as the one mentioned in the text, but from the date I think it probable.

The following is a monumental inscription in a church in Ladbrook, "Here

2. Charles, prebendary of Winchester.
3. Mary, married Sir Walter Raleigh.
4. Jane, married Francis Hawley.
- . Unton, married Sir Edward Daring and died 1676. Sir Edward Daring was born in the Tower of London. He had issue by his wife Unton two sons and two daughters.

*Sir Henry Gibbs*, above named, married Elizabeth fifth daughter of Sir Thomas Temple of Stow, Bucks, and died about 1658, aged 70 years. He had issue by his wife Elizabeth the following children.

- IX. 1. *Thomas Gibbs*, son and heir, married Katherine, daughter of Sir Edward Longville, Baronet of Nova Scotia.
2. Henry, lived in Warwickshire and left issue.
  3. Ralph settled in the County of Bucks and left issue.

The following is from the Honington register of marriages:

“1653, Master Ralph Gibbes asked 13 Nov., 20th Nov., 27th Nov., between him and M. Catherine Adams, Borough of Warwick.”

4. Robert was born about 1634, came to the city of Boston in Mass., about 1660, where he became a merchant. He married Elizabeth Sheafe, of Boston, 1660, and died 1674. He had by Elizabeth his wife the following children, viz :

1. Margaret, born 1663, died young.
2. Robert, born 1665, married Mary Shrimpton 1692 and died 1702.
3. Henry, born 1668, married Elizabeth Greenough, by whom he had three sons and five daughters.
4. Jacob, born 1672, died unmarried. From Henry and Robert, sons of Robert and Elizabeth Gibbs, above named, are descended many of the Gibbs's now living in the U. S. A.
- ✕ 5. \*John Gibbs said to have settled in Barbadoes and left issue.

*Thomas Gibbs* above named, by Catherine his wife, left the following children:

- X. 1. *Thomas Gibbs*, of Dartmouth in the County of Devon, third son and heir.
2. Edward Gibbs of Middlesex, 4th son, living 1702. He

lieth the body of Thomes Gates, bachelor, of Ladbook, Professor of the sacred word of God, who departed this life the second day of Sept. in the year of our Lord 1657, leaving issue by Mary his wife, Mary Gibes and Thomas Gibes.” This was probably a collateral branch of the Honington Gibbes family.

\*There was a John Gibbs who settled in Virginia about the time the John Gibbs named in the text is said to have settled in Barbadoes, also a John Gibbs lived in Suffolk, possessing an income of £8000, was knighted 1660.

married Frances, eldest daughter and co-heir of Michael Arris of Charringworth in Gloucestershire, by whom he had three sons, viz: Edward, Thomas and John, all living 1702.

*Thomas Gibbs* of Dartmouth, before named, married first Joan daughter of Edmund Rowe, of Devonshire; secondly Sarah, daughter of John Hayne, of Dartmouth, by the last of whom he had issue one daughter, viz:

XI. *Marcella Gibbs*, born December 27th, 1706, married Arthur Holdsworth, of Mount Galpin, Dartmouth, and had issue one son and three daughters.

The arms of this family were *sa, three battle axes in pale ar Crest, three broken tilting spears or two in saltire and one in pale, enfiled with a wreath ar and sa.*

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Genealogy of a branch of the Gibbs family which settled in \*Venton or Fenton in the County of Devon.

I. *John Gibbe* was in possession of Venton 1378. He is thought to have been the brother of *Thomas Gibbes* of Honington in Warwickshire. He married and had a son and heir, viz:

II. *William Gibbe* possessed Venton 1407, died 1446.

III. *John Gibbes*, son of William Gibbe before named, married the daughter and heiress of William May and had issue a son.

IV. *Thomas Gibbe* married Ann or Margaret, daughter of Sir William Courtenay of Powdersham. Oliver observes in his "Ecclesiastical Antiquity," "Bishop Lacy on the 22nd of June, 1437, licensed Thomas Gibbe and Margaret his wife to have divine service performed *infra mansionem Dartington situatam.*" Thomas Gibbe, by his wife above named had a son and a daughter, viz: William and Isabel.

V. *William Gibbe*, the son of Thomas Gibbe above named, married the daughter of Barkley the sister of Sir John Barkley and Sir William Barkley of Bruton in Somerset. They had issue two daughters, viz:

VI. I. *Silvestra*, married Wm. Wooton and had issue a son, William Wooton of Ingleborn, who married Ann daughter of John Gibs, and sister to Sir E. Gibs, living 1620.

2. *Elizabeth* married E. Drew.

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\*Venton, or Fenton, is in the parish of Dartington, near Exeter. Risdon, in his history of Devonshire, observes—The manor of Manworthy passed by successive female heirs from the family of Manworthy to Dennis Butterford and Gibbes. William Gibbes, a descendant of John Gibbe, of Fenton, sold the manor of Manworthy to Hurst, of Exeter, before the close of the 17th century. A family of Gibs possessing Butterford, sold it in the reign of Queen Elizabeth. The heiress of Butterford married May, and the heiress of May married Gibbe.

The arms of the Fenton family of Gibbes was similar to those of the Honington family in Warwickshire. There is a coat of arms of this family in one of the windows of the Church at Fenton.

A GENEALOGY OF A BRANCH OF THE GIBBS FAMILY WHICH SETTLED IN  
THE PARISH OF CLYST ST. GEORGE, ABOUT FIVE MILES  
FROM EXTER, DEVONSHIRE.

I was assisted by Henry H. Gibbs of London, in procuring this genealogy as well as that of the Fenton branch.

I. *John Gibbs, or Gibbe*, supposed to have descended from the Venton Gibbs family; purchased Pitt in the parish of Clyst St. George, 1560. He married and had issue. The following is an inscription on a brass tablet in the parish church of Clyst St. George.

“The body of John Gibbe entomed here doth reſte  
“Who dying did his ſoul to Heaven above bequeſte  
“His faith in Jeſus Chriſt moſt ſteadfaſt was ſet  
“In ſure hope thereby to ſatisfy his debt  
“A lively theme to take enſample by  
“Contemning death in hope a ſaint to die.”  
Obiit XXIII die Septembris.  
Anno 1594.

The children of John Gibbs above named were—

II. 1. *George Gibbe* married Melthea 1568. Their marriage is recorded in the registry of St. George's Clyst.

2. William, Rector of St. George's Clyst, will dated 6th of May 1571 and proved 8th June ſame year.

3. John, married and had iſſue three daughters, viz: Cecilia born and died 1566, Juliana, born 1569, and Mary born 1567. John Gibbs died 1594.

III. *John Gibbs, or Gibbe*, ſon of *George* and Melthea his wife above named, married Auſtice. He was born 1559 and died 1652, leaving by his wife Auſtice the following children.

IV. 1. *George Gibbs*, born 1602, married Alice — and died 1683.

2. Robert.

3. Abram, born 1603 married Elizabeth Mandit and had iſſue by her, Isaac, John, Abraham, Geo., Jacob and Elizabeth, ſome of whom left iſſue. *George Gibbs* and Alice his wife, before named, had the following children.

V. 1. *George Gibbs*, married Hannah Swete 1711, died before 1723. He had by his wife Hannah only one child, viz: *George*, who died in infancy before his father.

