[mid.]

G I B B S.

The ancient family of Gibbs, which was also spelled Gibb, Gibbe and Gibbes, is a diminutive of the Norman personal name "Gislebertus" or "Gilbert". Several of the Gentry families of this name, namely, those of County Somerset, County Herts and County Cork, are descended from two brothers Gibbe or Gibbes in the time of Richard II, one of whom settled at Honington, County Warwick, and the other at Fenton, County Devon. Jenkin Gibbes, in the time of Henry VII, a scion of the House of Fenton, whose descendants were of Elmerstone, County Kent, possessed an ancient roll deducing the family from Normandy, where they were resident long before the conquest of England.

About a dozen different grants of coat armour have been made to the Gibbs family from the counties as follows: Suffolk, Devon, Hertford, Kent, Oxon, Warwick, York and County Cork in Ireland. Battle axes or pole axes show as charges upon the shield of the Suffolk, Hertford, Kent, Oxon, York and Warwick families. The motto "Tenax propositi" is common to the Oxford and Hertfordshire branches of this family.