2. Samuel.

3. A son.

4. Abraham married T. Rowe, had issue a son named Abraham, who was born 1686, married first Mary Monk, and had issue a son George. The marriage of Abraham and Mary his wife is recorded in the Topsham Register in the following words: "1710 March 11, Abraham Gibbs de Topsham et Maria Monk, de eadem spinster." Abraham Gibbs last before named married for his second wife Sarah Lyle and had issue a son, who married Elizabeth Meacham.

George Gibbs son of Abraham Gibbs and Mary his wife before named, born 1718, married Anne Vicary. He received £500 from his father's estate, and was the heir at law to his great uncle George Gibbs, the husband of Hannah Swete before mentioned, and as such heir succeeded to his estate of Pitt on the death of his said uncle. He sold the estate of Pitt to Charles Crawley, 1790. He had the following children, Elizabeth, Catherine, Anne, George, Anthony, Vicary, Attorney General before named, and others.

Vicary married and had issue, a daughter who married — Pilkington and had issue two daughters now living.

Extract from the register of the Parish of Clyst St. George. The first register book commences

"Anno Regni Regina Elizabetha 1566; the third person registered that year happens to be a Gibbe.

Vicesimo quinto die Januarii baptizeta est Cecilia Gybbe.

Vicesimo sexto die Januarii sepulta est eadem Cecilia Gybbe.

Anno regni Regina Elizabetha decimo 1567 Decimo tertio die Februarii baptizeta fuit Margareta Gibbe filia Johannis Gibbe."

Anno R. R. Eliz. Undecimo (1568) Decimo die Julii celebrata sunt nuptia inter Georgium Gibbe et Meltheam Uxorum ejus."

Then occurs

Eliz. duodecimo 1569. Thebaptism of Juliana Gibbe filia Johannis Gibbe.

Decimo nono die Septembris baptizetus est Joanes Gybbe filia Georgii Gybbe.

Anno Regni Regina Elizabetha decimo tertio (1570) Tricesimo die Maii sepultus est Gulielmus Gybbe Rector istius Ecclesia.

5 Georgii 1720.

Georgius fil Georgii Gibbs obiit 2 Martii Sepultus 4 1723. Anno regni Georgii decimo Georgius Gibbs Seneca mortuus est 7 August et Septultus 9 vir mille pietate secundus.

A different family seems to commence here :

- 1749, Marg't *da.* of James and Mary Gibbs bapt Mar. 10.  
 1742, " Gibbs buried Oct. 10.  
 1744, John son of James and Mary Gibbs bapt. June 20.  
 1751, Sarah *da* " " " " " " May 23.  
 1765, William son of Wm. and Catherine " " " " " " March 7.  
 1766, Ann *da* of " " " " " " Sept. 15.  
 1760, Catherine " " " " " " Aug. 6.  
 1770, Richard son " " " " " " Oct. 7.  
 1773, Mary *da* of " " " " " " May 2.  
 1776, Betty " " " " " " July 21.  
 1779, James son of " " " " " " May 9.  
 1782, William Abraham Gibbs, buried May 30.  
 1783, James " " " " " " May 4.  
 1785, Miss Sarah Gibbs " " " " " " Jan. 19.  
 1786, Mary *da.* of Wm. and Mary Gibbs bapt. Mar. 26.  
 1788, Catherine Gibbs, buried Oct. 1.  
 1789, Luke, son of Wm. and Mary Gibbs, bapt. Nov. 1.  
 1790, " " " " " " " " buried Jan. 10.  
 " John, son of Wm. and Sarah Gibbs, bapt. Apr. 4.  
 1791, Ann *da.* of Wm. and Mary Gibbs, bapt. Jan. 30.  
 " Mary Gibbs, buried Aug. 21.  
 1793, Anne the *dau.* of Mr. George Gibbs, buried Apr. 6.  
 1794, Caroline *dau.* of Rev. Charles Crawley and Mary his wife  
 baptized June 3.  
 George Abraham Gibbs, aged 70, buried Nov. 17th.  
 1803, Mrs. Ann Gibbs, of Exeter, widow of M. George Abraham  
 Gibbs, buried Aug. 18.  
 1694, Anna filia Abrahami Gibbs Aug. 2.  
 1686, Abrahamus, filius Abrahami, Baptizatus Nov. 8.  
 1688, Georgius, filius Abrahami, sepultus Nov. 15.  
 The above are true copies of the register of baptisms and burials in  
 the parish of Clyst or Clist-wie in the County of Devon, made by me.  
 WILLIAM ROUS ELLICOMBE, Rector."

GENEALOGY OF A BRANCH OF THE GIBBS FAMILY WHICH  
 SETTLED IN KENT.

I. *Jenking Gibbes* of Combe, in the parish of Falkstone, in the  
 County of Kent, was of a good family in Devonshire. He married  
 Anne —, daughter of — Eden, and had issue two sons, viz:

II. 1. *Thomas Gibbes* of Combe, married Alice Trenwell and  
 had issue.

2. John Gibbes, 2d son, married and had a son William.

III. *John Gibbes*, son of *Thomas* and *Alice* above named, was of *Patrickborne*. He married *Margaret* daughter of *Richard Champneys*, alias *Glocester*, King of arms. He died 1526, leaving two sons, viz: *William* and *Thomas*.

IV. *William Gibbs* above named, in possession of *Elmstone* manor, married *Jane*, daughter and heir of — *Gason*. His will was proved 1599. He left issue, viz:

V. 1. *John Gibbs*, of whom hereafter.

2. *Edmond* of *Elmstone* married *Judith Potter*, and had issue by her, *Nicholas* son and heir, *Bennetta*, *Judith*, *Elizabeth*, *Edmond* 2d son. *Edmond Gibbs* the husband of *Judith* above named died 1623.

3. *Henry* married and had the following children, *Henry* son and heir, *Thomas*, *John*, *Samuel*, *Margaret* and *Elizabeth*.

4. *Stephen* of *Edmonstone Court* in *Kent* married *Jane* daughter of *Thomas Forney* of *Brockhill* and by her had the following children, viz: *Ann*, *Elizabeth*, *Alice* who married *Thomas Bedding*, *Thomas* 1st son, *John* 3d son, and *Robert* 2d son, who went to *Barbadoes* and afterwards went to *South Carolina*, where he was made governor.

*John Gibbs* the son of *William* above named died in the *Castle of Salwood*. He married *Mary* daughter of *Richard Elham* of *Dover*, by whom he had the following children.

VI. *William Gibbs*, of whom presently.

2. *Joan* married *James Joice*.

3. *Thomas Gibbs* of *Windsor* married *Isabella* daughter of *Rev. William Wilson*, D. D. Their children were *William*, *Elizabeth* and other sons and daughters.

*William Gibbs* above named was of *Elmstone* living 1621. He married *Elizabeth* daughter of *Thomas Fleet*, of *St. Johns* in the *Isle of Thanet*, and left issue, viz:

VII. *Wm. Gibbs* eldest son and heir, married *Anne* only daughter of *Thomas Selling* in the *County of Kent* and had issue, viz:

VIII. 1. *William Gibbs* eldest son and,

2. *Thomas Gibbs* 2d son.

The arms used by this family were *ar three pole axes sable*. *Crest*, *an arm embowed in armour garnished holding in the gauntlet a pole, axe, ar*.

A GENEALOGY OF A BRANCH OF THE GIBBS FAMILY WHO SETTLED  
IN BRISTOL, ENG.

I. *William Gibbes* of the parish of *Bedmenster* and of the city of *Bristol*, mentions in his will made 1602, (now in the *Bishop's office* at

Bristol,) that his father possessed real estate in Redcliffe street Bristol and that his father was entombed at St. Thomas's near Bristol. William Gibbs had three wives, by whom he had eight children, five daughters and three sons. He died in April 1603, and was buried in St. Thomas parish. His sons were,

II. 1. *Philip Gibbs* eldest son and heir, admitted a freeman of Bristol 1586. He possessed property in Bristol left by his father. He married and had issue a daughter. His will, recorded in the Prerogative Court of Canterbury, was proved 1626.

2. *Henry*, married Anne Packer of Cheltenham in Gloucestershire and had issue. His will was proved 1636. The children of Henry Gibbes and Anne his wife were, 1, William, died about 1634.

2. \**Henry Gibbes*, of the city of Bristol, Esq., executor to his father's will, 1636. Married twice and left issue. His will was proved 1667.

3. Philip, the first of the family who settled in Barbadoes, of whom hereafter.

4. Elizabeth, married Thomas Lloyd of Bristol, Gent. was living 1666. Secondly, Walter Stephens, Gent.

There were probably of this family more than above named one son and two daughters.

In St. James's Church in Bristol on a brass tablet was cut a figure in an alderman's robe with four sons behind him, opposite to him is his wife with four daughters behind her, all kneeling before an altar. On the same tablet, is an inscription to Henry Gibbes mayor and alderman of the city of Bristol who died May 19th, 1636, aged 73 years, and to Anne his wife, who died December 15, 1631, aged 71 years.

3. *George Gibbes*, of the city of Bristol married Mary Cox of Chelwood, county of Somerset. He died 1650. He had by Mary his wife the following children, viz:

III. *George Gibbs*, of whom presently.

2. William 2d son living in Barbadoes 1649. Issue not named.

3. Mathew Gibbs, died before 1649.

*George Gibbs* above named married three times. By his first wife Anne, daughter of Thomas Bate of Staffordshire he had three sons and three daughters, viz: 1 Geo., 2 Thomas, 3 Henry, 4 Mary, 5 Susanna, 6 Anne.

By his second wife Mary, daughter of Matthew Biskin of Bristol he had issue 1 John, 2 Matthew, 3 Humphrey, 4 Mary, 5 Elizabeth. By his third wife, daughter of George Hartwell of Bristol, he had no issue.

\*This Henry Gibbes mentioned in the text may have been the husband of Elizabeth, eldest daughter of John Harrington, before named, but from the time his will was proved I think he could not have been the same.

*Philip Gibbes*, before named, (the first of the family who settled in Barbadoes) removed to the parish of St. James, in the island of Barbadoes, about 1635, and died in or about 1648. He willed his estates in Barbadoes to his son Philip, who married twice. By the first wife he had three daughters, and by his second wife Willoughby, daughter of — Yeamans, Esq., he had three sons and four daughters. The last before named, Philip, was the grandfather of Philip Gibbes, Baronet, of Springhead, in the island of Barbadoes, who was created Baronet May 30, 1744.

The arms of this family as used by the Barbadoes family are: Perless, argent and ermine, 3 battle axes, sable. Crest, an arm embowed in armour garnished, or, and charged with a cross. Couped, gules, in the hand proper, a battle axe, as in the arms. Motto, Tenax proposti—Hold fast to your purpose.

I procured several other genealogies of different branches of the Gibbs family; likewise many abstracts of parish records relating to this family, which I thought best not to insert in my report.

Thomas Gibbes, a collateral of the Bristol family, was a member of the first Council holden at Barbadoes. John Gibbes another collateral was also at the head of the Council board in that Island in 1697.

In concluding this report, I would say, having spent several months in making investigations in England for your Association, that I am fully convinced, that the manor of Instow, as well as *some other property* formerly owned by Elizabeth Sibthorp is the property, about which the numerous reports have been circulated in the United States, relative to property in England belonging to Gibbs's in U. S. A. I am also fully convinced that this property, now, legally belongs to some of the Gibbs family;—and that the same could be procured by individuals proving themselves to be *legal heirs* of Elizabeth Sibthorp. The manor of Instow was evidently not *entailed* property. It is manifest from the wills of Harrington Gibbes and Dionesia Long, that this property was not entailed property when in the possession of Harrington Gibbes and Dionesia Long, and at the time it came into the possession of John Gibbes of London. For it does not appear reasonable to suppose that Harrington Gibbes would have willed his half of the manor of Instow to his brother John Gibbes when he,

Harrington, by will could have no control over it. Although I could not find the will of John Gibbes, nor the letters of Administration granted on his estate, or any documents made by him, yet if we can place any dependence upon the deposition of Thomas Spicer before named, this property was not *entailed* by John Gibbes or by his daughter Elizabeth Sibthorp, but Elizabeth Sibthorp, the wife of Humphrey Sibthorp, owned it absolutely, and upon her marriage with Sibthorp so arranged it that it should go back into the possession of the Gibbs family.

I am unprepared to say who the legal heirs of Elizabeth Sibthorp are. They are probably descended from a Bristol Gibbs family ; but it is very doubtful whether such heirs are descended from Wm. Gibbes of Bedminster and Bristol. This could probably be ascertained, but not without considerable expense. To ascertain this it would probably be necessary to examine many wills, at different recording offices in England, as well as many parish registers which would consume much time, besides the charges of the clerks, which in this country we should think exorbitant.

The fees allowed clerks by law, in England, for searching parish registers are 6d. (12½ cents,) for every year examined, and 2s. 6d. (62½ cents) for every name extracted from the register.

There are undoubtedly, several individuals in England, like \*Mr. V—, before named, who may have information relative to the family and estate, but would tax exorbitantly for imparting that information.

With time and money, it could be ascertained to whom Instow, and other property formerly owned by Elizabeth Sibthorp, now legally belongs;—whether the heirs are in England or America.—But in the present state of the case, I think it would be well first to trace the genealogy of the different Gibbs families in this country as far as practicable, for those who cannot clearly trace their family in this country, to incur farther expense in making investigations in England would be useless; for if they cannot trace their family here, they evidently cannot connect themselves with an English branch of the Gibbs's.

COLUMBUS SMITH.

\*See note on page 31. M. B. G.

TREASURER'S REPORT.  
ACTING GIBBS ASSOCIATION OF VERMONT.

RECEIPTS.	
Fees of ninety-one members	\$285.00
Received from the Mass. Gibbs Association	\$100.00
Received from the Conn. Gibbs Association	\$ 50.00
<hr/>	
EXPENDITURES.	
Paid Mr. Smith for his investigations in England	\$360.72
Paid for printing Circulars and Report	\$ 42.25
Other expenses (say,)	\$ 19.34
<hr/>	
	\$422.31
Balance on hand	\$ 12.69

**American Citizens Entitled to Property in Europe.**

THE undersigned wishes to inform those who think themselves entitled to property in England, that while recently in England he procured a complete list of the Unclaimed Dividends of the Bank of England, containing the names and descriptions of many thousand persons entitled to various sums of money.

These unclaimed Dividends and stocks in public funds amount to several millions of Dollars and are now recoverable by Next of Kin. He also procured an index containing the names of several thousand persons for whom or whose Next of Kin advertisements have been made in England within the last fifty years; likewise many complete copies of Advertisements for the Wilsons, Townleys, Stewarts, Thompsons, Jennings, Gardners, Lawrences, Jyons, Browns, Crawford, Mathews, Stanleys, Carpenters, Hydes, Gerlings, Slades, Chapmans, Holts, Russels, Webbers, Antrims, Charlwoods, Rutherford, &c. In many of these Advertisements the American heirs are particularly inquired after.

An examination of this collection as copies as these advertisements can be had for a reasonable compensation.

Any information which can be given respecting the heirs or Next of Kin of Robert Rutherford who kept a public house in Trenton, New Jersey, in or about 1773 will be liberally rewarded. The subscriber undertakes the collection of property in Europe belonging to American Citizens on the most reasonable terms. From his experience in this business he thinks he shall be able to give perfect satisfaction to all such as favor him with their business. Applications by letter are requested to be postpaid.

COLUMBUS SMITH.

Salisbury, Vt., June, 1848.



## FIRST AMERICAN GIBBS GENEALOGY.

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“When found, make a note of.”

—*Dombey & Son.*

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What is known as the William Gibbs “Family Notices” was undoubtedly the first attempt at preparing and printing a genealogy of any branch of the Gibbs family in America. In 1845 William Gibbs of Lexington, Mass., published a small eight page pamphlet, without title page, called, “Family Notices, collected by William Gibbs of Lexington, Mass.” The only copy I have ever seen of this unique publication has written in ink on the first page, “Printed by J. W. Gibbs of New Haven, Conn.”

The pamphlet gives an account of the ancestors and descendents of Robert Gibbs, a distinguished merchant of Boston—1660—1674. He was the fourth son of Sir Henry Gibbs, who married Elizabeth daughter of Sir Thomas Temple of Stowe, and was descended from the Gibbs family of Honington, County Warwickshire.

Whitmore’s “American Genealogist” says, (1868): “Some years ago a lithographic tabular pedigree of the family was issued, tracing, however, only the English portion ; naming Robert, the Emigrant, in his due place, and continuing the main line for two generations after him. There is no date or place of publication on this sheet.”

Copies of the “Family Notices” found their way into England and this enabled some members of the English branch of the family to make comparisons, corrections, etc., and 34 years later, or in 1879, additional information was published in Philadelphia by J. Williard Gibbs for

private circulation under the title of "Memoir of the Gibbs Family of Warwickshire, England, and United States of America." The volume contains the arms and crest of the Warwickshire family and a genealogical tree tracing the family down to the family of the compiler. William Gibbs, author of the "Family Notices," was born in Salem, Mass., 1785, and died 1853. The original "Family Notices," upon which the compiler was assisted by Prof. Josiah Willard Gibbs, his cousin, is as follows :

### FAMILY NOTICES.

COLLECTED BY

WILLIAM GIBBS, OF LEXINGTON, MASS.

I. *Robert Gybbes* of Honyngton, Warwickshire, gentleman, was enfeoffed with the manor of Honyngton, April 28, 1540, and died August 10, 1558.

II. *Robert Gibbs* of Honington, Esq., son and heir of the preceeding, was born about 1528; married Margery, daughter of Humphrey Prideaux of Adeston and Thuborough, Devon, Esq., and was living in 1584.

III. *Sir Ralph Gibbs*, knight, son of Robert Gibbs, Esq., was living in 1607.

His sons were (1) Sir Henry Gibbs, knight, mentioned below. (2) Charles Gibbs, D. D., prebendary of Winchester, sixth son, born Nov. 4, 1604; died Sept. 16, 1681.

His daughters were (1) Mary, who married Sir Walter Raleigh. (2) Jane, who married Francis Hawley. (3) Unton, who married Sir Edward Dering, baronet, and died 1676.

IV. *Sir Henry Gibbs*, knight, son of Sir Ralph Gibbs, married Elizabeth, fifth daughter of Sir Thomas Temple, of Stow, Bucks, and died about 1688 (1658?) aged about 70.

His children were (1) Thomas, who succeeded to the Honington estates, and left issue. (2) Henry, who was of Halford in Warwickshire

and left issue. (3) Ralph, who was of Whaddon, County of Bucks, and left issue. (4) Robert, mentioned below. (5) John, who was of the island of Barbadoes and left issue.

V. *Robert Gibbs*, fourth son of Sir Henry Gibbs, was born about 1634; came to Boston in New England between 1657 and 1660, where he became a distinguished merchant.

He married Elizabeth, daughter of Jacob Sheafe, merchant of Boston, and Margaret his wife, Sept. 7, 1660. Their children were

1. Margaret, born May 13, 1663, died young.
  2. Robert, born Sept. 20, 1665; married Mary Shrimpton, May 19, 1692; died Dec. 8, 1702.
  3. Henry, born Oct. 8, 1668. See below.
  4. Jacob, born Feb. 18, 1672; died unmarried.
- Robert Gibbs, merchant, died about Dec. 1674.

Elizabeth, widow of Robert Gibbs, married Hon. Jonathan Corwin of Salem, Mar. 20, 1676, by who she had the following children: (1) Elizabeth, born May 5, 1678. (2) Margaret, born April 15, 1679. (3) Sarah, born Aug. 12, 1680. (4) Jonathan, born Oct. 2, 1681. (5) George, born May 21, 1683. (6) John, born June 9, 1684. (7) Margaret, born Nov. 30, 1685. (8) Anna, born Aug. 1, 1687. (9) Jonathan, born Sept. 15, 1689. (10) Harbert, born Dec. 15, 1690.

Hon. Jonathan Corwin died June 9, 1718.

Elizabeth, his widow, died Aug. 29, 1718.

VI. *Henry Gibbs*, son of Robert and Elizabeth Gibbs, was born Oct. 8, 1668; graduated at Harvard College in 1686; married Mercy, (born Feb. 16, 1665,) daughter of William and Elizabeth Greenough, June 9, 1692; was ordained pastor of the East Parish in Watertown, Oct. 6, 1697, in which station he continued until his death. His children were

1. Elizabeth, born Jan. 12, 1696; died May 6, 1706.
2. Mercy, born Dec. 23, 1696; married Rev. Benjamin Prescott of Salem; died Dec. 18, 1744.

3. Margaret, born July 3, 1699 ; married Rev. Nathaniel Appleton of Cambridge ; died Jan. 17, 1771.

4. Henry, born Mar. 16, 1702 ; died Sept. 16, 1703.

5. William, born July 11, 1704 ; was drowned Aug. 10, 1715.

6. Mehetable, born Jan. 8, 1706 ; married Benjamin Marston, Esq., of Salem, June 24, 1725 ; died without issue, Aug. 21, 1727.

7. Henry, born May 13, 1709. See below.

Mercy, wife of Rev. Henry Gibbs, died Jan. 26, 1716.

Rev. Henry Gibbs died Oct. 21, 1723.

The published sermons of Rev. Henry Gibbs are

1. Artillery Election Sermon. Boston, 1704. 16mo.

2. Bethany ; or House of Mourning. 1714. See Prince's MS. Cat. of N. E. Library.

3. The blessedness of those whose sins are forgiven. Boston, 1721.

4. Godly children their parents' joy. Boston, 1727.

VII. *Henry Gibbs*, son of Rev. Henry and Mercy Gibbs, was born at Watertown, May 13, 1709 ; graduated at Harvard College in 1726 ; entered into mercantile business at Salem ; was appointed a justice of the Court of Common Pleas for the County of Essex, in 1754 ; was a representative of the town of Salem to the General Court for several years ; and was also Clerk of the House.

He married (1) Margaret Fitch, daughter of Rev. Jabez Fitch of Portsmouth, N. H., Jan. 31, 1739, by whom he had the following children :

1. Margaret, born Dec. 14, 1739 ; died about 1746 or 1747.

2. Mercy, born June 15, 1741 ; died Oct. 10, 1756,

Margaret, wife of Henry Gibbs, Esq., died Nov. 7, 1742.

Henry Gibbs, Esq., married (2) Katharine Willard (born Sept. 28, 1724), daughter of Hon. Josiah and Katherine Willard, May 28, 1747 ; by whom he had the following children :

1. Henry, born May 7, 1749. See below.

2. Josiah Willard, born Sept. 30, 1752 ; married Elizabeth Warner, Oct. 1779 ; died Feb. 24, 1822.

3. William, born May 4, 1757; died unmarried, May 22, 1829.

Henry Gibbs, Esq., died Feb. 17, 1759.

Katharine, his widow, died May 31, 1769.

VIII. *Henry Gibbs*, son of Henry and Katharine Gibbs, was born May 7, 1749; graduated at Harvard College in 1766; taught school for several years successively at Rowley, Newcastle, N. H., and Lynn; afterwards entered into mercantile business at Salem. He married Mercy Prescott, daughter of Benjamin and Rebekah Prescott. Their children were

1. Henry, born May 17, 1783; died, 1791.

2. William, born Feb. 17, 1785. See below.

3. Marcia, born 178—; died Nov. 17, 1791.

4. Josiah Willard, born April 30, 1790: married Mary Ann Van Cleve of Princeton, N. J., Sept. 30, 1830.

5. Henry, born Sept. 1793; married Anna Evans of Philadelphia.

Henry Gibbs died June 29, 1794.

Mercy, his widow, died May 19, 1809.

IX. *William Gibbs*, son of Henry and Mercy Gibbs, was born at Salem, Feb. 17, 1785; studied the Latin and Greek languages under Masters Bancroft, Kendall and Parker; visited England in 1807; resided at Salem until 1832, at Concord until 1834; and now (1845) resides at Lexington. He married Mercy Barrett, (born at Concord, Sept. 1783,) daughter of Peter and Mary Barrett, — 1811. They had five children.

1. William Prescott, born Aug. 5, 1812. See below.

2. Henry, born —, died at Litchfield, N. H., April, 1835.

3. Mercy Elizabeth, born

4. Stephen Barrett, born — died at Litchfield, N. H., April, 1835.

5. Mary, born March 19, 1818.

Mercy, wife of William Gibbs, died at Concord, Feb. 1833.

X. *William Prescott Gibbs*, son of William and Mercy Gibbs, was born at Salem, Aug. 5, 1812; entered Harvard College in 1828, where

he was graduated in 1832; was a student in the Law School at Cambridge; and now (1845) resides at Lexington.

#### EXTRACTS RELATING TO THE GIBBSES OF HONINGTON.

Taken from *Dugdale's Warwickshire*.

“Kineton Hundred. Honington. This is one of those towns that Earl *Leofrik*, in the first year of King *Edward* the Confessor's reign, gave to the Monastery of Coventre at the Foundation thereof, and in the Conqueror's time was rated at 5 hides having 4 Mills yielding liv s. iv d. *per annum*; but the whole value is, by the Survey then made, certified at x li. wherein it is written HUNITONE: From which time forwards, till the generall dissolution of the Monasteries, it did continue to that Religious house, so that there is not much remarkable thereof, other than that in 33. H. 3. (1248) the Monks demised it unto RAPH DE LEICESTRE, Canon of LICHFIELD, to hold during his life, together with the advowson of the Church; and that in 41. H. 3. (1256) they obtained a \*Charter of FREE WARREN in all their demesn lands here: As also †that the Tenants thereof, besides their severall rents, performed sundry services, every other day from the Feast of St. *John Baptist* till *Michaelmasse*; but if the Lord would imploy them in mowing before *Midsummer* day, then to allow them for their work: for which services they were to have one mutton, or viii d. with viii. loaves of Bread, and a Cheese, as also iv d. in money, they being to carry hay out of the Lord's meadow, and to mow with one man a piece for a day and a half: and moreover, that each of them should come to the Lord's Reap with all his family, excepting his Wife, where he was to reap two lands and carry them; but to perform no other service for that day; and likewise plough four times in the year, *scil.* two selions a piece; as also sow and harrow the same, having seed found at the Lord's barn; and lastly to harrow two days a piece, giving x. eggs and i d. for

\*Cart. 41. H. 3. m. 4. †Inq. per H. Nott. &c. f. 108 b. &c.

every Alehouse, and repair the Lord's Pool as often as need should require. All which said Tenants were to pay unto the Lord xvii s. iv d. for antient aid, and for carriage of Fish iii s. iv d. *per annum*. As also vi s. viii d. for maintenance of his Corn Cart; and every two yard land to carry one load of wood from Packwood to this town: in which week they should do no other work: but none of them to sell his Horse-Colt without License of the Lord. The Cottiers, being xvi. in number, did then also perform such like services; every one of them paying four Hens, one Cock, and five Eggs, which they were to carry into COVENTRE. Of these Freeholders was Nicholas Trimenell, the chief, who held \*seven yard land of said Monks by the service of the tenth part of a Knight's Fee. All which before specified, was with the Rectory and Advouson of the Vikaridge in consideration of 786 li. 07s. 06d. †past to *Robert Gybbes* of HONYNGTON, Gentleman, and his heirs, 28. *Apr. H.* 8 (1540) to hold in *Capite* by the tenth part of Knight's Fee, paying 04 li. 07s. 04d. ob. yearly to the King, his heirs and successors. Which *Robert* †dyed seized thereof 10. *Aug. 5 & 6. Ph. & M.* (1558) leaving issue *Robert* his son and heir 30 years of age, who was the father of Sir *Ralph Gibbs*, Knight, and he of Sir *Henry Gibbs*, that enjoyed it (in ann. 1640. It was afterwards purchased by Sir Henry Parker, Bart., who built here a handsome Seat, and rebuilt the Church, and lies buried in it.)"

"Patroni Ecclesiæ Incumbents, et tempora Instit. de Honyton, vel Honington.

Patroni Vicariæ.	Incumbentes, et tempora Instit.
<i>Rob. Gibbs de Honington ar.</i>	<i>D. Joh. Heynes Cler. xxvi Oct. 1584.</i> ( <i>v. p. r.</i> )
<i>Rad. Gibbs ar.</i>	<i>Georgius Ball Cler. ix. Martii 1600</i> ( <i>v. p. res. Thom Colley. Cl.</i> )
<i>Rad. Gibbs miles.</i>	<i>Thomas Brownent Cler. xxiii Jan, 1607.</i> ( <i>v. p. r.</i> )
( <i>Henry Gibbs mil.</i>	<i>Ric. Barlowe Cler. A. B. xxii Nov. 1643.</i> ( <i>v. p. m. T. Brownent.</i> )"

\*Inq. per H. Nott. &c. f. 109 b. †Pat. 32. H. 8. p. 7. †Esc. 1 Eliz.

'Kington Hundred. Bradmore. This place taking its name from the flat and low situation thereof, is a member of HONINGTON.— By the Act of Dissolution in 30 H. 8. it came with HONINGTON to the Crown, as parcell of the lands belonging to the Priory of COVENTRE: and so being involved with that Mannour in the Patent to Robert Gibbs, was in 1640 the inheritance of Sir *Henry Gibbs* before specified.'

#### ANCESTRY OF ELIZABETH, WIFE OF SIR HENRY GIBBS.

Taken from *A. Collins's Peerage of England*, Vol. IV. pp. 247-253.

1. LEOFRICK, Earl of Mercia, who, as his earldom contained the counties of Chester, Leicester, &c., was sometimes styled Earl of Chester, and also of Leicester; and according to Sir William Dugdale, was a descendant from Leofrick, Earl of Leicester, in the time of Ethelbald, who succeeded to the Mercian throne, A. D. 716. The first mentioned Leofrick died on August 31, 1057, (16 Edw. Confessor,) and was buried at Coventry, in a convent, which he built about the beginning of the reign of the said Edward the Confessor, and endowed with no less than twenty-four lordships, and which probably gave name to that city. He married the famous Godiva—Leofrick by his Countess, who was daughter of Thorold, a sheriff of Lincolnshire, had three sons, Algar, Earl of Mercia, who died in 1059; Montgomery; and Henry.

2. This HENRY was living in the reign of William the Conqueror and was wrote Henry del Temple, from a manor so called near Bosworth in Leicestershire, viz. Or, an Eagle displayed, sable, membered and beaked gules; which were appendant to a deed to the abbey of Polworth in Warwickshire, as Mr. Burton affirms in his description of Leicestershire, who has made it appear that the family had their surname from the said manor Temple, which, according to him, the Earls of Leicester gave to the Knights Templars, and they to this Henry, styled *of great account and livelihood in those parts*. This Henry del Temple left issue Geffry.

3. GEFFRY had a son John.

4. JOHN was living in the reign of King Henry I. and was succeeded by his son, Henry de Temple.

5. HENRY de Temple, by his wife Maud, daughter of Sir John Ribbesford, Knt. had Henry de Temple.

6. HENRY de Temple was lord of the manors of Temple and Little Shepey in the reign of King John, and was father of Richard.

7. RICHARD de Temple married Catherine, daughter of Thomas Langley, and was father of Nicholas de Temple.

8. NICHOLAS de Temple, who 14 Edw. II. gave lands to the abbey of Maraval in Warwickshire. This Nicholas by his wife — daughter of Sir Roger Corbet of Sibbeston in Leicestershire, Knt. had Richard his heir.

9. RICHARD Temple married Agnes, daughter of Sir Ralph Stanley, and by her was father of Nicholas.

10. NICHOLAS Temple wedded Maud, daughter of John Burguillon of Newton in the county of Leicester, and by her had Robert his son and heir.

11. ROBERT Temple is mentioned in deeds, 9 Hen. V. and 3 Hen. VI. and having married Joan, daughter of William Shepey of Great Shepey in Leicestershire, was by her father of three sons, Nicholas, (who died in 1506;) Robert, (father of Richard Temple of Burton under Needwood in Staffordshire;) and Thomas, mentioned below. With her he also had the manor of Great Shepy, as also Cunston, Bilston, and Atterton, in the same county.

12. THOMAS Temple was seated at Whitney in Oxfordshire, and having married Mary, daughter of Thomas Gedney, Esq., left William.

13. WILLIAM Temple, his son and heir, wedded Isabel, daughter and heir of Henry Everton, Esq., and by her was father of Thomas.

14. THOMAS Temple of Whitney espoused Alice, daughter and heir of John Heritage of Burton Derset in Warwickshire, and by her had two sons, Robert Temple of Whitney and Peter Temple.

15. PETER Temple, 7 Edw. VI. had a grant of the manor of Merton Boteler in the county of Warwick, being then wrote of Dersert in the

same county; and also purchased the said manor of Dersert in 2 Eliz. This Peter was likewise owner of the manor of Stow in Buckinghamshire, where his descendants fixed their residence. He wedded Millicent, daughter of William Jekyll of Newington in Middlesex, and by her who was buried at Stow, Dec. 6, 1582, was father of two sons, John, hereafter mentioned, and Anthony, father of Sir William Temple. According to the inscription on his sepulchral marble, (on which there have also been two portraitures) in the church of Derset, he died at Stow, on May 28, 1577.

16. JOHN Temple, their eldest son, who took to wife Susan, daughter and heir of Thomas Spencer, of Everton in Northamptonshire, Esq., and by her had six sons and six daughters, as appears by an English inscription on a monument in the church of Derset, where the said John and Susan lie interred. Under the above mentioned English inscription, are these lines in Latin :

*Cur liberos hic plurimos,  
Cur hic amicos plurimos,  
Et plurimas pecunias,  
Vis scire cur reliquerit ?  
Tempellus ad plures abiit.*

His sons were, Sir Thomas, of whom hereafter; George, who died an infant; John Temple, of Franckton in Warwickshire; Sir Alexander Temple, of Longhouse in the parish of Chadwell, in Essex; William Temple, who married Jane, daughter of Sir Thomas Beaumont, of Stoughton, Knt. and Peter Temple, who espoused—— daughter of—— Kendal.

Of the daughters, Millicent was the wife of Edward Saunders, of Bricksworth, in Northamptonshire, Esq.; Dorothy of Paul Risley, of Chetwood in Buckinghamshire, Esq.; Catherine of Sir Nicholas Parker, of Willington in Sussex, Knt.; Susanna, of Sir Thomas Denton, of Hillesden, in Bucks, Knt.; Mary, of John Farmer, of Cokeham, in Berkshire, and Elizabeth of William Lord Say and Sele.

17. Sir THOMAS Temple, the eldest son, succeeded his father at Stow, and had the greatest part of the estate. He was knighted by King

James I. in June, 1603, at Sir John Fortescue's in Buckinghamshire; and at the institution of the order of Baronets, on May 22, 1611, was advanced to that dignity. He wedded Esther, daughter of Myles Sandys, of Latimers in Buckinghamshire, Esq.; and by her was father of four sons and nine daughters, who lived to be married, and so exceedingly multiplied, that this Lady, who survived him, saw seven hundred descended from her. This is affirmed by Dr. Thomas Fuller, in his *Worthies of England*, who relates, that he bought the truth thereof by a wager lost on the subject. This Esther Lady Temple (of whom there is an original picture at Stow) far surpassed Mrs. Honeywood of Marks-hall in Essex (mentioned by Dr. Derham, and by Mr. Hearn, in his preface to the fifth volume of Leland's *Itinerary*) who lived to see three hundred and sixty-seven descendants of her own body, for Lady Temple saw many more, the last of whom, viz.: the daughter of Sir Henry Gibbs, of Hunnington in Warwickshire, died in December, 1737, in extreme old age.

Sir Thomas's four sons were, 1. Sir Peter Temple, Knt. and Baronet, his successor; 2. Sir John Temple, Knt. who married Dorothy, daughter and co-heir of Edmund Lee, of Stanton-Barry in Bucks, Esq.; and had several sons and daughters; 3. Thomas Temple, LL.D. who married and had issue; and, 4. Miles Temple, who also married and had issue. His nine daughters were, 1. Susan, married to Sir Edward Clark, of Ardington in Berkshire, Knt.; 2. Hesther, to Sir John Rous, of Rous-Linch in com. Wigorn. Knt.; 3. Bridget, to Sir John Lenthall, of Creslow, in com. Oxon. Knt.; 4. Martha, to Sir Thomas Peniston, of Leigh in Sussex, Bart. She died Jan. 14, 1619, and is buried at Stow; 5. Elizabeth, to Sir Henry Gibbs, of Hunnington in Warwickshire; 6. Catherine, to Sir William Ashcomb, of Avelscot in Oxfordshire, Knt.; 7. Anne, to Sir William Andrews, of Lathbury in Buckinghamshire; 8. Margaret, to Sir Edward Longville, of Billing in Northamptonshire, Knt.; and 9. Millicent, to — Ogle, Esq.

18. ELIZABETH Temple married Sir Henry Gibbs, of Hunnington in Warwickshire.

In the preceding genealogy, references were made in the margin to Dugdale's Warwickshire, p. 86, 87, 768, etc.—Stemma penes comitem Temple.—Burton's Leicestershire.—Vincent's Bucks, No. 138, 55. *b.* 56. *a.* in Offic. Arm.—Pat. 7. Ed. VI. p. 4.



## BOOKS THAT CONTAIN GIBBS REFERENCES.

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**"Knowledge is of two kinds. We know  
a subject ourselves, or we know where  
we can find information upon it."**

*—Samuel Johnson.*

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In order that the various branches of the Gibbs Family in America may have at hand data which will assist them in their researches, much of which they would doubtless overlook, a list of references is appended which, if consulted, will doubtless bring to light much information of which they were previously uninformed. These books contain many references to American Genealogies, and pedigrees, and will facilitate the study of Gibbs Family History.

1. Ballous' History of Milford, Mass., pp. 765-7.
2. Barry's History of Framingham, Mass., pp. 252-6.
3. Benedict's History of Sutton, Mass., pp. 649.
4. Bond's History and Genealogies of Watertown, Mass., pp. 236.
5. Davis' Landmarks of Plymouth, Mass., pp. 116.
6. Freeman's History of Cape Cod, Mass., II, pp. 147-156,  
158, 164.
7. Gibbs' History of Blandford, Mass., pp. 67-71.
8. Heraldic Journal, III, (1867), pp. 12-14-166-167.
9. Hinman's Connecticut Settlers, 1st Ed. pp. 213.
10. Jackson's History of Newton, Mass., pp. 292-293.
11. Savage's Genealogical Dictionary of New England, II, pp. 245-8.
12. Stiles' History of Windsor, Conn., pp. 627-628.
13. Smith's History of Peterborough, N. H., pp. 91-3.
14. Wyman's Charlestown, (Mass.) Genealogies, I, pp. 406-7.

These references should prove invaluable to the general reader who desires to know whether the history of his native country town, or village has ever been written and published. It should be remembered in this

connection that most genealogies are privately printed and soon become very scarce. The labors of those who compile them are almost lost to those outside the immediate families who are interested in them. Most of the foregoing references are, however, to be found in large reference or public circulating libraries.



## HOW TO COMPILE A FAMILY PEDIGREE.

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"The boast of heraldry, the pomp of power,  
And all that beauty, all that wealth e'er gave,  
Await alike the inevitable hour,  
The paths of glory lead but to the grave."

—Gray.

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A few words to those who contemplate compiling their pedigrees. There is no "royal road;" it is beset with difficulties sufficient to deter all but the enthusiastic. Nevertheless, the number of those engaged in this useful department of history are constantly increasing, and hundreds of persons derive great pleasure from this mode of passing their leisure hours, while many others, for purely family reasons, toil patiently for the discovery of facts wherewith to connect the broken chain of descent, and thus establish a claim to wealth, or possibly a title, long since within their grasp.

The materials existing for the successful pursuit of such data are numerous and oftentimes widely scattered. By far the greater portion, however, are readily accessible to every inquirer who knows where and how to seek for them.

Most valuable assistance is frequently afforded the genealogist from Family Bibles, letters and innumerable miscellaneous manuscripts and documents, such as deeds, copies of wills, etc., which are frequently treasured up in family archives. Cases are almost daily occurring in which a simple entry in a Family Bible affords the connecting link in a pedigree which has in vain been sought for in other directions.

Entries in Family Bibles, prayer or other books, deeds, probates, old letters, inscriptions from tombstones, etc., are therefore among the most

valuable sources of information and when known to have been made by the parent, head of a family, or other competent person relative to births, marriages, deaths, and circumstances happening within his own knowledge, is good evidence of such transactions, and have been used and received as evidence at all periods. Too much pains, therefore, cannot be used in searching for books and documents of this nature as well as all other kinds of family manuscripts.

Very frequently, too, old newspapers containing accounts of deaths of a grandfather or father or other member of the family will be found to give details of family history heretofore unknown to the compiler.

Another source of information, and one exceedingly valuable, is the oral testimony of aged relatives and friends. Great care should be taken, however, in making notes of the *viva voce* evidence of aged people. The result should be read to them frequently and at as long intervals as possible. A name, or date, that your informant is utterly unable to remember one day will often come in mind after a week or so, and, moreover, by the manner in which your informant adheres to or varies former statements, you can form a tolerably accurate idea as to how much you can rely on them.

Note everything relating to change of residence, profession or occupation, relationship or connections, however distant ; for while you are doing so your notes may seem utterly worthless, yet they may prove of great value to you hereafter in tracking out a clew or eking out a coincidence. Sooner or later, perhaps at your great grandfather, or may be a step or two higher, you will come to the end of your oral testimony. Then with your documentary evidence the head of your sketch pedigree is about complete and ready for arrangement. This should all be worked out in a tabular manner, beginning of course with the earliest authenticated data that you have, and working down the line to your own generation. When there are more than one christian name they should be given in full. Avoid initials when the full names are known.

Some curious discoveries have been made by examining the decaying monuments in old churchyards, hunting up old forgotten papers and MS. which have been deposited, time out of mind, in some old chest in the attic in order to bring to view something which will throw light upon the past, and to ascertain what their forefathers were doing in the olden time. The result has been many valuable contributions to history and genealogy. Among others may be mentioned the discovery of the long-lost "History of the Plymouth Plantation" by Gov. William Bradford, containing the only full and complete list of the passengers of the Mayflower, which had remained in manuscript for more than two hundred years and was found in an old library in England.





## ANCIENT AND MODERN LAW OF DESCENT.

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"To heirs unknown descends th' unguarded store,  
Or wanders, heaven directed, to the poor."

—*Pope.*

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In English law inheritance, heir, and other kindred words, have a meaning very different from that of the Latin *heres* from which they are derived. In Roman law the heir, or heirs, represented the entire legal personality of the deceased—his *universum jus*. In English law the heir is simply the person on whom the real property of the deceased devolves by operation of law if he dies intestate. He has nothing to do as heir with the personal property; he is not appointed by will; and except in the case of coparceners he is a single individual. The Roman *heres* takes the whole estate, his appointment may or may not be by testament; and more persons than one may be associated together as heirs.

In English law "estate" has many meanings, the common element of which is property. A man's entire belongings constitute his estate; so much of it as consists of land and certain other interests associated therewith is his Real Estate; the rest is his Personal Estate.

In the United States the English law of inheritance has been more completely repudiated than any other portion of the British system. Each state has established rules of descent for itself and the observation of Chief Justice Reeve that the nation "has no general law of descents, which probably has not fallen to the lot of any other country," is to some extent justified by the great differences in detail between the rules obtaining in the different states.



## SOME NOTES ON GENEALOGY.

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"By an instinct of our nature we all love to learn of our birth and the chief circumstances in the lives of our ancestors.

—*James Savage.*

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Genealogy is the name applied to the science of the origin, sequence and affinities of families.

The earliest traces of genealogy are to be found in the ancestral catalogue of the heroes of the Old World. Among the Hebrews there were parties specially appointed to draw up genealogical tables. The absence of criticism, and desire to flatter the great, were the causes of introducing, after the fourteenth century, the most ridiculous fables into genealogy. Ancestors were fabricated in the most impudently false manner, and families carried back in an unbroken line, not only to the age of Charlmange, but even in many cases to the heroes of the Trojan War. The fact, however, is that hardly any family, however distinguished, can trace its ancestors, even to the middle of the eleventh century,—the period of the Norman Conquest of England.

The time is not far distant when a knowledge of a pure lineage running back to the Puritan emigrant of the first half, or even last half of the seventeenth century, will be impossible of attainment, except to the very few who have been careful to keep and preserve family records since the emigration of their families from New England to other states, and since the period when the law became inoperative requiring the registration of births, marriages and deaths.

It is perhaps to be regretted that so little interest is manifested in keeping up family records and histories, for the benefit of those who are

to come after us. Most of us, however, would willingly give a good price for a dozen lines written by some "emigrant ancestor" giving his birthplace, his ancestral traditions and the leading incidents of his career. Such a contribution for the benefit of our posterity is not beyond the ability of the most humble man or woman in our land. Because ourselves or our ancestors are, or have been humble, or ignoble, need not prevent us; the spirit that would scoff at such efforts would doubtless consider the history of mankind as needless and would blot out the records of human experience as well.

It is well known that General Washington, when President of the United States, amid pressing duties devolving upon him, found time to write out his family history; and Franklin even took much interest in this subject, and, when he was in England, he made a journey to the residence of his ancestors in order to procure all the information possible.

There is, however, a false and foolish pride of lineage which justly deserves censure and ridicule. It was such conceit that prompted the retort of Cicero, when a patrician said to him "you are a plebian." "I am a plebian," replied the eloquent orator, "and the nobility of my family begins with me, but that of yours will end with you."

It has been well said "all that a man can rightfully lay claim to is his own name; the embellishment should be his own—not that of his defunct predecessors." "They who derive their worth from their ancestors," remarks Lord Bacon, "resemble potatoes, the most valuable part is under ground."

But while there is danger of setting too high a value upon our pedigree, yet it is right to remember our ancestry, nor is it wrong to recount and rejoice in their achievements and worth.

*"A Good Root maketh the Branches to Flourish."*

## CHARLES GIBBS, THE NOTED PIRATE.

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“We must speak by the card, or equivocation  
will undo us.”—*Hamlet*.

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A noted genealogist has happily said: “Unless you wish to know ‘the truth, the whole truth, and nothing but the truth’ about your family do not search too closely, or you may feel disgusted at finding that an ancestor was hanged for murder, burglary or some other trifle!”

To a literary friend to whom I had related the strange experiences of my search for the “Smith Report,” contained in this volume, and continuing with a brief sketch of the Gibbs family history, there came the recollection that the Gibbs’s have had their “black sheep” as have the Jones’s, Smiths’s *et al.* A noted pirate, said to be second in ferocity only to the renowned Captain Kidd himself, was one Charles Gibbs. Like others of his calling he came to a bad end, having made a bad beginning. This Charles Gibbs is said to have had an exceptionally fine voice, and while awaiting the final “shuffling off” is credited with having composed and sang the rather pathetic account of his miss-spent life. The song is taken from a rare old “Forecastle Songster”—and will doubtless amuse the younger generation. It was sung to the tune “The Rocks of Scilla.” The words are :

Oh, all that now stand round me,  
Take warning by my fate—  
Avoid the path of sin and death  
Before it is too late.

I once had tender parents,  
Who dearly loved their son ;  
But I proved disobedient,  
And in folly’s path did run.

*CHARLES GIBBS, THE NOTED PIRATE.*

My father oft recalled me,  
But I would not refrain,  
Till firmly Satan bound me  
In his infernal chain.

My father sought to change my life,  
By sending me to sea ;  
But that had no effect at all,  
Though I saw brave Lawrence die.

In Halifax more vice I learnt  
Than here I can relate ;  
And soon I took a horrid oath,  
Which sealed my dismal fate.

In vain my parents plead with me  
To quit the paths of sin ;  
Alas ! my heart was harden'd,  
And all was black within.

A wealthy uncle left me cash  
Which I did then abuse,  
For money I counted but as trash,  
That I might freely use.

At length, when all my cash was gone,  
I resolved to go to sea,  
And enter'd myself with Captain Brown,  
Which sealed my destiny.

I then enter'd the Maria, privateer,  
Commanded by Captain Bell ;  
And soon we took her from him—  
To you the truth I tell.

We hoisted up the Black Flag,  
And a Pirate I became ;  
I then committed cruelties  
Too dreadful for to name.

Nor sex nor age we spared,  
But all we took was slain ;  
No mercy did we ever show,  
For dead men tell no tales.

My bloody knife was ever ready  
For, be it understood,  
Nor God nor man I ever feared  
Upon the briny flood.

I after visited the land,  
And made a great display ;

For I had cash at full command,  
And that I dashed away.  
Full forty gallant vessels  
I robb'd of gold in store ;  
And full four hundred souls of life—  
They welter'd in their gore.  
No pity have I ever shown ;  
Then who can pity me,  
Though here I die, without a sigh,  
Upon the gallows tree.  
My tender mother's heart will ache,  
My father's dear will groan ;  
But none I see recognizes me—  
I die here all alone.  
May God have mercy on my soul !  
Is all my wretched prayer ;  
His holy grace can save me yet,  
Though lost in dark despair.  
For cursed gold my life I sold,  
And murdered without fear ;  
But, at the last, I fear I've lost—  
My soul's in deep despair.  
Now, all who see my shameful end,  
Take warning here by me ,  
And don't neglect your souls in life,  
Lest you die on the gallows tree.  
My hardened heart it will not bend,  
It still clings on to life ;  
Ah ! must I leave this world behind  
For one of endless strife ?  
Will furies drag my spirit home ?  
Will fiends torment my soul ?  
All this, and more, I must endure,  
For love of cursed gold.  
Farewell, farewell, my only child ;  
May heaven in mercy spare  
Thee from the shame thy father feels—  
His crimes and dark despair !  
Farewell my parents ever kind,  
We ne'er can meet again ;  
For I must suffer for my crimes—  
Ah ! where, I dare not say.









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